



North American Produce Transportation Working Group

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Produce Transportation Best Practices -- Carrier Summary

The best practices in this document reflect a general agreement and cooperative effort among shippers, receivers, carriers, and transportation brokers to codify accepted protocols for transporting fresh produce. For details, see the complete document at: www.naptwg.org.

Produce Carriers Best Practices Highlights	
At the Shipper's Dock	At the Receiver's Dock
Loading by appointment whenever practical	Seal(s) serial #s to be verified by receiver prior to opening doors
Shipper to communicate Receiver's delivery requirements	Temperature recorders to be retrieved and read by receivers before unloading
Driver responsible to understand and acknowledge delivery requirements	Party that receives load to print and sign name on BOL
Driver responsible for clean, pre-cooled trailer in good repair	Note time of arrival and tender of delivery in the event of a delay in unloading
Unless otherwise documented on BOL, refrigeration unit should be set to run continuous temperature	In the event of product problems caused by carrier:
Driver should count and take pulp temperatures of load; if constrained from doing so, Shipper should mark bills as "shipper's load and count", Driver should notify dispatcher or transportation broker	Receiver must immediately notify shipper and carrier or transportation broker
If Driver cannot count and pulp, Receiver or contracting third party needs to be contacted for instructions by either dispatcher or transportation broker	Shipper, Receiver, or Carrier must request federal inspection at receiver's facility as soon as possible (usually within 8 hours), or otherwise obtain written agreement from carrier to independent third party inspection
Shipper to document location and serial # of temperature recording units on BOL	Receiver must fax or email results of inspection to all interested parties within 3 hours of inspection
Shipper to document who loaded and checked product	Any and all arrangements must be documented in writing between all parties
	Redelivery charges must be agreed to by all parties
	All parties interested should agree on proof of disposal by way of certificate or other documentation
	Receiver should make all reasonable efforts to resolve and properly document claim issues without delay

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