



UPDATE: Improving Ventilation and Inspections in Bulk Bins Continued

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The Cutting Edge no. 273 addressed some of the ventilation-related challenges that were negatively influencing fruit cooling rates in bulk bins, especially in the cold protocol markets. Various sources have since provided us with additional input and suggestions, and the following changes to the proposed recommendation are made due to unforeseen problems arising in other export markets.

This update serves to inform all that the recommendations as indicated in Cutting Edge no. 273 **will not be implemented on the 1 August 2019 for the EU or any non-cold protocol markets.**

1. Use of cling wrap to close the opening on the pallet base between bulk bins

Several parties have correctly pointed out the use of plastic is highly undesirable in some markets. There is a need to have more time to explore this aspect better after gathering experimental data and recommend a more acceptable and cost-effective solution, i.e., use of liner boards.

In light of these factors, no regulations will be implemented in 2019 to the EU or any non-cold protocol market with respect to sealing the opening on the pallet bases between bulk bins.

2. Use of securing sheets at the bottom of bulk bins

Reports from exporters indicate that certain securing sheets are too weak to handle the pressure of the fruit, resulting in fruit falling from the bins between pallet slats. It is recommended that previous practices, e.g., the use of old cartons with ventilation holes, be used to prevent fruit falling out of bins if a recommended securing sheet is not strong enough.

No regulations regarding selection of securing sheets or pallet caps have been set for the 2019 season.

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