

**CIRCULAR DISTRIBUTED TO DEALERS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

*February 19, 1926.*

To All Parties Dealing in Avocados:

Avocados when packed or when shipped, delivered for shipment, offered for sale, or sold in any container must meet certain requirements of the California Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Act of 1925. The following has been prepared to give parties handling avocados a brief outline of the provisions of the act.

Avocados must be mature, but not over-ripe. Avocados are considered mature when the edible portion shows an oil content of 8% or over by weight by chemical analysis. A special equipment is necessary to make this test. Dealers can assure themselves that the fruit which they are selling is ripe by familiarizing themselves with the different varieties and the months of the year during which such varieties are in season. A chart is herewith attached indicating when certain of the more popular varieties should pass the maturity test. When buying fruit, the variety of same should be obtained from the seller who should know what kind of fruit he is handling.

In addition to being mature, avocados shall be virtually uniform in quality, bruises, frost injury, sunburn or other means; and if packed, virtually uniform in size. "Virtually free" from serious defects means that the total of such defects shall not exceed 10% in any one package and not more than 5% of any one defect. All containers of avocados when packed shall bear upon them in plain sight and in plain letters on the outside thereof the following:

Name of the place where the same were produced, with the post-office address thereof, or the name and post office address of the person, firm, company or corporation, or organization who shall have first packed or authorized the packing of same, or the name under which such packer shall be engaged in business, together with the post office address of such packer; name of variety, if known, and when not known, the words "unknown variety"; and the net weight; and, provided further, that no container shall have less than the minimum stamped thereon.

Fruit must not be deceptively packed. "Deceptive pack" shall mean any package of fruits which has in the outer layer or in the exposed surface fruits which are so superior in quality, size or condition to those in the interior of the package or the unexposed portion as to misrepresent the entire contents.

No containers shall bear grade or other designations that are in any way false or misleading.

Avocados which are to be used for by-product purposes are not subject to the above requirements, but an inspector may require such proof as he may deem necessary that

