

**§51.312**

are of the size marked or larger. (See §§ 51.306 and 51.307.)

**DEFINITIONS**

**§ 51.312 Mature.**

“*Mature*” means that the apples have reached the stage of development which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process. Before a mature apple becomes overripe it will show varying degrees of firmness, depending upon the stage of the ripening process. The following terms are used for describing different stages of firmness of apples:

- (a) “*Hard*” means apples with a tenacious flesh and starchy flavor.
- (b) “*Firm*” means apples with a tenacious flesh but which are becoming crisp with a slightly starchy flavor, except the Delicious variety.
- (c) “*Firm ripe*” means apples with crisp flesh except that the flesh of the Gano, Ben Davis, and Rome Beauty varieties may be slightly mealy.
- (d) “*Ripe*” means apples with mealy flesh and soon to become soft for the variety.

**§ 51.313 Overripe.**

“*Overripe*” means apples which have progressed beyond the stage of ripe, with flesh very mealy or soft, and past commercial utility.

**§ 51.314 Clean.**

“*Clean*” means that the apples are free from excessive dirt, dust, spray residue, and other foreign material.

**§ 51.315 Fairly well formed.**

“*Fairly well formed*” means that the apple may be slightly abnormal in shape but not to an extent which detracts materially from its appearance.

**§ 51.316 Injury.**

“*Injury*” means any specific defect defined in this section or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which more than slightly detract from the appearance or the edible or shipping quality of the apple. In addition, specific defect measurements are based on an apple three inches in diameter. Corresponding smaller or larger areas

would be allowed on smaller or larger fruit. Any reference to “*inch*” or “*inches in diameter*” refers to that of a circle of the specified diameter. Any reference to “*aggregate area*,” “*total area*,” or “*aggregate affected area*” means the gathering together of separate areas into one mass for the purpose of comparison to determine the extent affected. The following specific defects shall be considered as injury:

- (a) Russetting in the stem cavity or calyx basin which cannot be seen when the apple is placed stem end or calyx end down on a flat surface shall not be considered in determining whether an apple is injured by russetting. Smooth net-like russetting outside of the stem cavity or calyx basin shall be considered as injury when an aggregate area of more than 10 percent of the surface is covered, and the color of the russetting shows no very pronounced contrast with the background color of the apple, or lesser amounts of more conspicuous net-like russetting when the appearance is affected to a greater extent than the amount permitted above.
  - (b) Sunburn or sprayburn, when the discolored area does not blend into the normal color of the fruit.
  - (c) Dark brown or black limb rubs which affect a total area of more than one-fourth inch in diameter, except that light brown limb rubs of a russet character shall be considered under the definition of injury by russetting.
  - (d) Hail marks, drought spots, other similar depressions or scars:
    - (1) When the skin is broken, whether healed or unhealed;
    - (2) When there is appreciable discoloration of the surface;
    - (3) When any surface indentation exceeds one-sixteenth inch in depth;
    - (4) When any surface indentation exceeds one-eighth inch in diameter; or
    - (5) When the aggregate affected area of such spots exceeds one-half inch in diameter.
  - (e) Bruises which are not slight and incident to proper handling and packing, and which are greater than:
    - (1) 1/8 inch in depth;
    - (2) 5/8 inch in diameter;
    - (3) any combination of lesser bruises which detract from the appearance or edible quality of the apple to an extent