

The Source

December 29, 2020



Market Alerts

Apples – Market steady on poor demand.

Asparagus – Supplies have reduced in Mexico due to transition and Peruvian Asparagus is trying to keep up with demand on both coasts. Watch this market to continue to go higher.

Avocados – Avocado market is active, and demand has strengthened. Currently, the industry is experiencing two short harvest weeks coupled with an increase in freight costs for the holidays. This slight uptick in market pricing will be short lived and should balance out by mid-January. Quality out of Mexico has been consistent. Fruit is cutting great and eats well. Current size structure peaking on 48's and 60's. With lean US inventories, open market options will be limited primarily on 48's. USDA Daily Movement Report indicates avocados are up 3% year over year.

Bell Peppers – Market on **green** bells is steady, **red** and **yellow** bells are still strong. New fields on red and yellow bells should start in Sinaloa in about 7-10 days.

Berries (Blackberries) – The market remains slow going into the holidays quality looks good on most lots primarily coming out of Mexico.

Berries (Blueberries) – Imported blueberries are sporadically arriving with lackluster demand. There are periods of plenty followed by short periods of waiting for transfers or boat arrivals to come. Look for the market to remain flat.

Berries (Raspberries) – Heavy supplies are beginning to lighten up but minimal demand has caused the market to remain flat. Quality has been fair.

Continued

Berries (Strawberries) – Lack of demand is causing some areas to fall behind in moving out inventories particularly in the Texas area. Quality has been good with some bruising being reported upon arrival.

Broccoli – Cold weather and rain is slowing production. Watch for supplies to react and this market to go higher.

Brussels Sprouts – Tighter supplies has been keeping this market strong. The cooler overnight lows is supporting the higher market.

Carrots – The carrot market remains stable and supplies are steady on **snack packs, cellos, and jumbos**. We have light supplies out of Georgia as well if you have any interest.

Cauliflower – Cold weather and rain is slowing production. Look for the market to continue to be tight.

Celery – This market is firm. Supplies and working crews will be minimal in Yuma for the week. Oxnard will have moderate to light availability for the week as well. The overall quality continues to be good, in terms of color and texture.

Citrus (Lemons) – Supplies and quality is looking steady on small sizes. 115's and larger are holding firm due to retail holiday pull. Please reach out for any advance prices.

Citrus (Limes) – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Please place orders with lead time.

Citrus (Oranges) - Navel supplies are looking good on 88's and smaller. 72's and larger is holding firm on markets due to retail pull for the holiday. Quality is still looking really nice. Please reach out for any advance prices.

Continued

Cucumbers – Continuous supply and demand is keeping market steady and quality good. Lower demand from holidays may have a softer market.

Eggplant – No major changes on eggplant market - quality holding well- still a good range on sizes.

Garlic – Steady supplies keeping this market level.

Grapes (Green) – Domestic green grapes still exist but are poor quality. Import greens much nicer at higher prices.

Grapes (Red) – Domestic reds still available quality mostly fair. Imported reds better quality at higher prices.

Green Onions – Cold weather in Mexico is slowing production. Watch for this market to get higher.

Kale – Plenty of supplies in the pipeline. Market to continue to stay steady going into the weekend.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – Overall the market is firm with this commodity. Some blister and peel has been reported upon arrival along with misshapen heads and pink discoloration. The weight have been better, averaging thirty-nine to forty three pounds. Supplies will be adequate to fill all orders for the week. Limited labor in the harvesting will be an issue with multiple shippers.

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Lettuce Leaf – Good supplies continue for the week on romaine as well as hearts and all leaf items. There has been some defects being reported such as tip burn, some blister and peel, as well as some discoloration on the ribs. The market is soft right now so shippers are willing to flex on volume type orders. Limited harvesting crews will be an issue in Yuma all week for shippers.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Market and supplies continue to stay steady on **Spinach** and **Arugula**. **Curly Parsley** market continues to have strength.

Melons (Cantaloupe and Honeydew) – The offshore melon market remains in a demand exceeds supply situation. Yields on cantaloupe and honeydew continue to be considerably low. Realistically, we anticipate melon production could be negatively impacted through February. Retail demand is very strong and keeping this market active. Foodservice demand has been light and inconsistent. Suppliers are struggling to cover contract programs leaving little to no open market options.

Melons (Watermelon) – Demand is slightly lower and market is steady. Quality remains suspect for seedless and mini seedless. Availability on minis remains limited.

Onions – Onions are a steady go, the northwest is still shipping out of storage. Quality is excellent. Deals available on large sized yellow onions in Idaho. Call for these deals.

Continued

Pears – Market steady on poor demand.

Pineapples – Supplies are steady out of both coasts. Current markets are stable and quality is looking nice. Reach out for any opportunities.

Potatoes – Idaho is shipping storage. **Burbanks**, which have undergone the sweat process, are available but limited and at an upcharge. Quality is excellent, peaking on 70 CT cartons. Call for more info.

Squash – Lower demand and holiday lagging on production keeping markets steady at this time.

Stone Fruit – Early peaches and nectarines available out of New Jersey.

Tomatoes – Cool weather patterns has slowed the Florida growing season through transition and XL size fruit is short. Mexico is a couple weeks away from winter supply in volume. Both Eastern and Western markets remain elevated, in a short position. Tomatoes have begun crossing through Nogales and will gradually increase over the next 10-14 days to meet seasonal supply norms. The market remains elevated most significantly in the grape tomato categories. Grape tomatoes are in a supply gap with light overlap in harvests. Weak demand is keeping the market from a critical state.

Weather

California – The low rain we just had will now lead to very cold overnight lows. Overnight lows expected to be in the 20s to low 40s are wide.

Mexico – Temps are expected to cool this week allowing morning lows to hover around freezing.

Florida – A high pressure ridge stalls producing steady warming and gradually increasing easterly winds with dry conditions through the week.

Arizona – Recent rain did not amount to much and now lettuce ice is expected the next couple of days. Increasing winds Friday will help subside the widespread lettuce ice.

Freight

Trucks remain tight in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average remained steady at 2.635 per gallon.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples
Blackberries
Blueberries
Strawberries
Brussels Sprouts
Carrots
Lemons




































Limes
Oranges
Onions
Pears
Pineapples
Potatoes
Raspberries (PAST PEAK)



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Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is poor, pricing is higher	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is poor, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 STONE FRUIT	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 TOMATOES	Quality is fair, pricing is steady

