

SUNBURN SCALD OF APPLES

This disorder develops during storage on those parts of fruit that have been damaged by intense sunlight and high temperatures before harvest. The affected areas become smooth, glossy, and dark brown to black. Granny Smith (Fig. 7) is a highly susceptible variety.

While on the tree the injury usually appears on the exposed part of an otherwise green or lightly blushed fruit as a bleached yellow to light brown, slightly 'cooked' colour. An apple is particularly liable to sunburn when exposed to intense sunlight late in its development as branches bend under the weight of fruit. No treatment will prevent the blackening during cool storage and fruit with sunburn should be rejected during sorting.



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LIGHT-INDUCED SCALD OF APPLES

Fully mature apples may be injured, after removal from cool storage, by exposure to strong sunlight in picking-boxes and bins or in shop windows. The damage may appear as numerous and sharply defined light brown sunken areas or as a general dirt-brown discoloration of the yellow skin of ripe fruit, with noticeably dark lenticels.

The disorder is usually confined to fully mature fruit in which the ground colour has changed from green to cream or yellow; blushed surfaces are unaffected. It is most commonly seen on Cleopatra and Sturmer but other varieties, including Granny Smith (Fig. 8) and Delicious, may be affected.



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