

Pressure-bruising of the tomatoes in the fiberboard box, as shown in Table 2, was much higher than in the other containers. However, the fiberboard box was included only in tests 7 and 8, in which the average pressure-bruising of the tomatoes was 13.4 percent, as compared with the average of 12.8 percent for fruits in all boxes in these two tests. This was considerably higher than the 5.7 percent average for the other six tests. Therefore, there was little difference in bruising injury in the fiberboard and the other boxes included in the same tests.

Total mechanical injuries ranged from 9.5 percent in the standard lug to 28.4 percent in the field box. Except for the field box, the differences in injuries among containers were small. In many instances, as shown in Table 3, the differences in injury among the eight tests were larger than among containers in the same test. However, in most of the tests the same comparative rank of the containers with respect to injuries was maintained. Thus, in five of the eight tests the standard lug ranked lowest in total injuries and in two of them the nailed box ranked lowest. When only pressure bruises were compared, the nailed box ranked first in four tests.

In one test, tomatoes from the same lot were compared on the transit simulator and in a truck shipment from Homestead, Florida, to Washington, D. C. In the truck test the least injury was found in the nailed and wirebound (TAB) boxes (2 and 3 percent, respectively). Under simulated transit conditions the least injury was in the lug and nailed boxes (both 13 percent).

#### **COST OF PACKING TOMATOES, BY TYPE OF CONTANER, 1950-51 SEASON**

In 1950-51 cost data were obtained from 13 firms having records on packing operations. Three of these had two packinghouses each. All were principally tomato packers, but a few packed various quantities of vegetables such as pole beans, sweet corn and cucumbers. The average volume per packinghouse was 136,676 packages, of which 125,104 packages were tomatoes. The output of all the houses averaged 91.5 percent tomatoes, and 10 houses packed no vegetables but tomatoes.

When vegetables other than tomatoes were packed, total packinghouse costs for tomatoes were first separated from those for other vegetables. Tomato costs were then allocated to the