

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 52.806

(6) Score not less than 90 points when scored in accordance with the scoring system outlined in this subpart.

(b) "U.S. Grade B" (or "U.S. Choice") is the quality of frozen red tart pitted cherries of which not more than ten (10) cherries per sample unit may be less than 1/16 inch (14 mm) in diameter, and that:

- (1) Possess a reasonably good red color;
- (2) Are reasonably free from pits;
- (3) Are reasonably free from defects;
- (4) Have a reasonably good character;
- (5) Possess a normal flavor; and
- (6) Score not less than 80 points when scored in accordance with the scoring system outlined in this subpart.

(c) "U.S. Grade C" (or "U.S. Standard") is the quality of frozen red tart pitted cherries that:

- (1) Possess a fairly good red color;
- (2) Are fairly free from pits;
- (3) Are fairly free from defects;
- (4) Have a fairly good character;
- (5) Possess a normal flavor; and
- (6) Score not less than 70 points when scored in accordance with the scoring system outlined in this subpart.

(d) "Substandard" is the quality of frozen red tart pitted cherries that fail to meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C.

SAMPLE UNIT SIZE

§ 52.803 Sample unit size.

Compliance with requirements for size and the various quality factors is based on the following sample unit sizes for the applicable factor:

(a) Pits, character, and harmless extraneous material—20 ounces of drained cherries.

(b) Size, color, and defects (other than harmless extraneous material)—100 cherries.

FACTORS OF QUALITY

§ 52.804 Ascertaining the grade of a sample unit.

(a) The grade of frozen red tart pitted cherries is determined immediately after thawing to the extent that the cherries may be separated easily and the cherries are free from ice and solidified packing media. The grade is determined by considering in addition to the requirements of the respective

grade (including the requirement of the size in U.S. Grade A and U.S. Grade B), the respective ratings of the factors of color, pits, absence of defects, character, the total score, and the limiting rules which may be applicable.

(b) The relative importance of each factor is expressed numerically on a scale of 100. The maximum number of points that may be given each factor is:

Factors	Points
Color	30
Freedom from pits	20
Freedom from defects	20
Character	30
Total score	100

(c) *Normal flavor* means that the flavor is characteristic of frozen red tart pitted cherries and that the product is free from objectionable flavors of any kind.

§ 52.805 Ascertaining the rating for each factor.

The essential variations within each factor are so described that the value may be ascertained for each factor and expressed numerically. The numerical range for the rating of each factor is inclusive (for example, "27 to 30 points" means 27, 28, 29 or 30 points).

§ 52.806 Color.

(a) (A) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that possess a good red color may be given a score of 27 to 30 points. "Good red color" means that the frozen cherries possess a color that is bright and typical of properly ripened cherries and that is practically uniform in that the number of cherries that vary markedly from this color due to oxidation, improper processing, or other causes, or that are undercolored, does not exceed the number specified in Table I.

(b) (B) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that possess a reasonably good red color may be given a score of 24 to 26 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade B, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). "Reasonably good red color" means that the cherries possess a color

that is reasonably bright and typical of properly ripened cherries and that is reasonably uniform in that the number of cherries that vary markedly from this color due to oxidation, improper processing, or other causes, or that are undercolored, does not exceed the number specified in Table I.

(c) (C) *Classification*. If the frozen red tart pitted cherries possess a fairly good red color, a score of 21 to 23 points may be given. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade C, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Fairly good red color” means that the frozen cherries possess a color that is fairly bright and typical of properly ripened cherries and that is fairly uniform in that the number of cherries that vary markedly from this color due to oxidation, improper processing, or other causes, or that are undercolored, does not exceed the number specified in Table I.

(d) (SStd.) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fail to meet the requirements of U.S. Grade C may be given a score of 0 to 20 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

§ 52.807 Freedom from pits.

(a) *General*. The factor of freedom from pits refers to the incidence of pits and pit fragments.

(b) *Definitions*. (1) A “pit” for the purpose of the allowances in this subpart is a whole pit or portions of pits computed as follows:

(i) A single piece of pit shell, whether or not within or attached to a whole cherry, that is larger than one-half pit shell is considered as one pit;

(ii) A single piece of pit shell, whether or not within or attached to a whole cherry, that is not larger than one-half pit shell is considered as one-half pit;

(iii) Pieces of pit shell, within or attached to a whole cherry, when their combined size is larger than one-half pit shell are considered as one pit; and

(iv) Pieces of pit shell, within or attached to a whole cherry, when their combined size is not larger than one-half pit shell are considered as one-half pit.

(2) *Drained cherries* means pitted cherries that are substantially free from any adhering sirup, sugar, or other packing medium.

(c) (A) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that are practically free from pits may be given a score of 18 to 20 points. “Practically free from pits” means that the number of pits that may be present does not exceed the allowances for this classification specified in Table I.

(d) (B) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that are reasonably free from pits may be given a score of 16 or 17 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade B, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Reasonably free from pits” means that the number of pits that may be present does not exceed the number specified in Table I.

(e) (C) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that are fairly free from pits may be given a score of 14 or 15 points. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fall into this classification shall not be graded above U.S. Grade C, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule). “Fairly free from pits” means that the number of pits that may be present does not exceed the number specified in Table I.

(f) (SStd.) *Classification*. Frozen red tart pitted cherries that fail to meet the requirements for U.S. Grade C may be given a score of 0 to 13 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

§ 52.808 Freedom from defects.

(a) *General*. The factor of freedom from defects refers to the degree of freedom from harmless extraneous material, mutilated cherries, and cherries blemished by scab, hail injury, discoloration, scar tissue, or by other means.

(1) *Cherry* means a whole cherry, whether or not pitted, or portions of such cherries which in the aggregate approximate the average size of the cherries.

(2) *Harmless extraneous material* means any vegetable substance (including, but not being limited to, a leaf or a stem