

# USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Fruit and Vegetable Programs PACA – Fair Trade

## F.O.B. GOOD ARRIVAL GUIDELINES TABLE

PACA Marketing Specialists use the guidelines in the <u>FOB Good Arrival Guidelines Table</u> below to interpret the maximum tolerances allowable for various fresh fruits and vegetables trucked to locations that are 1 to 5 days away from the shipping point and the normal delivery time for coast-to-coast shipments by truck, is 5 days.

The tolerances shown on the table (see next page) are based on the U.S. Grade Standards for those commodities that have standards, and additionally, are based on judicial interpretations of the terms "FOB" and "suitable shipping condition" as defined in the PACA regulations. "Suitable Shipping Condition" means that the product meets contract terms at shipping point and will not deteriorate abnormally given normal transit time and conditions. The information in the table can be used to determine whether the product was loaded in suitable shipping condition.

Although the table on the next page can give guidance concerning whether an "FOB" contract has been breached, many factors enter into the determination of whether a load of produce meets the terms of a particular contract. If product is sold "FOB acceptance final" rather than merely "FOB" an inspection showing a breach in one instance may not show a breach in the other. Some other considerations may be the timing of the inspection, air temperatures maintained by the carrier, whether or not transit time was normal, the location of the product when it was inspected, and how much of the load was inspected. You are encouraged to consult with your nearest PACA branch office for an interpretation of your rights, given the specific circumstances surrounding your transaction, or for shipment period of less than 5 days.

#### USING THE TABLE

In the "U.S. Grade Standards " and the "% of Defects Allowed" columns, the first number represents the maximum total percentage of damage (defects) allowable for the commodity to meet the terms of an "FOB" sale at destination. If the product is sold without a grade contract, the number represents the maximum percentage of condition defects. The second number, if any, represents the maximum percentage of serious damage allowable. The third number represents the maximum percentage of decay allowable.

Example: The series 15-8-3 means 15% total damage, including not more than 8% serious damage, including not more than 3% decay.

## USDA Agricultural Marketing Service Fruit and Vegetable Programs PACA – Fair Trade

### USING THE TABLE, Continued ...

For those commodities showing only two numbers, like Artichokes, there is no separate tolerance for defects causing serious damage.

Where an asterisk (\*) appears next to the commodity name, the U.S. Grade Standards specify special tolerances and types of defects, and should be consulted before making a judgement regarding whether the inspection results show a breach of contract. In addition, the following abbreviations are used in the table:

"stds"	=	U.S. Grade Standards
"vsd"	=	Very serious damage
"int."	=	Internal
"ext."	=	External
"sda"	=	Sunken discolored areas

As previously stated, the guidelines on the table apply only to truck shipments. However, produce shipped by rail where transit periods are substantially longer will be subject to the same maximums allowed for truck shipments, as will international ocean shipments, unless precedent has established, or adequate proof is presented, that foreign markets have come to expect and tolerate a higher percentage of defects.

Although the table on the next page can give guidance concerning whether an "FOB" contract has been breached, many factors enter into the determination of whether a load of produce meets the terms of a particular contract. If product is sold "FOB acceptance final," rather than merely "FOB" an inspection showing a breach in one instance may not show a breach in the other. Some other considerations may be the timing of the inspection, air temperatures maintained by the carrier, whether or not transit time was normal, the location of the product when it was inspected, and how much of the load was inspected.

Please note that the information contained in the FOB Good Arrival Guidelines Table does not have the force of law and is subject to judicial review at any given time.

## F.O.B. GOOD ARRIVAL GUIDELINES TABLE

COMMODITY	U.S. GRADE STANDARDS	DAYS SINCE SHIPMENT	% OF DEFECTS ALLOWED	OPTIMUM TRANSIT TEMPT (F) <u>†</u>	CHILLING INJURY ?
Anise, Sweet	10-1	5	15-3	32–36 ‡	
		4	14-3		
		3	13-2		
		2	11-1		
		1	10-1		
Apples	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	30-32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Apricots	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Artichokes	10-2	5	15-4	32	
AIUCHOKUS	10-2	4	13-4	52	
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Asparagus	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		

Avocados	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	40-55	Yes
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Bananas	No. Stds.			56-58	Yes
Beans, Fava	No. Stds.	5	15-3	32	
		4	14-3		
		3	12-2		
		2	11-1		
		1	10-1		
Beans, Lima	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	41-43	
*		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Beans, Snap <u>*</u>	13-5-1	5	18-8-3	40-45	Yes
/ <b>1</b>		4	17-8-3		
		3	16-7-2		
		2	15-6-1		
		1	13-5-1		
Beets <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
		-			
Blackberries	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	31-32	
& Dewberries		•			
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
		•			
Blueberries	12-6-2	5	15-8-3	31-32	
	(Destination)	4	13-8-3	51 54	
		3	13-7-2		

		2	13-6-2		
		1	12-6-2		
Broccoli <u>*</u>	10-2	5	15-4	32	
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Brussels	10-2	5	15-4	32	
Sprouts <u>*</u>					
<b>_</b>		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Cabbage*	10-2	5	15-4	32	
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Cantaloupes	12-6-2	5	15-8-5	36-41	Yes
	(Destination)	4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	13-6-2		
		1	12-6-2		
Carrots Bunched <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
Duncheu		4	14-8-3		
		<del>4</del> 3	14-8-3		
		2	13-7-2		
		<u> </u>	10-5-1		
		1	10-3-1		
Carrots, Topped	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		

		2	12-6-2		
		<u> </u>	10-5-2		
		1	10-3-2		
Carrots, Trimmed Tops <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Cauliflower*	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Celery <u>*</u>	10-2	5	15-4	32	
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Cherries, Sweet (US #1) <u>*</u>	12-6-2	5	15-8-3	30-32	
_		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	13-6-2		
		1	12-6-2		
Cherries,	24-6-2	5	30-8-3	32	
Sweet (Wash #1)					
		4	29-8-3		
		3	27-7-2		
		2	26-6-2		
		1	24-6-2		
Corn <u>*</u>	10-2	5	15-4	32	
	10-2	<u> </u>	13-4	54	
		<u> </u>			
			13-3		
		2	11-2		

		1	10-2		
Cranberries	5-5 (Destination)		?	36-40	
Cucumbers <u>*</u>	10-1	5	15-3	50-55	Yes
	10-1	4	13-3	50-55	105
		<del>4</del> 3			
			13-2		
		2 1	11-1		
		1	10-1		
Eggplant	10-1	5	15-3	46-54	Yes
		4	14-3		
		3	13-2		
		2	11-1		
		1	10-1		
Endive, Chicory Escarole,	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Garlic	10-2	5	15-4	32-34	
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Grapes, American type <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Grapes,	12-4-1	5	15-6-3	31	
Euro type	(Destination)	J	15-0-5	51	
		4	14-6-3		
		3	13-5-2		
		2	13-5-1		

		1	12-4-1		
		I	12-7-1		
Grapes, Juice <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
Grapes, Juice_	10-3-2	<u> </u>		52	
		<u>4</u> 3	14-8-4		
			13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
	10[7 1] 0				
Grapefruit, Florida	12[7vsd]-3 (Destination)	5	15-[8vsd]-5		
		4	14-[8vsd]-4		
		3	13-[7vsd]-3		
<u> </u>		2	12-[6vsd]-2		
		<u> </u>	12-[0vsd]-2 10-[5vsd]-2		
		I	10-[3vsu]-2		
Grapefruit, Texas	See Stds.	5	15-[8vsd]-4	50-60	
		4	14-[8vsd]-4		
		3	13-[7vsd]-3		
		2	12-[6vsd]-2		
		1	10-[5vsd]-2		
Grapefruit,	12-[7vsd]-3	5	15-[8vsd]-5	58-60	
CA and AZ <u>*</u>	(Destination)	J	15-[0\su]-5	20-00	
		4	14-[8vsd]-4		
		3	13[7vsd]-4		
		2	12[6vsd]-2		
		<u> </u>	12[0V3d]-2 10-[5vsd]-2		
		1	10-[3vsu]-2		
Greens, Beet <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
UTCHIS, DCCL	10-3-1	<u> </u>	13-8-3	34	
		<u>4</u> 3	13-7-2		
		2	13-7-2		
		<u> </u>	10-5-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Greens, Broccoli & Collard	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		

		1	10-5-2		
~		_			
Greens, Dandelions <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Greens, Mustard	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
& Turnip <u>*</u>	10-5-2	J	13-0-4	52	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
11	10.5.2	_	1504	22	
Horseradish Root <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Kale	10-1	5	15-3	32	
Kalt	10-1	<u> </u>	13-3	54	
		<del>4</del> 3	14-3		
		2	13-2		
		<u> </u>	11-1		
Kiwifruit	12-6-2 (Destination)	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	13-6-2		
		1	12-6-2		
Lemons	12-7-3 (Destination)	5	15-8-5	45-55	
		4	15-8-5		
		3	14-8-4		
		2	13-7-4		

		1	12-7-3		
		L	14-1-5		
Lettuce, Leaf	12-6-3	5	15-9-5	32	
		4	15-8-4		
		3	14-7-4		
		2	13-7-3		
		1	10-6-3		
Lettuce, Head (Iceberg)	12-6-3	All	15-9-5	32	
Limes	10-5-3	5	15-8-5	48-50	Yes
	(Destination)				
		4	14-8-5		
		3	13-7-4		
		2	11-6-3		
		1	10-5-3		
Mangoes	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	55	Yes
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Melons,					
Honeydews	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	45-50	Yes
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Mushrooms <u>*</u>	5-1	5	8-2	32	
	5-1		8-2	34	
		4			
		3 2	7-2 6-1		
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
		1	5-1		
Nectarines <u>*</u>	12-6-2	5	15-8-3	31-32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	13-6-2		

		1	12-6-2		
		1	12-0-2		
Okra	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	45-50	
OMu	10.2.1	4	13 8 3	-10 00	
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		<u> </u>	10-5-1		
		-	10-0-1		
Onions,	10-2	5	15-4	32	
Grano/Granex <u>*</u>		-			
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Onions, Other	5-2	5	8-4	32	
than BGG <u>*</u>					
		4	8-3		
		3	7-3		
		2	6-2		
		1	5-2		
Onions, Green <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
<b>Onions, Creole</b>	10-2	5	15-4	32	
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Oranges,	12- [7 vsd)-3	5			
Florida <u>*</u>	(Destination)		15-[8 vsd]-5	32-34	
		4	14-[8 vsd]-5		
		3	13-[7 vsd]-4		
		2	11-[6 vsd]-3		
		1	10-[5 vsd]-3		

	5			
		15-[8 vsd]-5		
	4	14-[8 vsd]-5		
	3	13-[7 vsd]-4		
	2	11-[6 vsd]-3		
	1	10-[5 vsd]-3		
10.2		15.9.5	20.40	VEC
	3	15-8-5	38-48	YES
	4	14-8-5		
	1	10-5-3		
	_		20	
5-1			32	
	1	5-1		
10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
	4	14-8-3		
	3	13-7-2		
	2	11-6-1		
	1	10-5-1		
10.5.1	5	15.9.2	22	
10-5-1			32	
+				
+				
+				
	1	10-5-1		
10-5-2	5	15-84	32	
	4	14-8-4		
	3	13-7-3		
	2	12-6-2		
	1	10-5-2		
<u> </u>				
	10-5-1	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$

Peaches <u>*</u>	14-7-2 (Destination)	5	17-10-4	32	
		4	16-9-3		
		3	15-8-3		
		2	14-7-2		
		1	14-7-2		
Pears, All types <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Peppers, Sweet <u>*</u>	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	45-55	Yes
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Pineapple	See Stds.	5	15-4	50-55 (grn) 45 (ripe)	Yes
		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		
Plums & Prunes (Italian)	See Stds.				
Plums, All	12-6-2	5	15-8-3	32	
other types	(Destination)				
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	13-6-2		
		1	12-6-2		

10-[7 int. 7 ext.]-2 (Destination)	5	14-[10 int. 10 ext]-3	50-60 early 40-50 late	Yes
	4	13-[10 int. 10 ext.]-3		
	3	12-[9 int.		
	2	11-[8 int.		
	1	10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2		
10-1	5	15-3	32	
	4	14-3		
	3	13-2		
	2			
	1	10-1		
10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
	4	14-8-3		
	3	13-7-2		
	2	11-6-1		
	1	10-5-1		
10-1	5	15-3	32	
	4	14-3		
	3			
	2	11-1		
	1	10-1		
10-5-2	5	15-8-4	32	
	4	14-8-4		
1	3			
	1	10-5-2		
10.5.2		15.9.4	22	
10-5-2			32	
<u> </u>				
	ext.]-2 (Destination)	ext.]-2 (Destination) 4   3 3   2 1   10-1 5   4 3   2 4   3 2   10-1 5   4 3   2 1   10-5-1 5   4 3   2 1   10-5-1 5   4 3   2 1   10-1 5   4 3   2 1   10-1 5   4 3   2 1   10-5-2 5   4 3   2 1   10-5-2 5   4 3   2 1   1 1   2 1	ext.]-2 (Destination) 10 ext]-3   4 13-[10 int. 10 ext]-3   3 12-[9 int. 9 ext]-3   2 11-[8 int. 8 ext]-2   1 10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2   1 10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2   1 10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2   10-1 5   2 11-1   1 10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2   2 11-1   1 10-1   10-5-1 5   10-5-1 5   10-5-1 15-8-3   10-1 5   10-1 5   10-1 5   10-1 5   10-5-2 5   11 10-5-2   11 10-5-2   11 10-5-2   11 10-5-2   11 10-5-2   11 10-5-2   11	ext.]-2 (Destination) 10 ext]-3 40-50 late   4 13-[10 int. 10 ext]-3 10 ext]-3   3 12-[9 int. 9 ext]-3 10   2 11-[8 int. 8 ext]-2 1   1 10-[7 int. 7 ext]-2 1   10-1 5 15-3 32   4 14-3 1   3 13-2 1   1 10-1 1 10-1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-1 1 1   1 10-5-1 1 1   1 10-5-1 1 1   1 10-5-1 1 1 1   10-1 5 15-3 32 3   10-1 5 15-3 32 1   10-1 1 10-5-1 1 1   10-5-2 5 15-8-

		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Spinach,	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
Plants		-			
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Spinach,	10-1	5	15-3	32	
Leaves		-			
		4	14-3		
		3	13-2		
		2	11-1		
		1	10-1		
			-		
Spinach	12-6-3	5	18-9-5	32	
Bunched				_	
		4	17-9-5		
		3	16-8-4		
		2	14-7-4		
		1	12-6-3		
Squash,	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	41-50	YES
Summer		-		• •	
Types					
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Squash,	10-2	5	15-4	50-55	
Winter Types		-			
✓ 1 <sup>2</sup> - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		4	14-4		
		3	13-3		
		2	11-2		
		1	10-2		

Strawberries	10-5-2	5	15-8-3	32	
		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Sweet Potatoes	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	55-60	yes
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
				10	
Tangerines,	12-[7 vsd]-3	5	15-[8 vsd]-4	40	
Florida	(Destination)		14.50 33.4		
		4	14-[8 vsd]-4		
		3	13-[7 vsd]-3		
		2	12-[6 vsd]-2		
		1	10-[5 vsd]-2		
Tangerines,	12-[7 vsd]-3	5	15-8-5	40	
Other	(Destination)	U	10 0 0	••	
omer		4	14-8-5		
		3	13-7-4		
		2	11-6-3		
		<u> </u>	11-0-3		
		I	10-3-3		
Tomatoes,	10-5-1	5	15-8-3		
Greenhouse		J	10-0-0		
Greennouse		4	14-8-3		
		3	13-7-2		
		2	11-6-1		
		1	10-5-1		
Tomatoes,	15-[10 SDA]	5	20-[15 SDA]	46-50 pink	Yes
Fresh &	[10 other]-		[15 other]-	55-70 grn.	
Cherry	[5 vsd]-5		[8 vsd]-8		
v		4	19-[14 SDA]		
			[14 other]-		
			[8 vsd]-8		
		3	18-[13 SDA]		
			[13 other]-		

		1			1
			[7 vsd]-7		
		2	17-[11 SDA]		
			[11 other]-		
			[6 vsd]-6		
		1	15-[10 SDA]		
			[10 other]-		
			[5 vsd]-5		
Tomotoog on	10 5 2	5	15.9.4		
Tomatoes on the Vine	10-5-2	5	15-8-4		
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	12-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Turnips <u>*</u>	10-5-1	5	15-8-3	32	
	10-3-1	4	13-8-3	52	
		<b>I</b>	10-3-1		
Watermelons	10-5-2	5	15-8-4	50-60	
		4	14-8-4		
		3	13-7-3		
		2	11-6-2		
		1	10-5-2		
Watermelons	10-5-2	4 3 2	14-8-4 13-7-3 11-6-2	50-60	

Updated 7-29-11

Source: USDA/AMS/PACA

\* = Additional Tolerances Apply!

† = Unless otherwise noted, all temperature data cited is from USDA's Handbook Number 669, "Protecting Perishable Foods During Transport by Truck" (September 1995).

‡ = University of California – Davis, Produce Information, "Properties and Recommended Conditions for Storage of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables" - http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu.