

# The Source

September 22, 2021

PRO\*ACT

## Market Alerts

**Apples** – New crop red delicious starting this week. Small fujs and galas remain tight.

**Asparagus** – Asparagus supplies continue to be extremely tight. Wet weather and transition is causing Mexican grass to be limited. Peruvian grass is logistically a struggle to get to Florida. Look for the market to stay strong going into next week.

**Avocados** – Markets on large sized fruit remain on the strong side with good demand. Markets on smaller sized fruit are steady with light demand. Supplies on large fruit remain light as well as all #2 grade fruit. California & Peru is winding down for the season. Mexican growers are slowly transitioning into new crop.

**Bell Peppers** – Markets are steady to slightly higher. Crops continue to wind down in the east and should be wrapping up the first week of October. Quality is fair but seeing better quality out of the newer areas in GA and the S Carolina. Expect fairly steady prices as production increases out of these new regions. Western bell peppers supplies are a bit lighter than the last few weeks, but expect fairly steady prices.

**Berries (Blackberries)** – The market remains steady as we see more product begin to show out of Mexico.

**Berries (Blueberries)** – Product remains tight as we see delays in offshore arrivals from Peru and Mexico starts to begin their season in only a light way. Open market fruit will be scarce over the next week.

**Berries (Raspberries)** – Mexico begins to ramp up over the next few weeks Markets should remain steady.

**Berries (Strawberries)** – Quality concerns are producing a 2 tiered market. Much of the inferior fruit is being sent to freezers or juicing companies. This may result in a strengthening of the market.

## Continued

**Broccoli** – Demand exceeds supplies on all Broccoli and Floret packs. The recent warm weather has brought fields forward and fields have been lost due to quality issues. Look for this market to stay strong through next week.

**Brussels Sprouts** – Supplies and quality are starting to get better. Look for the market to continue to correct downward as more supplies come through the pipeline.

**Carrots** – Quality is good on all bulk and value-added product. Demand continues to be very strong for school/DOD business. Value-added packs are on weekly allocations. We strongly advise putting orders in early. Markets remain steady. We do have options out of Texas as well on jumbos.

**Cauliflower** – Cauliflower supplies continue to be slightly limited due to the recent heat. Expect this market to follow Broccoli going into next week.

**Celery** – This market is steady with multiple shippers. Demand is moderate at best. Some shippers continue to flex on volume type orders, especially in the southern California region. Small sizing, thirty six counts in particular are the least sizing available but all orders are being covered. The quality continues to be good with slight seeder being reported. Promote this commodity as much as possible.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – Domestic supplies continue to be very light with markets holding firm on both Fancy and Choice grade fruit. We're seeing steady import supplies out of the east & west coast, all depending release times at the port. Supplies out of Mexico are starting up as well and have options to load out of Texas. Desert crop to start around the last week of September.

**Citrus (Limes)** – Supplies are steady and quality is looking good. We have availability out of Texas, and also have cross dock options out west and east coast.

## Continued

**Citrus (Oranges)** - Small sizes on 113's & 138's remain very limited on both grades. Moving forward we can expect small sizes to remain very tight until we transition to Navels early November. Sizes are peaking on 72's and larger. Quality of the fruit is looking tired, the heat, lack of water, and gas times are taking a toll on the fruit. Keep inventories tighter for better shelf life.

**Cucumbers** – Markets remain elevated. Supplies limited on both coasts but should see relief over the next few weeks as new growing regions increase production.

**Eggplant** – Markets are fairly steady with decent supplies. Eastern supplies will increase over the next several weeks as newer regions ramp up. Western supplies out of the desert will begin at the end of the month bringing more to the pipeline. Expect steady prices for the balance of the week.

**Garlic** – California supplies remain tight. Imports from China will help offset in a minor way. Pricing is higher and quality is good.

**Grapes (Green)** – Lots of nice grapes out there. The market seems to have found its level. Expect more of the same for the next few weeks.

**Grapes (Red)** – Lots of nice grapes out there. The market seems to have found its level. Expect more of the same for the next few weeks.

**Green Onions** – Green Onion supplies continue to improve. Look for this market to continue to adjust lower as we move into next week.

**Kale** – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Watch this market closely with the upcoming heatwave.

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**Lettuce (Iceberg)** – Overall, supplies continue to be moderate to light in the industry. This will likely continue throughout the week. Some common defects being reported include discoloration and misshapen heads. Demand has been steady for the most part. Escalated pricing on value added lettuce items as some have inquired is still not a factor in the marketplace.

**Lettuce Leaf** – Romaine is moderate to light in availability, pending the shipper, while green and red leaf are plentiful. Butter has firmed up. Starting the week, overall demand is off for all leaf items. Romaine hearts are active as many suppliers have less acreage to harvest compared to past weeks. Fringe and tip burn has been reported upon arrivals on all leaf items.

**Lettuce Tender Leaf** – Plenty of tender leaf items is keeping this market steady. Look for this market to stay steady going into next week.

**Melons (Cantaloupe)** – Markets are steady out of the valley with steady supplies. Quality is good. Pricing should remain steady for the balance of the week.

**Melons (Honeydew)** – Demand exceeds; supplies are extremely limited. The market will remain elevated until the desert season begins in early October. Quality is ok but seeing smaller sizes as the San Joaquin season winds down. Flexibility in sizing is required to cover orders.

**Melons (Watermelon)** – Markets are steady with good supplies. Expect a good transition to Mexico; season will begin in early October.

**Onions** – Super, colossal and jumbo sized red and yellow onions remain elevated. Several weeks are left until harvest is complete and what the crop profile will be.

## Continued

**Pears** – New crop D'anjou starting this week.

**Pineapples** – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality is good on whole and crownless fruit.

**Potatoes** – Market is declining on 40 - 70 CT. New crop norkotahs are trending larger marking small 80 - 120 CT less available. No #2s are becoming more available.

**Squash** – Markets are steady. Crops continue their fall transition in the east to southern growing regions out of NC, GA, and FL. West coast supplies continue out of Baja and Santa Maria. Supplies out of Nogales have started in a light way with zucchini; yellow squash will be starting in about a week.

**Stone Fruit** – Markets remain steady. Nectarines look to finish up in the next week. Peach volume is decreasing as we get into October. Plenty of plums through November.

**Tomatoes** – Round supplies continue to be light out of the east coast. Expect to see increased production over the next several weeks. Out west supplies remain steady for the week with good quality; sizing is trending on the smaller side. Roma supplies remain light this week and should be the case for the balance of the season at steady supplies. Expect better supplies mid-October.

## Weather

**California** – High pressure keeps winds offshore and temps well above average. An upper low moves southward across the area late today turning winds back onshore, deepening the marine layer and cooling coastal and coastal valley temps back near to slightly above normal.

**Mexico** – While this week is likely to remain dry, a few isolated showers and thunderstorms can not be ruled out. Where showers do occur, precipitation totals are expected to be near or less than 0.10". However, higher totals are possible within some thunderstorms.

**Florida** – Strong high pressure center over the Atlantic extends southward over the Gulf of Mexico with westerly flow to the north and southeasterly flow to the south, with continued rain showers and late afternoon thunderstorms.

**Arizona** – Brief warming today with afternoon high climbing up to 5 degrees above normal. Temps today reach upper 90s to 106 degrees. Cooler temps Thursday through Saturday along with a chance of thunderstorms due to an upper level system tapping into tropical moisture off the Baja Peninsula.




































## A Peek at Peak Seasons

Limes  
Potatoes  
Onions

## Freight

Trucks remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average remains steady at 3.385 per gallon.

# Commodities at a Glance

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