

**Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA**

**§ 51.2284**

TOLERANCES FOR GRADE DEFECTS

**§ 51.2280 Tolerances for grade defects.**

(a) All percentages shall be calculated on the basis of weight.

(b) In order to allow for variations, other than for color and size, incident to proper grading and handling, tolerances shall be permitted for the respective grades as indicated in Table I:

TABLE I  
[Percent]

| Grade                 | Tolerances for grade defects |  |   |   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|---|---|
|                       | Total defects                | Serious damage                           | Very serious damage                       | Shell and foreign material                        |
| U. S. No. 1 .....     | 5                            | 2 (included in 5 percent total defects). | 1 (included in 2 percent serious damage). | 0.05 (included in 1 percent very serious damage). |
| U.S. Commercial ..... | 8                            | 4 (included in 8 percent total defects). | 2 (included in 4 percent serious damage). | 0.05 (included in 2 percent very serious damage). |

COLOR REQUIREMENTS

**§ 51.2281 Color classifications.**

The following classifications are provided to describe the color of any lot: “Extra Light”, “Light”, “Light Amber” or “Amber”. The portions of kernels in the lot shall not be darker than the darkest color permitted in the specified classification as shown on the color chart.

**§ 51.2282 Tolerances for color.**

(a) All percentages shall be calculated on the basis of weight.

(b) In order to allow for variations incident to proper grading and handling, tolerances shall be permitted for the respective color classifications as indicated in Table II:

TABLE II

| Color classification | Tolerances for color                 |   |   |   |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
|                      | Darker than extra light <sup>1</sup> | Darker than light <sup>1</sup>                              | Darker than light amber <sup>1</sup>                  | Darker than amber <sup>1</sup>                              |
| Extra light .....    | 15 percent .....                     | 2 percent (included in 15 percent darker than extra light). | .   |   |
| Light .....          |                                      | 15 percent .....  | 2 percent (included in 15 percent darker than light). |   |
| Light amber .....    |                                      |   | 15 percent .....                                      | 2 percent (included in 15 percent darker than light amber). |
| Amber .....          |                                      |   |   | 10 percent.   |

<sup>1</sup> See illustration of this term on color chart.

**§ 51.2283 Off color.**

The term “off color” is not a color classification, but shall be applied to any lot which fails to meet the requirements of the “Amber” classification.

SIZE REQUIREMENTS

**§ 51.2284 Size classification.**

The following classifications are provided to describe the size of any lot: “Halves”, “Pieces and Halves”,

“Pieces” or “Small Pieces”. The size of portions of kernels in the lot shall conform to the requirements of the specified classification as defined below:

(a) *Halves*. Lot consists of 85 percent or more, by weight, half kernels, and the remainder three-fourths half kernels. (See § 51.2285.)

(b) *Pieces and halves*. Lot consists of 20 percent or more, by weight, half kernels, and the remainder portions of kernels that cannot pass through a

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sieve with  $\frac{2}{64}$  inch round openings. When a lot exceeds this minimum requirement, the actual percentage of halves may be specified. (See § 51.2285.)

(c) *Pieces*. Lot consists of portions of kernels that cannot pass through a sieve with  $\frac{2}{64}$  inch round openings. (See § 51.2285.)

(d) *Small pieces*. Lot consists of portions of kernels that pass through a sieve with  $\frac{2}{64}$  inch round openings, but that cannot pass through a sieve with

$\frac{8}{64}$  inch round openings. When desired, the actual size ranges within such size ranges may be specified. (See § 51.2285.)

**§ 51.2285 Tolerances for size.**

(a) All percentages shall be calculated on the basis of weight.

(b) In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing and handling, tolerances shall be permitted for the respective size classifications as indicated in Table III:

TABLE III  
[Percent]

| Size classification                  | Tolerances for size               |  |   |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
|                                      | Smaller than three-fourths halves | Will not pass through $\frac{2}{64}$ inch round hole | Pass through $\frac{2}{64}$ inch round hole | Pass through $\frac{16}{64}$ inch round hole | Pass through $\frac{8}{64}$ inch round hole |
| Halves .....                         | 5 .....                           | .....  | .....                                       | 1 (included in 5 percent).                   | .....                                       |
| Pieces and halves <sup>1</sup> ..... | .....                             | .....  | 18 .....                                    | 3 (included in 18 percent).                  | 1 (included in 2 percent).                  |
| Pieces .....                         | .....                             | .....  | 25 .....                                    | 5 (included in 25 percent).                  | 1 (included in 5 percent).                  |
| Small pieces <sup>2</sup> .....      | .....                             | 10 .....   | .....                                       | .....  | 2.  |

<sup>1</sup>No part of any tolerance shall be used to reduce the percentage of halves required or specified in a lot of "pieces and halves".

<sup>2</sup>The tolerances of 10 percent and 2 percent for "small pieces" classification shall apply, respectively, to any smaller maximum or any larger minimum sizes specified.

APPLICATION OF TOLERANCES

**§ 51.2286 Application of tolerances.**

The tolerances provided in these standards are on a lot basis, and they shall be applied to a composite sample representative of the lot. However, any container or group of containers in which the walnuts are obviously of a quality materially different from that in the majority of containers shall be considered a separate lot, and shall be sampled separately.

DEFINITIONS

**§ 51.2287 Well dried.**

*Well dried* means that the portion of kernel is firm and crisp, not pliable or leathery.

**§ 51.2288 Clean.**

*Clean* means that the appearance of the individual portion of kernel, or of the lot as a whole, is not materially affected by adhering dust, dirt or other foreign material.

**§ 51.2289 Shell.**

*Shell* means the outer shell and/or the woody partition from between the halves of the kernel, and any fragments of either.

**§ 51.2290 Insect injury.**

*Insect injury* means that the insect, web, frass or other evidence of insects is present on the portion of kernel.

**§ 51.2291 Rancidity.**

*Rancidity* means that the portion of kernel is noticeably rancid to the taste. Rancidity should not be confused with a slightly astringent flavor of the pellicle (skin) or with staleness (the state at which the flavor is flat but not objectionable).

**§ 51.2292 Damage.**

*Damage* means any defect, other than color, which materially affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the individual portion of kernel, or of the lot as a whole. Any one of the following defects or any combination of defects the seriousness