Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 51.481 Very good internal quality.

Very good internal quality means that the combined juice from the edible portion of a sample of cantaloupes selected at random contains not less than 11 percent soluble solids as determined by an approved hand refractometer.

§ 51.482 Uniform in appearance.

Uniform in appearance means that not more than one-tenth of the packages in any lot contain cantaloupes which show sufficient variation in shape, size, ground color or netting to materially detract from the appearance of the contents of the individual packages, or which are not packed according to the approved and recognized methods for the package.

§ 51.483 One type.

One type means that the cantaloupes in any container are similar in color of flesh and are not decidedly different in shape, character of netting and prominence of ribbing.

§ 51.484 Mature.

Mature means that the cantaloup has reached the stage of maturity which will insure the proper completion of the normal ripening process.

§ 51.485 Good internal quality.

Good internal quality means that the combined juice from the edible portion of a sample of cantaloupes selected at random contains not less than 9 percent soluble solids as determined by an approved hand refractometer.

§ 51.486 Soft.

Soft means that the cantaloup yields readily to slight pressure.

§ 51.487 Wilted.

Wilted means that the cantaloup lacks turgidity and is somewhat flabby, spongy and pliable under moderate pressure.

§ 51.488 Well formed.

Well formed means that the cantaloup has the normal shape characteristic of the variety.

§ 51.489 Well netted.

Well netted means that to an extent characteristic of the variety the cantaloup is well covered with fully developed, well raised netting, some portion of which is well rounded with practically no crease.

§ 51.490 Decay.

Decay means breakdown, disintegration or fermentation of the flesh or rind of the cantaloup caused by bacteria or fungi; except that dry type decays will only be scored when penetrating the rind and extending into the edible flesh of the melon.

§ 51.491 Wet slip.

Wet slip means a condition present at time of packing in which the stem scar is abnormally large, excessively wet and slippery, yields to slight pressure, and is frequently accompanied by fresh radial growth cracks at the edge of the stem scar.

§ 51.492 Sunscald.

Sunscald means discolored or bleached, sunken areas of the surface having tough epidermis with underlying flesh leathery and usually off-color.

§ 51.493 Damage.

Damage means any specific defect described in this section; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the cantaloup. The following specific defects shall be considered as damage:

(a) Liquid in the seed cavity under the following circumstances:
   (1) At shipping point when more than a slight amount of liquid is present in the seed cavity; or,
   (2) En route or at destination when an objectionably large amount of liquid is present in the seed cavity, or when the flesh of the cavity wall is mushy or noticeably discolored;

(b) Sunburn when the color of the flesh is materially changed; when the rind is hard, tough, thin, or definitely flattened; when distinct flattening of