

Produce Inspection Reference Guide

KVH Kosher Certification | For Mashgichim & Kosher Inspectors

Sorted by Level • 150 Items

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Inspection Level Key

Level	Meaning	What It Means for You
Level 0	No Processing Required	No inspection/checking required when used under the conditions listed for this item.
Level 1	Surface, Drop & Check	Inspect on a white surface; drop and check for movement.
Level 2	Washing Only	Peel (if applicable) and wash well; no further inspection needed.
Level 3	Specific Instructions	Follow the exact steps in the Handling Instructions column.
Level 4	Check for Infestation	Inspect using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
Level 5	Additional Steps Required	Follow the extra steps listed in Handling Instructions.
Level 6	Do Not Use	Prohibited — never use, even pureed, ground, or processed.

How To Use This Guide

- Find the produce item in the table below, grouped by inspection level.
- Check the Level column to see which inspection method applies.
- Check the Common Pests column for what to look for.
- Follow the Handling Instructions column for the exact steps.
- For full step-by-step methodology on each Level, see the Appendix at the end of this guide.

Produce Inspection Table

150 items, sorted by level

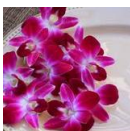
Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Watermelon – Frozen	Level 0 No Processing Required	—	May be used from any source when no additives other than salt or sugar are present.
	Passion Fruit – Frozen	Level 0 No Processing Required	—	May be used from any source when no additives other than salt or sugar are present.
	Pineapples – Frozen	Level 0 No Processing Required	—	May be used from any source when no additives other than salt or sugar are present.
	Shallots	Level 1 <i>Surface, Drop & Check</i>	• Onion thrips • Onion maggots • Bulb mites	General inspection needed to rule out obvious infestation (cRc) . See below for more detailed instruction of how this method should be done
	Orchid Flowers	Level 1 <i>Surface, Drop & Check</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs	Follow standard Level 1 procedures — Surface, Drop & Check method (see appendix).
	Pea Shoots	Level 1 <i>Surface, Drop & Check</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites	Follow standard Level 1 procedures — Surface, Drop & Check method (see appendix).
	Micro Greens	Level 1 <i>Surface, Drop & Check</i>	• Aphids • Fungus gnats • Springtails	Follow standard Level 1 procedures — Surface, Drop & Check method (see appendix).
	Anise Hyssop – Flowers	Level 1 <i>Surface, Drop & Check</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Spider mites • Whiteflies	Follow standard Level 1 procedures — Surface, Drop & Check method (see appendix).
	Celery Root	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	White Asparagus	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Peapods	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Radishes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Honeydew	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Avocado	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Parsnip	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Pineapple	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Cut off the entire rind, then wash well.
	Grapes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Turnips	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Sugar Snap Peas	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Passion Fruit	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Eggplant	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Peppers	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Remove crowns due to infestation concerns, then wash well.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Artichoke Bottoms	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Nectarines	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Cabbage – Bagged, Red and/or White, Prewashed (With or Without Carrots)	Level 2 Washing Only	• Cabbage worm • Inch worm • Cabbage looper • Cabbage aphids • Diamondback moth larva	No need to wash, but washing is always a good idea for any produce
	Edamame	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Jicama	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Snow Peas	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Mushrooms, Portabella	Level 2 Washing Only	• Fungus gnats • Mushroom flies	Visually inspect then wash well, especially under fins Fins not need to be removed
	Potatoes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Cranberries – Fresh / Frozen	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Alfalfa Sprouts	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Green Beans	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Kohlrabi Bulb	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel & Wash

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Guava	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Kiwi	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Rutabaga	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Mushrooms	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Apples	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Squash	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Onions	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Pears	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Tomatoes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Cantaloupe / Honeydew – Fresh / Frozen	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Garlic Scapes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Wash well. No further inspection is needed unless infestation is visible.
	Pumpkin	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Sweet Potatoes	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Pomegranate	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Plums	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Sunchoke AKA Jerusalem Artichoke	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Cucumber	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Cherries	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Carrots	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Watermelon	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Zucchini	Level 2 Washing Only	—	(Peel) Then Wash well.
	Starfruit	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Yams	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Mango – Fresh / Frozen	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.
	Coconut	Level 2 Washing Only	—	Peel if applicable, then wash well. No further inspection needed unless infestation is visible.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Garlic (Fresh)	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Onion maggot - Bulb mites - Wire worms - Microscopic worms	Remove peel first, then wash well.
	Scallions	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	Leaf Miners	Cut both ends, separate bunch, inspect for leaf miners, wash very well while agitating under water and or including in the top openings of the cut scallions as well
	Lemongrass	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Aphids - Spider mites - Scale insects	Cut stalk open vertically. Slice off and discard root. Loosen outer layers; rinse inner leaves under heavy stream of water.
	Cabbage – Whole Head, Red or White	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Cabbage worm - Inch worm - Cabbage looper - Cabbage aphids - Diamondback moth larva	Remove outer layer. Separate all leaves. Wash once with soap and water, then again with clean water. Chop before or after washing.
	Celery Stalks (No Leaves)	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Leaf miners - Aphids	Cut both ends; discard/separate leaves. Rub thumb down center of each stalk under running water.
	Barley / White Rice / Brown Rice / Quinoa	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Indian meal moth - Grain weevils - Grain mites - Flour beetles - Saw-toothed grain beetles - Lesser grain borers	First do a cursory inspection of the grain, then complete one of the following: - Spread a handful of grain on white paper and look for insects. - Place up to 16oz in a #12 mesh strainer and shake over a lightbox or white paper for 25–30 seconds. If no insects are found, the grain may be used. If insects are found, do not use.
	Asparagus, Green	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	- Asparagus beetle - Spotted asparagus beetle - Thrips - Aphids	Cut off and discard tips. Peel entire sides or remove all triangular side leaves and wash well. Canned/frozen only with reliable kosher certification, or following these steps.
	Frozen Vegetables	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	—	Must have an acceptable kosher symbol or be specifically approved.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Leek	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Thrips • Onion maggots • Leaf miner	Cut off both ends. Slice down the stalk horizontally 'separate layers then 'Wash well. Inspect for infestation.
	Sprouts	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Tiny flies • Aphids • Mites • Insect larvae	Wash with a surfactant and rinse. If fragile, do a drop check to rule out infestation.
	Blueberries	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Worms • Maggots	Wash well with soap and water. No further checking needed. Organic and U-Pick varieties NOT approved.
	Fennel Bulb	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Click beetle larvae • Aphids	Cut off top (tops = Level 4). Open and separate pieces; inspect for infestation. If none, wash well.
	Belgian Endive	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Aphids • Leaf miners • Thrips	Cut end, separate leaves, wash well.
	Chives	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Onion thrips • Aphids • Onion maggots	Cut tips, separate bunch, wash well.
	Corn (Fresh)	Level 3 <i>Specific Instructions</i>	• Corn earworm • Sap beetles • Corn borer	Remove husks before washing.
	Purslane	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Lemon Balm (Fresh)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Spider mites • Whiteflies • Scale insects	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Marjoram	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Little Gem Lettuce	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Cabbage loopers • Flea beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Amaranth Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Pigweed flea beetles • Aphids • Caterpillar	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Anise Hyssop – Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Scale insects • Spider mites • Aphids • Mealybugs	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Chard	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Leaf miners • Aphids • Cabbage • Loopers • Flea beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Swiss Chard	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Frieze Greens	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Leaf miners • Thrips	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Mint Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• — Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Greenleaf Lettuce	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Iceberg Lettuce – Bagged, Shredded, or Chopped	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Cabbage loopers/worms • Leaf miners • Flea beetle	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Sage	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Kale / Baby Kale / Chopped Kale	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Rosemary	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Butter Lettuce (incl. Baby & Burger)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leaf hopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly • Leaf miners • Cabbage loopers	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Parsley (Flat, Curly, Italian)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• — Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Radicchio	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Leaf miner • Cabbage looper • Slugs	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Spinach / Baby Spinach	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Kohlrabi and/or Mustard Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Cabbage worms • Cabbage loopers • Flea beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Collard Greens	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Iceberg Lettuce – Whole Heads	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Cabbage loopers/worms • Leaf miners • Flea beetle	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Curry Leaf	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Mealybugs • Spider mites • Scale insects • Leaf miners • Whiteflies	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Oakleaf Lettuce	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Mustard Greens	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Watercress	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Chicory Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Leaf miners • Flea beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Spring Mix	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Carrot Tops	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Leaf miners	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Oregano	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Napa Cabbage	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Cabbage looper • Aphid • Diamondback moth	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Escarole Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Basil	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Fennel Tops	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Whiteflies • Spider mites	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Little Leaf Lettuce (brand name)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Flies	Use the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix). Contact your RC for special instructions on verified-clean lots (see note below)

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Red Leaf Lettuce	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Epazote	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Lemon Verbena	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Spider mites • Whiteflies • Scale insects	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Bok Choy	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Flea beetle • Cabbage worms • Cut worms • Diamondback moth larvae	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Wormwood Herb	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Spider mites • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Tarragon	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Bay Leaf – Fresh	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Tiny scale insects • Aphids • Spider mites	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Sorrel (French or Otherwise)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• — Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Mache	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips	Use the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix). Contact your RC for special instructions on verified-clean lots (see note below)

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Dill Weed	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Thyme	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Fig Leaf	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Fig whitefly • Aphids • Scale insects • Spider mites • Fig beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Nasturtium Leaves	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Flea beetles • Leaf miners	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Any Leafy Lettuce Mix	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Brussels Sprouts (Shredded)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Thrips • Cabbage worms / loopers • Spider mites	Use the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix). This method also applies when all leaves individually detached.
	Romaine (All Types)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider • Slug • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Arugula / Baby Arugula	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Leaf miners • Flea beetles	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Mesclun Mix	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Mites • Leafhopper • Spider	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
			• Slug • Whitefly	
	Boston Lettuce	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Leaf miners	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Shiso (Shishoor)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Cilantro / Culantro	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Thrips • Aphids • Spider mites • Mealybugs • Fungus Gnats • Whitefly	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Broccolini Rabe	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Aphids • Cabbage worms • Flea beetles • Leaf miners • Diamondback moth larva • Cut worms	Use the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix). NOTE: Only leaves may be used, not the stem.
	Grape Leaves (Fresh)	Level 4 <i>Check for Infestation</i>	• Spider mite • Scale insects	Follow standard Level 4 procedures using the Thrip Cloth Method (see appendix).
	Broccolini	Level 5 <i>Additional Steps Required</i>	• Aphids • Cabbage worms • Diamondback moth larva • Flea beetles • Cabbage loopers	1. Run each stalk with floret under strong stream of water. 2. Agitate in warm soapy water 2 min; rinse off all soap. 3. Agitate piece by piece in fresh water; check rinse with thrip cloth & lightbox. If bug-free, use those pieces. If infestation persists after 3 cycles, discard batch.
	Cauliflower	Level 5 <i>Additional Steps Required</i>	• Cabbage worms • Cabbage • Loopers • Aphids • Thrips • Flea beetles • Dimond back moth larva • Root maggots	1. Break large floret clusters into smaller pieces. 2. Agitate in warm soapy water 2 min; rinse off all soap. 3. Agitate piece by piece in fresh water; check rinse with thrip cloth & lightbox. If bug-free, use those pieces. If infestation persists after 3 cycles, do not use batch.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Strawberries – With Leaves	Level 5 <i>Additional Steps Required</i>	• Strawberry Aphid • Slugs and snails • Two-spotted Spider Mite • Spotted Wing Drosophila	1. Using a soft bristle brush, carefully brush the underside of the leaves. Soak and agitate in soapy water; gently rub the entire surface. 2. Rinse in a colander under flowing water. 3. Agitate in a fresh water basin, then pour the rinse water through a thrip cloth and examine the cloth for infestation.
	Mushrooms, Oyster (Regular, Not King Oyster)	Level 5 <i>Additional Steps Required</i>	• Fungus gnats Sciarid flies –Fungal mites	1. Visually inspect each mushroom between layers. If any infestation found, reject entire lot. 2. If no obvious infestation, remove samples from base and middle layers; wash and check using thrip cloth method.
	Strawberries – Leaves Removed	Level 5 <i>Additional Steps Required</i>	• Strawberry Aphid • Slugs and snails • Two-spotted Spider Mite • Spotted Wing Drosophila	1. Remove tops without exposing the inner crevice. Soak and agitate in soapy water; gently rub the entire surface. 2. Rinse in a colander under flowing water. 3. Agitate in a fresh water basin and examine the water. If bugs are found, repeat until the rinse runs clean.
	Raspberries – Fresh or Frozen	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item, even pureed or ground
	Blackberries	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Not to be used, even pureed or ground.
	Broccoli	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item.
	Mushrooms, Morel	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item.
	Artichoke Top or hearts Frozen, fresh or canned	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item.
	Brussels Sprouts (Whole)	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item.
	Corn Husk Triangle	Level 6 <i>Do Not Use</i>	—	Do not use this item.

Photo	Produce Item	Level	Common Pests	Handling Instructions
	Edible Flowers	— Level 6 Do not use	—	Do not use this item.

Appendix: Inspection Methods

Important Notes for Mashgichim

- Little Leaf Lettuce (brand name): contact your RC for special instructions on verified-clean lots.
- Thrip cloth and lightbox checks are required as noted. Discard batches that fail after three full cleaning cycles. If in doubt, contact your RC.

Level 1 — The Dry White Surface, Drop & Check Method

This method is the gentlest way to check certain products without damaging them. Take the product out of its container and put it on one side of a white napkin or a piece of white baking paper. Look at the bottom of the inside of the container to verify there are no insects present. Pick up one or several pieces of the product and gently drop it onto the other side of the napkin or paper. Repeat for all of the product. If nothing emerges, the product may be used.

Level 2 — Washing Only

All produce should be peeled and washed, or, if there is no peel, washed well. This is standard practice.

Level 3 — Specific Instructions

See the Handling Instructions column for the specific method required for this item.

Level 4 — Thrip Cloth Method

Equipment needed: 2 strainers, thrip cloth, produce wash or soap, light box, and a jeweler's loupe or strong magnifying glass.

Make sure basins and sinks are clean before starting. Tip: wash fresh herbs thoroughly with water before the wash/soap rinse cycle — it saves time in the long run.

1. Fill one basin with water and enough produce wash or soap that the produce feels slippery to the touch.
2. Fill a second basin with plain water for the rinse.
3. Separate the produce, washing it first if possible, before immersing it in the wash solution.
4. Fully immerse each leaf in the soak. Don't overfill the basin, and agitate thoroughly from top to bottom.
5. Remove small amounts of product by hand and shake out excess water. Hold the produce loosely to avoid re-trapping dislodged insects.
6. Move the produce to the fresh water basin and agitate, rinsing off any remaining soap.
7. Pour the final rinse water through a thrip cloth positioned between the two strainers.
8. Check the cloth on the light box (with a loupe, hold the lens close to the item and gradually pull it away until the image is sharp).

Level 5 — Additional Steps Required

See the Handling Instructions column next to the item for its specific additional steps.

Level 6 — Do Not Use

These items are prohibited and may never be used, even when pureed, ground, or processed.