

# BLUEBERRY

## Grade Standards

fruit for thought

blueberries  
NEW ZEALAND



### MINOR COSMETIC DEFECTS

#### Torn Scars

**Allowance:** Nil  
Tears exposing the flesh are unacceptable.

#### Chewed Calyx

**Allowance:** Nil  
Chewing damage - grass grub beetle.  
NOTE: Some Rabbit Eye varieties e.g. "Tif Blue" have a natural calyx scar which is acceptable.

#### Natural Calyx Scar "Tif Blue"

Some Rabbit Eye varieties e.g. "Tif Blue" have a natural calyx scar similar in appearance to a Chewed Calyx. Natural Calyx Scar is acceptable.

#### Bloom

Fruit with high bloom (white waxy powder on the fruit surface) is desirable. Retain bloom to the maximum possible.

#### Capped Stems & Clusters

**Allowance:** Nil  
Capped stems whereby the stem is attached to the berry must be removed.  
A cluster of  $\geq 2$  berries joined by their cap stem is not acceptable.

#### Surface Russeting

**Allowance:**  $\leq 2\text{mm}^2$

#### Punctures

**Allowance:** Nil  
Bird damage and other skin punctures are unacceptable.

#### Skin Rub

**Allowance:**  $\leq 2\text{mm}^2$  Acceptable if skin has not been broken.  
Caused by leaf, limbs or adjacent fruit rubbing the skin.

#### Deformed Fruit

**Allowance:** Nil

#### Dirty Fruit

**Allowance:** Nil  
Any foreign material e.g. soil, bird droppings, dust etc.

#### Surface Juice

**Allowance:** Nil  
Fruit wet from fruit juice is unacceptable.

#### Bruised Fruit

**Allowance:** Nil  
Fruit that is soft and spongy, weeping and puffy are unacceptable.

#### Maturity

**Allowance:** Nil  
Fruit is not to be soft, overripe or wrinkled.

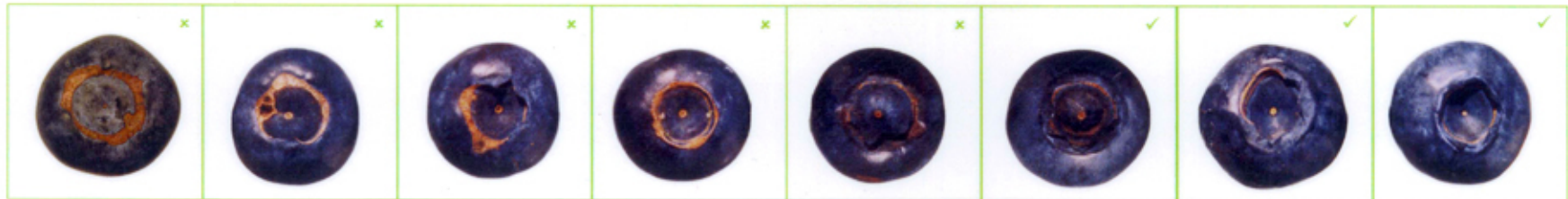
#### Size

There is no minimum size requirement (Exporters may have size requirements). Fruit in each package should be of a relatively uniform size.

### Torn Scars



### Chewed Calyx



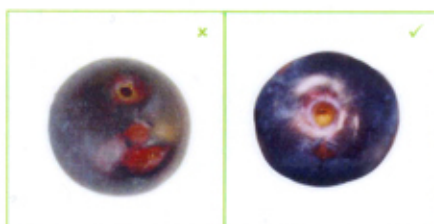
### Surface Russeting



### Punctures



### Skin Rub



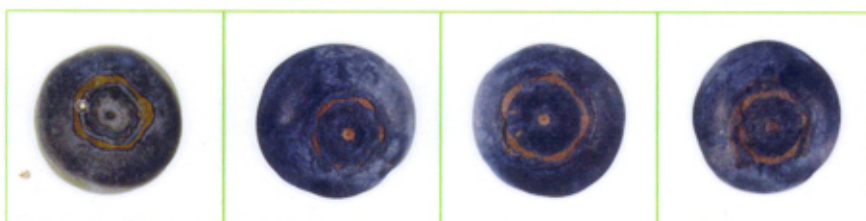
### Deformed Fruit



### Dirty Fruit



### Calyx Scar - normal for "Tif Blue" variety



### Bloom



### Capped Stem

