

UNITED STATES STANDARDS FOR GRADES OF PISTACHIO NUTS IN THE SHELL—Continued

Current standard	Proposed	Discussion
§ 51.2541 Grades	§ 51.2541 U.S. Fancy, U.S. Extra No. 1, U.S. No. 1 and U.S. Select Grades	The title of this section is proposed to be changed to accommodate revised grade name designations and the addition of by-product grades following this section.
“U.S. Fancy,” “U.S. No. 1,” “U.S. No. 2,” and “U.S. No. 3” consist of pistachio nuts in the shell which meet the following requirements:	“U.S. Fancy,” “U.S. Extra No. 1,” “U.S. No. 1,” and “U.S. Select” consist of pistachio nuts in the shell which meet the following requirements:	It is proposed to change the grade names of “U.S. No. 1,” “U.S. No. 2,” and “U.S. No. 3” to “U.S. Extra No. 1,” “U.S. No. 1,” and “U.S. Select.” This would harmonize the grade references to be similar with other tree nut standards and observe current industry marketing terms.
(a) Basic requirements: (1) Free from: (i) Foreign material; (ii) Loose kernels; (iii) Shell pieces; (iv) Particles and dust; and, (v) Blanks. (b) Shells: (1) Free from: (i) Non-split shells; and, (ii) Shells not split on suture. (2) Free from damage by: (i) Adhering hull material; (ii) Light stained; (iii) Dark stained; and, (iv) Other External (shell) defects. (c) Kernels: (1) Well dried, or, very well dried when specified in connection with the grade.	(a) Basic requirements: (1) Free from: (i) Foreign material; (ii) Loose kernels; (iii) Shell pieces; (iv) Particles and dust; and, (v) Blanks. (b) Shells: (1) Free from: (i) Non-split shells; and, (ii) Shells not split on suture. (2) Free from damage by: (i) Adhering hull material; (ii) Light stained; (iii) Dark stained; and, (iv) Other External (shell) defects. (c) Kernels: (1) Well dried, or, very well dried when specified in connection with the grade.	There is no change in this text.
(2) Free from damage by: (i) Minor mold; (ii) Immature kernels; (iii) Kernel spots; and, (iv) Other Internal (kernel) defects.	(2) Free from damage by: (i) Immature kernels; (ii) Kernel spotting; and, (iii) Other Internal (kernel) defects.	It is proposed to delete the term “minor mold” as the term is no longer used by the industry. All visible mold is considered under the same definition and grading category. This would result in a rearrangement of the current numerical outline designations for other factors in the standards.
(3) Free from serious damage by: (i) Minor insect or vertebrate injury; (ii) Insect damage; (iii) Mold; (iv) Rancidity; (v) Decay; and, (vi) Other Internal (kernel) defects.	(3) Free from serious damage by: (i) Minor insect or vertebrate injury; (ii) Insect damage; (iii) Mold; (iv) Rancidity; (v) Decay; and, (vi) Other Internal (kernel) defects.	There is no change in this text.
(d) The nuts are of a size not less than 26/64 inch in diameter as measured by a round hole screen.	(d) The nuts are of a size not less than 30/64 inch in diameter as measured by a round hole screen.	It is proposed to increase the minimum size by 4/64 inch in diameter, which is the current industry trading practice. Nuts smaller than 30/64 inch in diameter typically have more defects affecting the quality of the end product and it is general industry practice to use nuts smaller than this minimum size as a shelled product or for manufacturing. This change conforms with current industry practices and will ultimately provide consumers with higher quality and larger nuts.
(e) For Tolerances, see § 51.2542.	(e) For Tolerances, see § 51.2544.	The section number is changed to accommodate the addition of two byproduct grade definitions.
§ 51.2542 Tolerances (See tolerances section below for a side-by-side comparison of current and proposed standards.)	§ 51.2542 U.S. Artificially Opened	The title for this section is re-designated to allow for the establishment of the U.S. Artificially Opened grade.