



## DICE CHARACTER

### Bulk Container Diced Tomatoes

#### DEFINITION:

Character is defined as the percentage of identifiable dice pieces with high enough texture to withstand reprocessing.

#### EQUIPMENT:

- Bench top scale with accuracy of at least +/- 0.1 gm
- U.S. #8, 12 inch diameter sieve
- 2 White grading trays

#### PROCEDURE:

1. Tare a small white grading tray.
2. Once the rinsed drain weight has been determined, take the material remaining on the screen and place it into a large, white grading tray of sufficient size to contain the sample at least two times over.
3. Examine the dices to ensure that they are of good texture by lightly pressing down on the dice with a finger. If the dice smashes easily, it is not of good character. If the dice is resilient and firm to the touch, it is of good character. Separate good character dices into a pile.
4. Place the good character dice in the white grading tray previously zeroed on the balance and record the weight.
5. Divide the weight of the good character dice by rinsed drained tomato weight obtained in the Rinsed Drain Weight Determination to get the percentage of good character dice:

$$\% \text{ Good Character} = \frac{\text{Good Character Dice Weight}}{\text{Rinsed Drained Tomato Weight}} \times 100$$