

brown color. Not less than 80 percent, by count, of the olives or units have a color equal to or darker than the appropriate USDA Composite Color Standard or that produced by spinning the Munsell color discs specified in paragraph (b) of this section in the following combination: 6 percent Red, 6 percent Yellow, and 88 percent Black.

(ii) *Segmented; sliced; chopped.* The general color impression of the olives as a mass is normal and typical of these styles prepared from olives with reasonably good color.

(2) *Green-ripe type.* The general color appearance of the olives shall be normal. Not less than 80 percent, by count, shall be reasonably uniform in such normal color for the type, and no off-color olives may be present.

(h) *Grade C.* If the ripe olives have a fairly good color, a score of 21 to 23 points may be given. Canned ripe olives 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 color" has the following meanings with respect to the applicable type and style:

(1) *Ripe type*—(i) *Whole; pitted; halved.* The olives or units have a fairly uniform black, dark brown or reddish-brown color. Not less than 60 percent, by count, of the olives or units have a color equal to or darker than the appropriate USDA Composite Color Standard or that produced by spinning the Munsell color discs specified in paragraph (b) of this section in the following combination: 6 percent Red, 6 percent Yellow, and 88 percent Black.

(ii) *Segmented; sliced; chopped.* The general color impression of the olives as a mass is normal and typical of these styles prepared from olives of fairly good color.

(iii) *Broken pitted.* The general color impression of the olives as a mass is normal and may be variable, but is typical of this style prepared from olives of good, reasonably good, or fairly good color.

(2) *Green-ripe type.* The general color impression of the olives shall be normal but may vary markedly for the type. No more than 10 percent, by count, of off-color olives may be present.

(i) *Substandard (SStd.).* Canned ripe olives that are abnormal in color for any reason or that fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (h) of this section 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).

§ 52.3761 Defects.

(a) *General.* The factor of absence of defects refers to the degree of freedom from harmless extraneous vegetable material, stems, and portions thereof, blemishes, wrinkles, mutilated olives, and from any other defects which affect the appearance or edibility of the product.

(b) *Definition of defects*—(1) *Blemishes* mean dark-colored surface marks in either ripe type or green-ripe olives which may or may not penetrate into the flesh. Olives or pieces of olives affected by blemishes are classified as follows:

(i) *Minor blemishes* mean surface discolorations on olives or pieces of olives which individually or collectively materially affect the appearance of the unit.

(ii) *Major blemishes* mean surface discolorations or black flesh (oxidized) on olives or pieces of olives which may or may not be associated with a soft texture below the skin and which individually or collectively seriously affect the appearance or edibility of the unit.

(iii) *Severe blemishes* mean dark brown, dark purple, or black surface areas on olives or pieces of olives of the green-ripe type; or any other blemishes, whether or not specifically defined, which severely affect the appearance or edibility of the unit.

(2) *Blowout* refers to a soft pitted olive in which the pit has been pushed out instead of cut out leaving an irregular ring of flesh that materially affects its appearance.

(3) *Broken piece* in halved, segmented, and sliced style olives means any piece of olive flesh that appears to be less than three-fourths of a full unit. Also included are poorly cut units and end slices less than one-half the average size slice.

(4) *Cross pitted* refers to olives pitted along an axis other than the stem-flower axis. A defect is a unit where the angle of these two axes exceeds 45 degrees.

(5) *Harmless extraneous vegetable material*. Harmless extraneous vegetable material (HEVM), harmless extraneous material (HEM), and extraneous vegetable material (EVM), are synonymous terms and mean any vegetable substance that is harmless.

(6) *Mechanically damaged* means a unit in whole, pitted, and halved styles that is punctured, cut or damaged by means other than pitting so that its appearance is materially affected.

(7) *Misshapen* refers to an olive that does not have a normal shape for a given variety.

(8) *Mutilated* refers to an olive in whole or pitted styles that is so pitter-torn or damaged by other means that the entire pit cavity is exposed or the appearance of the olive is seriously affected.

(9) *Obvious split pit* means a pit in an olive that can be determined visually as split.

(10) *Pitter damage* means a loss of skin and flesh from a pitted olive caused by the pitter on the cut end exceeding the area of a circle 3 mm in diameter but is not mutilated.

(11) *Plunger damage* means a loss of skin and flesh from a pitted olive equal to or exceeding the area of a circle 5 mm in diameter.

(12) *Stem* means a stem that measures 3 mm or more from the shoulder of the olive. Stems are classified as follows:

(i) *Minor stem* is a stem that measures more than 3 mm but not more than 4 mm from the shoulder of the olive.

(ii) *Major stem* is a stem that measures more than 4 mm from the shoulder of the olive.

(iii) *Detached stem*, when it measures 4 mm or more, is a defect which shall be scored as a minor stem for whole pitted, halved, and broken pitted style olives and a major stem for segmented, sliced, and chopped style olives.

(13) *Wrinkles* are grooves 0.5 mm or more in width. Classification of wrinkles shall be determined immediately after removing surface moisture and any increase in wrinkles due to dehydration after removing from the con-

tainer shall not be considered. Olives or pieces of olives affected by wrinkles are classified as follows:

(i) *Minor wrinkles* are wrinkles which collectively do not more than materially affect the appearance of the unit.

(ii) *Major wrinkles* are wrinkles which collectively more than materially affect the appearance of the unit.

(c) *Grade A*. Canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced, and chopped styles that are practically free from defects may be given a score of 36 to 40 points. "Practically free from defects" means that any defects present, but not specifically limited in Table IV, may not more than slightly affect the appearance or edibility of the olives; and, in addition, specified defects may be present in all other styles except "broken pitted" not to exceed the allowances for grade A provided in Table IV.

(d) *Grade B*. If canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced, and chopped styles are reasonably free from defects, a score of 32 to 35 points may be given. Canned ripe olives 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 defects" means that any defects present but not specifically limited in Table V may not more than materially affect the appearance or edibility of the olives; and in addition, specified defects may be present in all other styles except "broken pitted" not to exceed the allowances for grade B provided in Table V.

(e) *Grade C*. If canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced, chopped, and broken pitted styles are fairly free from defects, a score of 28 to 31 points may be given. Canned ripe olives 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 defects" means that any defects present but not specifically limited in Table VI may more than materially affect the appearance and edibility of the olives; and in addition, specified defects may be present in all other styles not to exceed the allowances for grade C provided in Table VI.

(f) *Substandard (SStd.)*. Canned ripe olives that fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (e) of this section may be given a score of 0 to 27 points and shall not be graded above Substandard, regardless of the total score for the product (this is a limiting rule).

TABLE IV—LIMITS FOR DEFECTS IN GRADE A

	Whole per 50 olives	Pitted per 50 olives	Halved per 100 halves	Segmented per 255 g (9 oz)	Sliced per 255 g (9 oz)	Chopped per 255 g (9 oz)
HEVM, HEM, or EVM	1	1	1	Practically free ...	Practically free ...	Practically free.
Stems:						
Minor and major stems incl.	2	2	2			
Major stems	1	1	1	Practically free ...	Practically free ...	Practically free.
Minor and major blemishes, minor and major wrinkles and mutilated.	5	5	10	Practically free ...	Practically free ...	Practically free.
Provided:						
Major blemishes, major wrinkles do not exceed.	2	2	5			
Further Provided: Mutilated do not exceed.	1	1				
Broken pieces and poorly cut units.	.....	.....	8	Practically free ...	Practically free.	
Mechanical damage	2	2	5			
Blowouts, cross pitted, plunger and pitter damage.	.....	5				
Obvious split pit or misshapen ...	2					
Severe blemishes (green-ripe type only).	0	0	0	.....	.....

TABLE V—LIMITS FOR DEFECTS IN GRADE B

	Whole per 50 olives	Pitted per 50 olives	Halved per 100 halves	Segmented per 255 g (9 oz)	Sliced per 255 g (9 oz)	Chopped per 255 g (9 oz)
HEVM, HEM or EVM	1	1	1	Reasonably free	Reasonably free	Reasonably free.
Stems:						
Minor and major stems incl.	3	3	3			
Major stems	1	1	1	Reasonably free	Reasonably free	Reasonably free.
Minor and major blemishes, minor and major wrinkles and mutilated.	10	10	20	Reasonably free	Reasonably free	Reasonably free.
Provided:						
Major blemishes, major wrinkles do not exceed.	5	5	10			
Further provided:						
Mutilated do not exceed	2	2				
Broken pieces and poorly cut units.	.....	.....	15	Reasonably free	Reasonably free.	
Mechanical damage	5	5	10			
Blowouts, cross pitted, plunger and pitter damage.	.....	10				
Obvious split pit or misshapen ...	5					
Severe blemishes (green-ripe type only).	0	0	0	.....	.....

TABLE VI—LIMITS FOR DEFECTS IN GRADE C

	Whole per 50 olives	Pitted per 50 olives	Halved per 100 halved	Segmented per 255 g (9 oz.)	Sliced per 255 g (9 oz.)	Chopped per 255 g (9 oz.)	Broken Pitted per 255 g (9 oz.)
HEVM, HEM, or EVM	1	1	1	Fairly free	Fairly free	Fairly free	2
Minor and major stems inclusive	4	4	4				
Major stems	2	2	2	Fairly free	Fairly free	Fairly free	4
Minor, major blemishes, major, minor wrinkles.	No limit	No limit	No limit	Fairly free	Fairly free	Fairly free	No limit.

TABLE VI—LIMITS FOR DEFECTS IN GRADE C—Continued

	Whole per 50 olives	Pitted per 50 olives	Halved per 100 halved	Segmented per 255 g (9 oz.)	Sliced per 255 g (9 oz.)	Chopped per 255 g (9 oz.)	Broken Pitted per 255 g (9 oz.)
Provided: Major blemishes, major wrinkles do not exceed.	13	13	25	.....	.....	.....	51 g ¹
Further Provided: Multilated, major blemish and major wrinkles do not exceed.	15	15	30	.....	.....	.....	No limit.
Multilated do not exceed	5	5	10	.....	.....	.....
Broken pieces and poorly cut units.	.....	.....	25	Fairly free	Fairly free	.....
Mechanical damage	10	10	20	.....	.....	.....
Blowouts, cross pitted, plunger and pitter damaged.	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	.....
Obvious split pit or misshapen ..	No limit	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Severe blemishes (green-ripe type only).	3	3	3	0	0	0	

¹ Major blemishes only.

[48 FR 41013, Sept. 13, 1983]

§ 52.3762 Character.

(a) *General.* The factor of character refers to the firmness, tenderness, and texture characteristics for the variety and type.

(b) *Grade A.* Canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced, and chopped styles that have a good character may be given a score of 27 to 30 points. "Good character" means that, for the type, the olives have a fleshy texture characteristic for the variety and size; that not less than 95 percent, by count, of whole, pitted and halved olives and by weight of other style olives are practically uniform in texture and are tender but not soft. The remaining 5 percent may be soft but not excessively soft.

(c) *Grade B.* If canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced and chopped styles have a reasonably good character, a score of 24 to 26 points may be given. Canned ripe olives 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 character" means that, for the type, the olives generally have a fleshy texture characteristic for the variety and size; that not less than 90 percent, by count, of whole, pitted and halved olives, and by weight of other style olives are practically uniform in texture and are tender but not soft. The 10 percent may be soft but not

more than 1/2, or 5 percent, may be excessively soft.

(d) *Grade C.* If canned ripe olives of whole, pitted, halved, segmented, sliced, chopped and broken pitted styles have a fairly good character, a score of 21 to 23 points may be given. Canned ripe olives 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 character" means that the olives generally have a fleshy texture characteristic for the variety and size; that not less than 80 percent, by count, of whole, pitted and halved olives and by weight of other style olives are practically uniform in texture and are tender but not soft. The remaining 20 percent may be soft but not more than 1/2, or 10 percent, may be excessively soft.

(e) *Substandard (SStd).* Canned ripe olives that fail to meet the requirements of paragraph (d) of this section 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).

§ 52.3763 Determining the grade of a lot.

The grade of a lot of canned ripe olives covered by these standards is determined by the procedures set forth in the Regulations Governing Inspection and Certification of Processed Fruits