



October 15, 2007

Fax Transmission  
(202) 720-8871  
[FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov](mailto:FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov)

Vincent J. Fusaro  
vinny.fusaro@usda.gov  
Fresh Products Branch  
Fruit & Vegetable Programs  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Room 1661 South Building, Stop 0240  
Washington, DC 20250-0240

Dear Mr. Fusaro:

Re: United States Standards for Grades of Pineapples  
Docket # AMS-FV-07-0036; FV-06-318, Fed. Reg. Vol. 72, No. 157, 08/15/07,  
page 45724-45725

The North American Perishable Agricultural Receivers (NAPAR) is a national trade association located in Washington, DC, representing independent produce wholesale receivers. NAPAR members are predominantly small businesses with combined annual sales in excess of \$4 billion. NAPAR formed an operating alliance with the Food Marketing Institute in 1999, enabling it to function independently while expanding the services to its members.

On behalf of our members, I appreciate the opportunity to submit comments to USDA and hope our perspective is helpful as you proceed with a revision to the U.S. Grade Standard for Pineapples.

NAPAR surveyed its members, soliciting their input on the probable impact these changes would have on their business operations. Members who responded were in favor of the USDA proposal, as listed above. We recognize and appreciate that AMS has largely adopted the tolerance percentages for defects that we had suggested in comments filed on November 20, 2006 and look forward to their implementation.

North American Perishable Agricultural Receivers  
2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22202  
Phone: (202) 220-0670, Fax: (202) 220-0870

[FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov](mailto:FPB.DocketClerk@usda.gov)

United States Department of Agriculture

Page 2

I hope these insights are helpful and please feel free to contact me directly if NAPAR can provide further assistance during this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick A. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Patrick A. Davis  
President

North American Perishable Agricultural Receivers  
2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22202  
Phone: (202) 220-0670, Fax: (202) 220-0870