WHOLESALE GRADING & PACKING INSTRUCTIONS

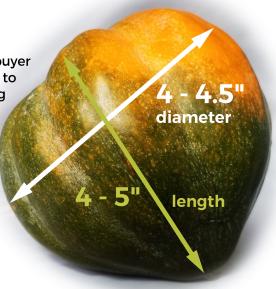




ACORN SQUASH

Grade: U.S. #1

- ✓ Squash should be dark green with the portion that was in contact with the ground to be orange
 - For fresh market, ~80 days to maturity
 - For storage, up to 100 days to allow for curing
- Harvested squash needs to be firm and clean
- Stems are generally left on unless otherwise noted by the buyer
 - If stems are left on, care should be given during harvest to placement in containers to avoid scratching or breaking off of the stems.
 - If stems are to be removed, stems should be clipped off of the plants, not broken off. Additional curing time is needed for the stem scar to heal over.
- For storage, ideally squash should be laid out in single layer. Air temperature 50-55°F with relative humidity between 50-70%. Do not keep squash too cold or chilling injury will occur. For maximum storability, avoid temperatures above 55°F.
- Usually packed in 1 1/9 bushel boxes (~50 lbs)



AVOID

Excessive orange coloring and blemishes



× Stem rot



Storage rot



NEED HELP?

Contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office or a CCE regional agriculture team for more information. CCE.CORNELL.EDU

Information and photos provided by Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, based on standards set by the USDA Angela Ochterski, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, August 2018