

§ 4-41-28

STANDARDS FOR HAWAII-GROWN BANANAS *

This UNOFFICIAL COPY of standards for bananas, rewritten for easy interpretation, is based on Chapter 4-41, Hawaii Administrative Rules, Standards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables. The general provisions of this Chapter, summaries of standards for other fruits and vegetables, and official copies of the complete chapter are available in each county.

HAWAII FANCY (GRADE AA)	HAWAII NO. 1 (GRADE A)	HAWAII NO. 2 (GRADE B)
<u>Basic Requirements</u>	<u>Basic Requirements</u>	<u>Basic Requirements</u>
Single variety	Single variety	Single variety
Mature (1)	Mature (1)	Mature (1)
Not overripe (2) or soft	Not overripe (2) or soft	Not overripe (2) or soft
Well formed (3)	Fairly well formed (8)	Not badly misshapen (9)
Well developed (4)	Well developed (4)	Fairly well developed (10)
Well trimmed (5)	Well trimmed (5)	Well trimmed (5)
<p>Cleanness: In addition to the above requirements, bananas classified as HAWAII FANCY, HAWAII GRADE AA, HAWAII GRADE A or HAWAII GRADE B shall be clean (6), and those classified as HAWAII NO. 1 or HAWAII NO. 2 shall be fairly clean (7).</p>		
<u>Free From</u>	<u>Free From</u>	<u>Free From</u>
Decay (11)	Decay (11)	Decay (11)
Breakdown	Breakdown	Breakdown
Split fingers (12)	Split fingers (12)	Split fingers (12)
Wormholes	Wormholes	Wormholes
Fingers with broken pedicel	Fingers with broken pedicel	
Blossom-end rot (13)		
<u>Free From Injury (14)</u>	<u>Free From Damage (15)</u>	<u>Free From Serious Damage (16) Caused By</u>
<u>Caused By</u>	<u>Caused by</u>	<u>Caused By</u>
Russeting	Russeting	Russeting
Scars	Scars	Scars
Sunscald	Sunscald	Sunscald
Bruises	Bruises	Bruises
Stubs	Stubs	Stubs
Freckles	Freckles	Freckles
Other disease	Blossom-end rot	Blossom-end rot
Insects	Other disease	Other disease
Mechanical or other means	Insects	Insects
	Mechanical or other means	Mechanical or other means

*Numbers in parentheses following grade terms indicate where such terms are defined under "Definitions."

Size Requirement

Unless otherwise specified, fingers of Bluefield (Gros Michel) and similar varieties shall be not less than 8 inches long; other varieties not less than 7 inches long except the Apple (Brazilian) variety, which shall be not less than 6 inches long.

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Unless otherwise specified, fingers of Bluefield (Gros Michel) and similar varieties shall be not less than 6 inches long; other varieties not less than 5 inches long except the Apple (Brazilian) variety, which shall be not less than 4 inches long.

Uniformity of Size: Bananas sold as fingers, either bundled or packed in trays, shall not vary more than 1/2 inch in apparent length. In computing percent deviation, each bundle or tray shall represent a sample unit.

Tolerances (count basis)

Defects: Total 10%; provided not more than 5% damage, including 2% serious damage and 1% decay or breakdown.
Off-size: 10%.

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Defects: Total 10%; provided not more than 1% decay or breakdown.
Off-size: 10%.

BUNCHES

HAWAII

Not less than 70% of the hands (count basis) shall meet the requirements or Hawaii Fancy grade for hands, with the remaining hands meeting the requirements of Hawaii No. 1. In addition, not more than 1/2 of 1% of the fingers may be affected by decay or breakdown, and main stems shall be free from decay or breakdown. Bunch weight shall be not less than 50 pounds for Bluefield (Gros Michel) and similar varieties and not less than 30 pounds for bunches of Apple (Brazilian), Chinese (Cavendish), Lady Finger and similar varieties.

HAWAII NO. 1

Not less than 70% of hands (count basis) shall meet the requirements of Hawaii No. 1 grade for hands, with the remaining hands meeting the requirements of Hawaii No. 2. In addition, not more than 1/2 of 1% of the fingers may be affected by decay or breakdown, and main stems shall be free from decay or breakdown.

HAWAII NO. 2

Not less than 85% of the hands (count basis) shall meet the requirements of Hawaii No. 2 grade for hands. In addition, not more than 1% of the fingers may be affected by decay or breakdown, and main stems shall be free from decay or breakdown.

Tolerances (count basis)
Total 10%; provided not more than 5% failing to meet Hawaii No. 1 grade for bunches of bananas.

Tolerances (count basis)
Total 10%; provided not more than 5% failing to meet Hawaii No. 2 grade for bunches of bananas.

Tolerances (count basis)
Total 10%.

OFF-GRADE. "Off-grade" is not a grade within the meaning of these standards, but is a descriptive term applicable to bananas which have a market value, and designates a quality lower than the lowest applicable Hawaii grade for bananas.

APPLICATION OF TOLERANCES. Averages for the entire lot, based on examination of representative samples, shall be within the tolerances specified, but the contents of individual containers in any lot may contain not more than double the tolerance, provided that at least one specimen which fails to meet the requirements shall be permitted in a container.

APPLICABLE GRADE TERMS. Bananas shall be classified in accordance with the grading system designated below:

Wholesale Quantities - HAWAII FANCY, HAWAII NO. 1 or HAWAII NO. 2.
whichever is applicable.

Consumer Packages
and Bulk Displays - HAWAII GRADE AA, HAWAII GRADE A or HAWAII
GRADE B, whichever is applicable.

MINIMUM EXPORT GRADE. Bananas for export shall at least meet the requirements of Hawaii No. 1 bananas.

DEFINITIONS.

(1) "Mature" means the banana has reached a stage of growth which will insure a proper completion of the ripening process.

(2) "Overripe" means dead-ripe with the flesh becoming excessively soft or discolored and past commercial value.

(3) "Well formed" means the shape of the hand and arrangement of the fingers on the hand are regular, normal and fairly compact for the variety; and the fingers are reasonably uniform in size and not twisted, abnormally curved or otherwise misshapen.

(4) "Well developed" means all of the fingers are plump and any ridge present is normal for well grown, mature bananas of the variety.

(5) "Well trimmed" means the pedicel of the finger is cut off smoothly at approximately right angles to the longitudinal axis of the pedicel and is not less than 1/4 inch nor more than 1/2 inch long; or in the case of hands, the portion of the main stalk shall not exceed 3/4 inch from the point of attachment to the pedicel as measured to the highest point of the cut in either direction on the vertical axis; or in the case of parts of hands, that the portion of the main stalk shall not exceed 1/2 inch as measured on the vertical and horizontal axes from the point of attachment to the pedicel. (See drawings on page 6.)

(6) "Clean" means the fruit is practically free from dirt, staining, spray residue, cobwebs or other foreign matter.

(7) "Fairly clean" means the hand may be dusty or dull colored, but the appearance of the hand is not materially affected by the presence of staining, spray residue, caked dirt, cobwebs or other foreign matter.

(8) "Fairly well formed" means the fingers are arranged on the hand in a reasonably regular fashion and not more than 10% of the fingers are twisted or abnormally curved, and none of the fingers are badly twisted or curved.

(9) "Badly misshapen" means the arrangement of the fingers on the hand is irregular, or more than 15 percent of the fingers are badly curved or twisted

(10) "Fairly well developed" means the fingers on the hand are not spindly or excessively ridged for the variety.

(11) "Decay" means any rot (other than blossom-end rot) affecting the fingers, pedicel of the fingers, or any portion of the hand or bunch, except the decay affecting the portion of the main stalk attached to a cut hand of Chinese bananas shall not be scored against the tolerance.

(12) "Split fingers" means bananas with split skins, usually caused by internal pressure.

(13) "Blossom-end rot" means the sunken, dry, dark, coarse discolored area at the blossom-end of the finger which may or may not affect the pulp but appreciably affects the appearance of the fruit.

(14) "Injury" means any specific defect described in Table 1, Classification of Defects; or any equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which appreciably detracts from the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality of the bananas.

(15) "Damage" means any specific defect described in Table 1, Classification of Defects; 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 shipping quality of the bananas.

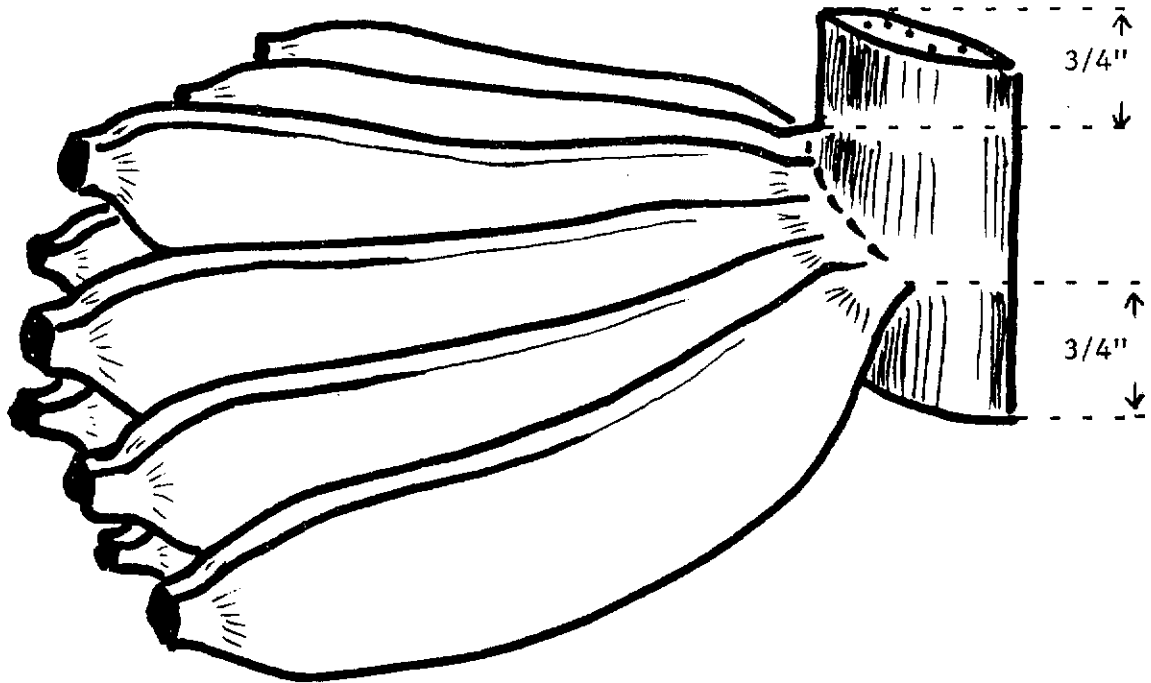
(16) "Serious damage" means any specific defect described in Table 1, Classification of Defects; or an equally objectionable variation of any one of these defects, any other defect, or any combination of defects, which seriously detracts from the appearance, or the edible or the shipping quality of the bananas.

Table 1. Classification of Defects

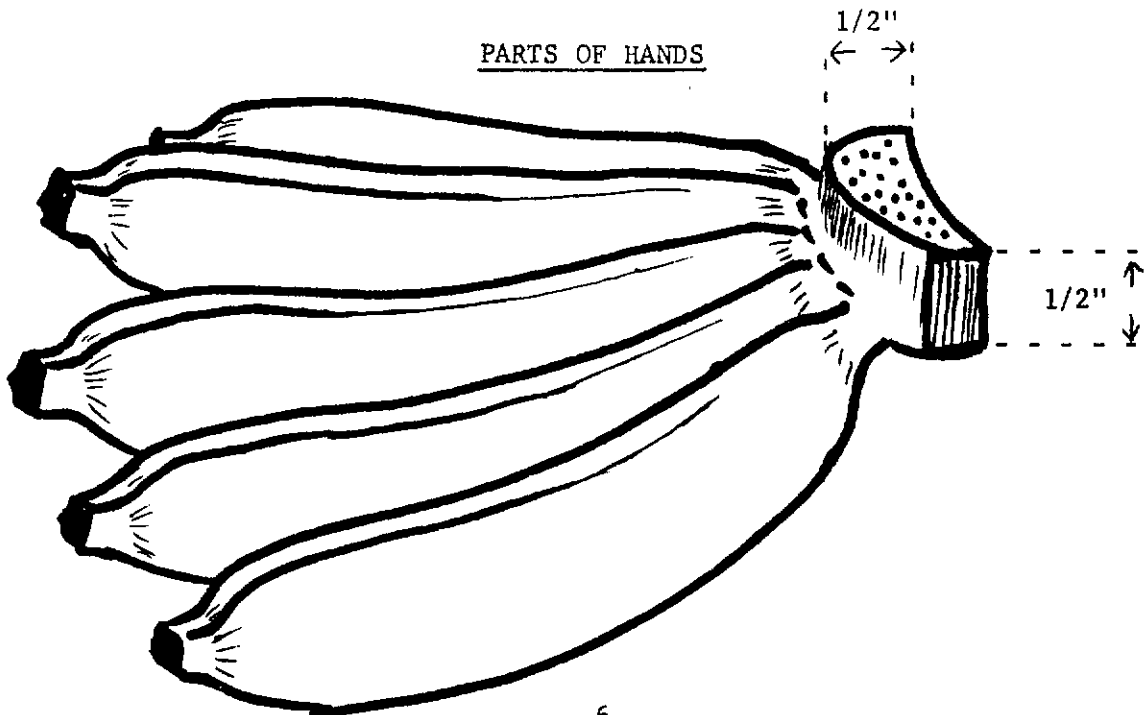
FACTOR	INJURY	DAMAGE	SERIOUS DAMAGE
Russeting, scars, sunscald, bruises, freckles or similar blemishes.	Appearance of any finger materially affected; or flesh of any finger is affected; or appearance of more than 30% of fingers slightly affected; or appearance of more than 10% of fingers more than slightly affected. Dark or scaly scar or scars aggregating more than 1/2 inch in diameter are considered as affecting appearance more than slightly.	Appearance of any finger seriously affected; or flesh of any finger is more than slightly affected; or appearance of more than 30% of fingers materially affected. Dark or scaly scar or scars aggregating an area more than 3/4 inch in diameter or freckles and other blemishes affecting appearance more than permitted for scars are considered as materially affecting appearance.	Flesh of any finger materially affected; or appearance of more than 30% of fingers seriously affected. Dark or scaly scar or scars aggregating an area more than 1-1/4 inches in diameter or freckles and other blemishes affecting appearance more than permitted for scars are considered as seriously affecting appearance.
Bruises	When soft.	When soft.	Soft and more than 2 fingers affected per hand, or soft and more than 1 finger seriously affected.
Stubs	More than 1 finger removed, leaving stub.	More than 2 fingers removed, leaving stubs.	Appearance of hand seriously affected by removal of fingers.
Blossom-end rot		Fairly deep and exceeds 3/4 inch in diameter.	

Measuring Extent of Trimming

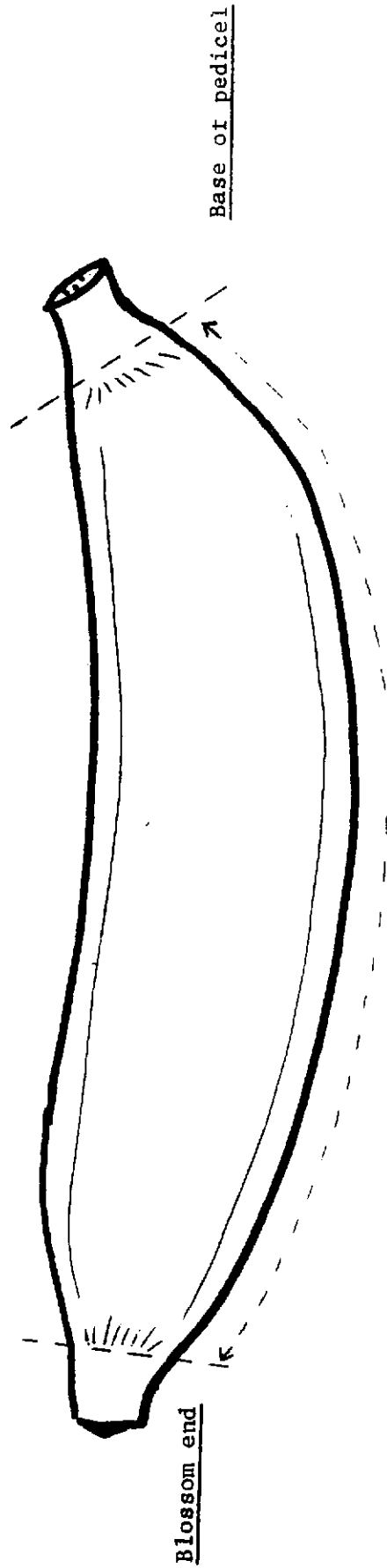
HANDS



PARTS OF HANDS



MEASURING BANANA FOR LENGTH



Outer Curve Measurement

1. To obtain the length of a finger, measure along the outside curve from the blossom end to pedicel (where edible pulp ends).
2. To determine the average finger length of a hand or portions of a hand, measure the middle finger of the outer whorl (the back row fingers of a hand).