

# Stone Fruit Internal Breakdown Evaluation

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Symptoms of stone fruit internal breakdown (IB) or chilling injury (CI) include browning of the flesh, development of a mealy or leathery texture, accumulation of red pigment in the flesh, and development of off-flavors. These symptoms can be measured as follows:

1. **Flesh browning**. Measured qualitatively on a scale from 1-6.

Score	Description
1	None
2	Very slight browning in the pit cavity
3	Slight browning in the pit cavity and surrounding tissue
4	Moderate browning on less than 50% of the flesh
5	Severe browning on 50% to 75% of the flesh
6	Extreme browning covering most of the flesh

2. **Flesh texture**. Measured qualitatively on a scale from 1-3.

Score	Description
1	Juicy fruit
2	Moderately leathery or mealy fruit (small amount of juice released upon squeezing)
3	Severely leathery or mealy fruit (almost no juice released upon squeezing)

3. **Flesh bleeding**. Measured qualitatively on a scale from 1-3.

Score	Description
1	No bleeding
2	Moderate bleeding with red pigment covering less than 50% of the flesh
3	Severe bleeding with red pigment covering more than 50% of the flesh



Plate 1. Peach flesh browning (top), juicy fruit (bottom left), and mealy fruit (bottom right).

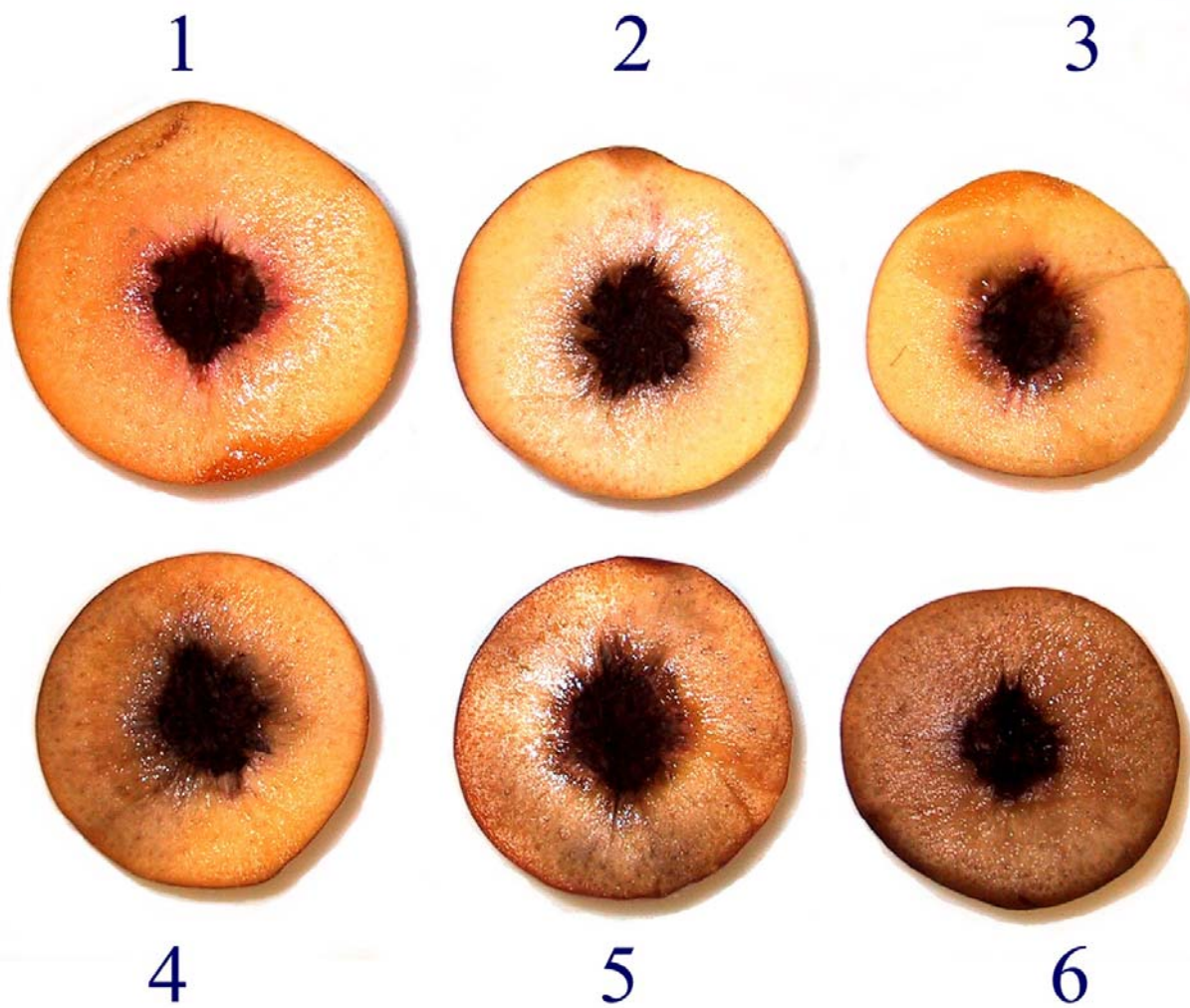


Plate 2. Peach flesh browning scale (1-6).