

ASPARAGUS

Product Requirements			
Cleanliness	Must be washed and free from dust, insect stains, dirt (excepting a small amount incidental to harvesting) or other foreign substances.		
Shape	Typical of variety. Slight variation permitted.		
Freshness	Cool, turgid and fresh appearance; not sweating, dehydrated or warm.		
Sizing	Must be within Butt Diameter range.		
Butt Diameter	Small <12 mm. Medium 12 to 18 mm. Large 19 to 22 mm. Jumbo >22 mm.		
Grade Allowances	Tag 1	Tag 2	Tag 3
Colour	Even green, no white butt, minor purple blush	Even green, no white butt, some purple blush	< 30% white butt, some purple blush
Shape	>2.0 cm curvature on <10% of line	>2.0 cm curvature on <30% of line	Curved spears accepted
Length	<1.0 cm variation	<2.0 cm variation	<3.0 cm variation
Heads	Tight, no seedy heads	Moderately open and <10% seedy heads	Moderately open and <50% seedy heads
Cut of Butts	Clean cut, <20% at <20 degree angle cuts	Clean cut Angle cuts accepted	Angle cuts accepted
Defect Allowances	Tag 1	Tag 2	Tag 3
Cuts, punctures	<5% of line affected	<10% of line affected	<20% of line affected
Wilt and shrivel	Nil	Nil	<5%
Broken tips	Nil	<5%	<10%
Stemphylium	Nil	<5 lesions on <20% of line	<10% lesions on <50% of line
Phyophthora	Nil	Nil	Nil