Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 51.1312 Tolerances for standard pack.

(a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, not more than 5 percent of the pears in any lot may fail to meet the size requirements: Provided, That when the maximum and minimum sizes are both stated, an additional 10 percent tolerance shall be allowed for pears which are larger than the maximum size stated.

(b) In order to allow for variations incident to proper packing, not more than 10 percent of the containers in any lot may fail to meet these requirements but no part of this tolerance shall be allowed for bridge packs, or for packs with different sizes and arrangements such as layers of 195 size and arrangement, and layers of 180 size and arrangement packed in the same box.

DEFINITIONS

§ 51.1313 Mature.

(a) Mature means that the pear has reached the stage of maturity which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process.

(b) Before a mature pear becomes overripe it will show varying degrees of firmness depending upon the stage of the ripening process. Therefore, a statement of firmness should be given in order to indicate the stage of the ripening process. A description of the ground color should also be given.

(1) The following terms should be used for describing the ground color: Green, Light Green, Yellowish Green, and Yellow.

(2) The following terms should be used for describing the firmness of pears:

(i) Hard means that the flesh of the pear is solid and does not yield appreciably even to considerable pressure.

(ii) Firm means that the flesh of the pear is fairly solid but yields somewhat to moderate pressure.

(iii) Firm ripe means that the flesh of the pear yields readily to moderate pressure.

(iv) Ripe means that the pear is at the stage where it is in its most desirable condition for eating.

§ 51.1314 Overripe.

Overripe means dead ripe, very mealy or soft, past commercial utility.

§ 51.1315 Carefully hand-picked.

Carefully hand-picked means that the pears do not show evidence of rough handling or of having been on the ground.

§ 51.1316 Clean.

Clean means free from excessive dirt, dust, spray residue or other foreign material.

§ 51.1317 Well formed.

Well formed means having the shape characteristic of the variety. Slight irregularities of shape from type which do not appreciably detract from the general appearance of the fruit shall be considered well formed.

§ 51.1318 Black end.

Black end is evidenced by an abnormally deep green color around the calyx, or black spots usually occurring on the one-third of the surface nearest to the calyx, or by an abnormally shallow calyx cavity.

§ 51.1319 Injury.

Injury means any blemish or defect, that more than slightly affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality. The following shall be considered as injury:

(a) Russetting which exceeds the following shall be considered as injury:

(i) On all varieties any excessively rough russetting (russetting which shows “frogging” or slight cracking).

(ii) On Comice, and on Anjou and other smooth-skinned varieties, slightly rough russetting, or thick russetting, such as is characteristic of frost injury, when the aggregate area exceeds one-half inch in diameter.

(iii) On Anjou and other smooth-skinned varieties, smooth solid russetting when the aggregate area exceeds one-third of the surface, or on Comice, smooth solid or smooth netlike russetting when the aggregate area exceeds 15 percent of the surface, and on Comice, smooth solid or smooth netlike russetting when the aggregate area exceeds one-third of the surface, except that, in addition, on