



May 13, 2020

**NOTICE OF AMENDMENTS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS  
FOR THE MARKETING ORDER FOR DRIED FIGS**

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Upon a recommendation from the California Dried Fig Advisory Board, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) has approved amendments to the Administrative Rules and Regulations for the Marketing Order for Dried Figs (Administrative Rules and Regulations), which were last amended in 2003. The specific language of the amendments, which will become effective on May 18, 2020, is attached to this notice as Exhibit "A".

The first amendment increases the maximum lot size of figs being inspected to 10,000 pounds, for both packaged and bulk figs. This adjustment will accommodate for evolving industry practices and allow for more efficient inspection of fruit in larger lots.

The second and third amendments add clarifying language for the sampling process used for piece count testing. Specifically, the second amendment clarifies that lots of dried figs may be sampled after sorting, and either before or after the figs are washed. The third amendment clarifies that passed lots of fruit shall remain under the control of the testing authority and that additional sorting of the fruit, under certain circumstances, may take place without further testing.

A complete copy of the amended Administrative Rules and Regulations is enclosed with this mailing. If you have any questions regarding these amendments, please contact Karla Stockli, Executive Director of the California Dried Fig Advisory Board, at (559) 673-0526 or David Hillis with the Department's Marketing Branch at (916) 900-5018.

Sincerely,

Joe Monson, Branch Chief  
Marketing Branch

Attachment  
Enclosure

2020 0505 | 2020 0512 | 0373



## Amendments to the Administrative Rules and Regulations For the Marketing Order for Dried Figs

Deletions are shown in ~~red strikethrough~~ and additions are shown in *blue italics*

### IV.

#### GRADE STANDARDS FOR PROCESSED CALIFORNIA DRIED FIGS

A. The quality specifications or requirements for marketable figs and marketable sliced figs shall be as follows:

1. Piece Count Test Unit

- a. Package figs. For the purpose of inspection, figs shall be made available in units of not more than ~~1,500~~*10,000* pounds.
- b. Bulk figs. (Includes figs for cartons and bags.) For the purpose of inspection, figs shall be made available in units of not more than ~~3,000~~*10,000* pounds.

B. Sampling for Piece Count Test

1. Gross Sample

A gross sample shall be drawn from each unit of figs or sliced figs prepared for market by a processor and shall consist of the following:

- a. In the case of package figs of 10-ounce size or less, 20 packages drawn at random from various parts of each unit.
- b. In the case of package figs over 10-ounce size, 10 packages drawn at random from various parts of each unit.
- c. In the case of bulk figs not less than 400 figs drawn at random from each container or each unit.
- d. *Lots of dried figs may be sampled after sorting, and either prior to, or after washing.*
  - i. *Sorted fruit can be fruit that has been sized and sorted for the removal of either or both internal and external defects.*

2. Piece Count Test Sample and Testing Procedure

A piece count test sample shall be drawn from each gross sample, as defined above, and shall consist of the following:

- a. In the case of package figs of 10-ounce size or less, 10 figs drawn from each package in the gross sample, thereby making a total of 100 figs. If the total

## Exhibit "A"

defects on such 100 figs does not exceed 11, a second test will be made in the same manner as the first test, and the results of both tests will then be averaged. If the average of both tests does not exceed 10, then the unit is passable.

- b. In the case of package figs over 10-ounce size, 20 figs from each package in the gross sample, making a total of 100 figs. The inspection is then made as in a, above.
- c. In the case of bulk figs, 100 figs drawn from the gross sample after same has been thoroughly mixed will permit proper classification. Each fig shall be inspected and if the total number of defects does not exceed 8, then the unit is passable. If the total exceeds 8, but does not exceed 11, a second test will be made in the same manner as the first test and the results of both tests will be averaged. If the average of both tests does not exceed 10, then the unit will be passed.
- d. *Once the sample and tested lot has been passed to meet outbound Marketing Order Piece Count testing, the fruit shall be held under control of the DFA.*
- e. *When passed lots of fruit are to be packed, the DFA will confirm and have oversight of the fruit being used.*
- f. *Additional sorting of fruit for removal of external defects shall be allowed without further Marketing Order Testing since the lot of fruit has already been tested and passed.*