

901:3-45-01

Grades and Color Classes.

(A) Grades. The following grades shall be used in classifying maple syrup:

- (1) U.S. Grade A is the quality of maple syrup that:
 - (a) Not more than 68.9 percent solids content by weight (Brix);
 - (b) Has good uniform color;
 - (c) Has good flavor and odor, and intensity of flavor (maple taste) normally associated with the color class;
 - (d) Is free from off flavors and odors considered as damage;
 - (e) Is free from cloudiness, turbidity, sediment, and is clean; and
 - (f) No deviants for damage shall be allowed in Grade A.
- (2) Maple syrup for processing (Processing Grade) means any maple syrup that fails to meet the requirements of U.S. Grade A, but possess good characteristic maple taste and may contain off-flavors, but is fairly free of damage, turbidity, cloudiness, and is fairly clean.
- (3) Substandard is the quality of maple syrup that fails to meet the requirements of Processing Grade maple syrup.

(B) Color Classes.

- (1) The color class of maple syrup is determined by:
 - (a) The percent of light transmission through the syrup as measured with a spectrophotometer using matched square optical cells having a 10mm light path at a wavelength of 560 nm. The color value is expressed as percent of light transmission as compared to analytical reagent glycerol fixed at 100 percent. Percent transmission is symbolized by “%Tc.”
 - (b) Any method that provides equivalent results. When certifying the color of a sample that has been officially drawn and which represents a specific lot of maple syrup, if the number of color deviants exceeds the acceptance number in the appropriate sampling plan, the lot should be designated as mixed color.
 - (c) Any commercial color determining kit that provides an analysis of clarity and color comparable to that obtained by a spectrophotometer may be

used to determine the grade listed on a label; however, in any dispute over the accuracy of a grade claim, a spectrophotometer shall be used to determine grade.

(2) Color Classes are associated with specific %Tc values as follows:

<u>Grade A Color Classes</u>	<u>Taste</u>	<u>Light Transmittance (%Tc)</u>
<u>U.S. Grade A Golden</u>	<u>Delicate</u>	<u>>75.0</u>
<u>U.S. Grade A Amber</u>	<u>Rich</u>	<u>50.0-74.9</u>
<u>U.S. Grade A Dark</u>	<u>Robust</u>	<u>25.0-49.9</u>
<u>U.S. Grade A Very Dark</u>	<u>Strong</u>	<u><25.0</u>

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