

# Cherry Cluster Separator

## Your Gateway to Premium Quality Cherries

- Worldwide Patented -

**Fruit:** Sweet or Sour Cherries

**Purpose:** To single out cherries in cluster, at a capacity up to 2,500 kg/hour/machine.

### About the manufacturer:

Fachaux Grading, has been manufacturing fruit grading and sorting equipment for more than 40 years. Fachaux Grading is a family-owned business in the heart of the Loire Valley fruit growing region of France. In 2001 Fachaux Grading received an Innovation Award at SITEVI 2001 ([www.sitevi.com](http://www.sitevi.com)).

Fachaux Grading has sold in excess of 80 machines to countries such as Canada, France and to one of the most demanding markets, the United States.

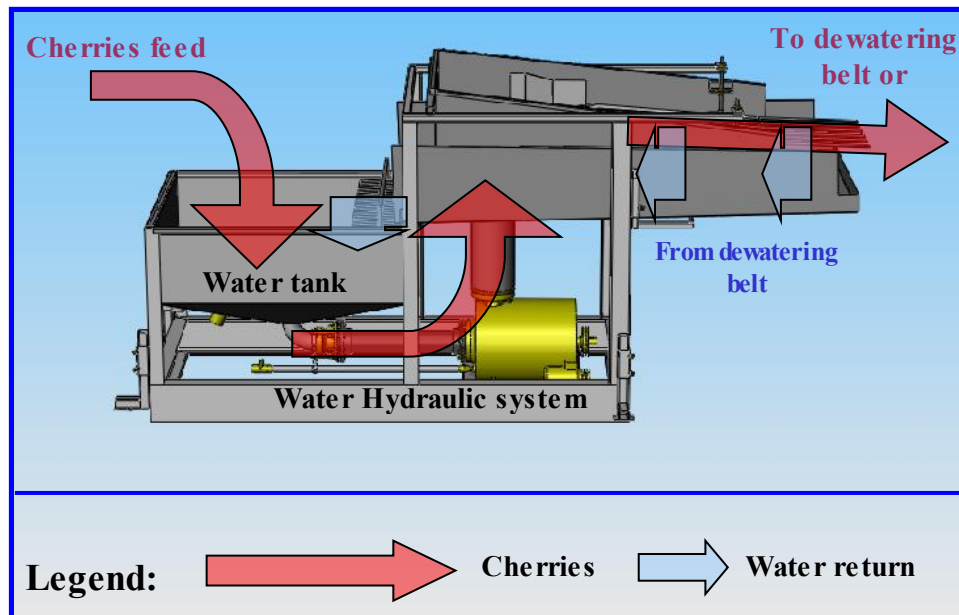


*Cherries singled out by separation and exit on a Dewatering Conveyor*

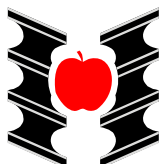
### Overview of machine:

For a standard configuration, the water hydraulic cherry cluster separator includes:

- A Water Tank (cherry holding tank)
- A patented Water Hydraulic Separating system
- An Exit Basin on the top feeding onto a dewatering belt or channels
- A Waste Collecting Tray (enables recycling of water back to the Water Tank)



*The typical configuration is an exit onto a Fachaux size-grader through dewatering channels. Interconnection to other manufacturers grading/sorting machine or conveyor has been achieved in prior installations. Better results are obtained if the cherries exit via a dewatering conveyor belt.*



# Fachaux Grading

( Calibreuses Fachaux - France )

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**Fruit Quality:**

- Is comparable to separating the cherries by hand
- Processes all sizes and all varieties of cherries
- Growers and packers experience more than 90% of cherries being singled out, depending on water hydraulic system speed
- Better presentation of stem (suitable length, no dryness or browning)
- Very gentle with the fruit – Premium quality verified by “Domaine Experimental La Tapy”, Cherry Research Centre of Horticulture France ([www.ctifl.fr](http://www.ctifl.fr))
- Replace the cluster cutter method, which is the first cause of pitting damage in a packinghouse (source: article J611A of Washington State University - Tree Fruit Post-harvest Research Centre)

**Capacity:**

Two (2) Models are available:

- 1) **‘Medium Size’ separator:** processes up to 1,000 kg/hour
- 2) **‘High Capacity’ separator:** processes up to 2,500 kg/hour

In some current installations, two (2) ‘High Capacity’ separators have been installed in parallel, therefore enabling an output rate of 5,000 kg/hour.

A Variable Speed Drive allows fine tuning of the Separator, which may be required for different varieties.

**Specifications:**

All parts in contact with the cherries and water are manufactured from stainless steel. PP-plastic is used for the manufacture the Dewatering Conveyor. The chassis itself is manufactured from painted steel.

**On-going Water Usage:**

Minimal. Water for the dumping basin will need to be refreshed (changed) regularly (as per food handling regulations).

**‘Medium Size’ Separator**

Total equipment size:	1.2m wide x 3.5m long
Water Tank:	400 litres (recommended)
Motor:	Variable Speed Drive

**‘High Capacity’ Separator**

Total equipment size:	1.5m wide x 4.5m long
Water Tank:	800 litres (recommended)
Motor:	Variable Speed Drive

**Control Switchboard**

Provided (cabinet manufactured from painted steel)

**Installation Requirements:**

Power supply:	Single phase 240V / 50 Hz as per Australian and EU standard
Water supply fittings:	Standard flexible water hose can be used.
Waste water:	Male Connection to a female water valve (1” or 33/42mm)



*Separators in parrallel*

**Maintenance :**

Only minimal maintenance is required.

Refer to the User Manual for specific Maintenance requirements.



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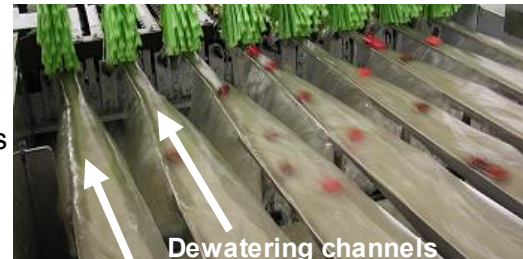
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**Standard version:*****Exit from Separator via Dewatering Channels***

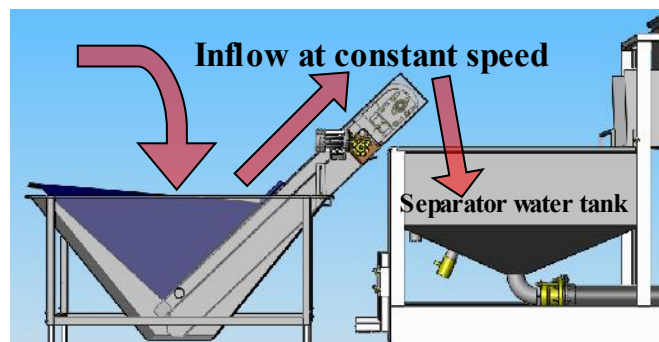
- Cherries flow from the water hydraulic system exit basin into a series of channels.
- As the channel narrows, most of the water flows over the edges of the channels
- The remaining flow of water carries the cherries to the next phase of the packing line
- Is a proven cost-effective solution for the input of a 'Fachaux' size-grader
- Gravity-based solution (no maintenance required)

**Ancillary equipment and options:*****i) Exit from Separator via a Dewatering Conveyor (instead of the channels)***

- Ideal for connecting to non-Fachaux Grading equipment
- Manufactured from 'Unichains' modular PP-plastic conveyor belt and sprockets ('Ameraal' available on request)
- Stainless steel axis and chassis
- Transmission by chain for use of a generic motor (specific make can be requested)
- Conveyor length manufactured to your specifications and requirements (1.30m minimum to enable sufficient dewatering)
- Conveyor positive gradient angle adjustable

***ii) Separator water tank feeding through a constant-feed elevator***

- The separator is more efficient if cherries are fed into the water basin with a constant speed inflow.
- Ideal when large picking containers are used, or when all buckets are dumped in at the end of the picking shift.
- Stainless steel basin and chassis
- Manufactured from Modular PP-plastic conveyor belt (Transmission as per Dewatering Conveyor)

***iii) Additional Options:***

- Equipment manufactured on castor wheels
- Separator Water Tank automatic top-up system



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## Placed inside an installation

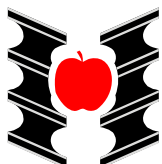


*A perfect fitting to a mechanical grading installation*



*Ideally placed before an electronic grading machine*

Australia, Juin 2007



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