



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

Fruit and
Vegetable
Division

Fresh
Products
Branch

United States Standards for Grades of Dewberries and Blackberries

Effective February 13, 1928
(Reprinted - January 1997)

United States Standards for Grades of Dewberries and Blackberries ¹

Grades

51.4270 U.S. No. 1.

51.4271 U.S. No. 2.

Unclassified

51.4272 Unclassified.

Definitions

51.4273 Well colored.

51.4274 Well developed.

51.4275 Overripe.

51.4276 Damage.

51.4277 Serious damage.

Grades

§51.4270 U.S. No. 1.

"U.S. No. 1" consists of dewberries or blackberries of one variety which are firm, well colored, well developed and not overripe, which are free from caps (calyxes), mold and decay, and from damage caused by dirt or other foreign matter, shriveling, moisture, disease, insects, mechanical or other means.

(a) **Tolerances.** In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, not more than 10 percent, by volume, of the berries in any lot may fail to meet the requirements of this grade, including therein not more than 5 percent for defects causing serious damage, and including in this latter amount not more than 1 percent for berries which are affected by mold or decay.

§51.4271 U.S. No. 2.

"U.S. No. 2" consists of dewberries or blackberries of one variety which fail to meet the requirements of the U.S. No. 1 grade but which do not contain more than 10 percent, by volume, of berries in any lot which are seriously damaged by any cause, including therein not more than 2 percent for berries which are affected by mold or decay.

Unclassified

§51.4272 Unclassified.

"Unclassified" consists of dewberries or blackberries which have not been classified in accordance with either of the foregoing grades. The term "unclassified" is not a grade within the meaning of these standards but is provided as a designation to show that no grade has been applied to the lot.

Definitions

§51.4273 Well colored.

"Well colored" means that the whole surface of the berry shall be a blue or black color.

¹Packing of the product in conformity with the requirements of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act or with applicable State laws and regulations.

§51.4274 Well developed.

"Well developed" means that the berries shall not be misshapen owing to anthracnose injury, frost injury, lack of pollination, insect injury, or other causes.

§51.4275 Overripe.

"Overripe" means dead ripe or soft, necessitating immediate consumption.

§51.4276 Damage.

"Damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the berry.

§51.4277 Serious damage.

"Serious damage" means any defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance, or the edible or marketing quality of the berry. Berries which are badly deformed, crushed, leaky, moldy, decayed, or which have less than one-half of the surface covered with a blue or black color shall be considered as seriously damaged.