

Current standard	Proposed	Discussion
(c) "Loose kernels" means edible kernels or kernel portions which are out of the shell and which cannot be considered particles and dust. (d) "External (shell) defects" means any blemish affecting the hard covering around the kernel. Such defects include, but are not limited to, non-split shells, shells not split on suture, adhering hull material, light stained, or dark stained.	(c) "Loose kernels" means edible kernels or kernel portions which are out of the shell and which cannot be considered particles and dust. (d) "External (shell) defects" means any blemish affecting the hard covering around the kernel. Such defects include, but are not limited to, non-split shells, shells not split on suture, adhering hull material, light stained, or dark stained.	
(1) "Damage" by external (shell) defects means any specific defect described in paragraph (d)(1)(i) through (v) of this section, or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual shell or of the lot. (For tolerances see § 51.2542, Table I).	(1) "Damage" by external (shell) defects means any specific defect described in paragraph (d)(1)(i) through (v) of this section, or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which materially detracts from the appearance or the edible or marketing quality of the individual shell or of the lot. (For tolerances see § 51.2544, Table I).	There is no change in this text, except for section number references in subparagraphs (d)(1).
(i) "Non-split shells" when shells are not opened or are partially opened and will not allow an $\frac{18}{1000}$ (.018) inch thick by $\frac{1}{4}$ (.25) inch wide gauge to slip into the opening. (ii) "Not split on suture" when shells are split other than on the suture and will allow an $\frac{18}{1000}$ (.018) inch thick by $\frac{1}{4}$ (.25) inch wide gauge to slip into the opening.	(i) "Non-split shells" means shells are not opened or are partially opened and will not allow an $\frac{18}{1000}$ (.018) inch thick by $\frac{1}{4}$ (.25) inch wide gauge to slip into the opening. (ii) "Not split on suture" means shells are split other than on the suture and will allow an $\frac{18}{1000}$ (.018) inch thick by $\frac{1}{4}$ (.25) inch wide gauge to slip into the opening.	The word "when" is proposed to be replaced by the word "means" to clearly define the term noted. There is no change in the application of the term to the product.
(iii) "Adhering hull material" when an aggregate amount covers more than one-sixteenth of the total shell surface, or when readily noticeable on dyed shells.	(iii) "Adhering hull material" means an aggregate amount covers more than one-eighth of the total shell surface, or when readily noticeable on dyed shells.	It is proposed to increase the surface area allowed for adhering hull material. The industry believes that small amounts of adhering hull material do not detract from the marketability of nuts, that this change promotes uniformity of defining similar factors as this factor is similar in appearance to Dark Stained, that the change enables more accurate product grading, and that the tolerance allowed is sufficiently restrictive in order to promote orderly marketing.
(iv) "Light stained" on raw or roasted nuts, when an aggregate amount of yellow to light brown or light gray discoloration is noticeably contrasting with the predominate color of the shell and affects more than one-fourth of the total shell surface or, on dyed nuts, when readily noticeable.	(iv) "Light stained" on raw or roasted nuts, means an aggregate amount of yellow to light brown or light gray discoloration is noticeably contrasting with the predominate color of the shell and affects more than one-fourth of the total shell surface or, on dyed nuts, when readily noticeable.	The word "when" is proposed to be replaced by the word "means" to clearly define the term noted. There is no change in the application of the term to the product.
(v) "Dark stained" on raw or roasted nuts, when an aggregate amount of dark brown, dark gray or black discoloration affects more than one-eighth of the total shell surface, or, on dyed nuts, when readily noticeable.	(v) "Dark stained" on raw or roasted nuts, means an aggregate amount of dark brown, dark gray or black discoloration affects more than one-eighth of the total shell surface, or, on dyed nuts, when readily noticeable, provided that speckled appearing stain located within the area of one-fourth of the shell surface nearest the stem end shall be disregarded.	The word "when" is proposed to be replaced by the word "means" to clearly define the term noted. There is no change in the application of the term to the product. It is proposed to exempt speckled appearing stain on the stem end of the nut. The industry believes that this type of stain is routinely overlooked, is inconspicuous, does not adversely affect the marketing of affected nuts, and that this change will enable more accurate product grading.