

The Source

October 13, 2021

PRO*ACT

Market Alerts

Apples – Pink Lady's start packing this week. Small Fuji's in light supply as the crop is running big currently. Market firming up on small Gala. Very nice quality across the board.

Asparagus – Much better supplies crossing over from Mexico are helping drive this market lower. Watch for this market to continue to adjust lower on the West coast along with the East Coast.

Avocados – Supplies on large sized fruit remain light, markets are on the strong side. Supplies on smaller sized fruit look to be in better shape this week. We're seeing steady supplies on 48's & 60's.

Bell Peppers – Eastern markets are lower as volume increases out of Georgia. In the west, production on peppers out of Hollister, Oxnard and Baja is light with cooler weather. We are seeing lighter supplies and stronger markets on all colors- red, green and yellow. Quality overall has been good but sizing has been smaller than historically. Coachella is estimated to start about 10-14 days.

Berries (Blackberries) – Steady go on volume we will may some residual effects from rain from hurricane Pamela next week.

Berries (Blueberries) – Good supplies coming from Peru, Mexico and Argentina. Quality has been good.

Berries (Raspberries) – Numbers are beginning to build as we see more fruit coming into the US from Mexico particularly from Baja California. We are keeping an eye on hurricane Pamela on this item as well.

Berries (Strawberries) – A two tiered market still exists with the higher quality fruit coming from Santa Maria and Oxnard. Mexico has just begun with light harvests. Salinas and Watsonville are nearing the end of their season.

Continued

Broccoli – Demand exceeds supplies continue on all Broccoli and Floret packs. The recent warm weather has brought fields forward and fields have been lost due to quality issues such as pin rot, brown bead and cat eye. Look for this market to continue to stay strong through next week.

Brussels Sprouts – Supplies and quality continue 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 on value-added packs continues to be strong and all packs are on weekly allocations. We strongly advise putting orders in early.

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

Celery – This market is getting more active. The best sizing is in larger sizing, twenty four counts in particular. Supplies are starting to get very tight in The Salinas valley. Southern California continues to have moderate production. The quality in all regions continues to be above average. Expect this market to be getting stronger next week.

Citrus (Lemons) – Domestic supplies out of the desert continue to improve weekly on availability. We're starting to see markets come off across all sizes and both grades. Imports are starting to wind down, but still available out of both coast. Supplies out of Mexico are steady and we have options to load out of Texas.

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.

Citrus (Oranges) - Small sizes on 88/113/138's remain very limited on both grades. Moving forward we can expect small sizes to remain very tight until we transition to Navels late October/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.

Continued

Cucumbers – With harvesting only every other day and therefore, lighter supplies out of Baja, cucumber market continues to be strong. Nogales has started in a small way, we are looking to have a firm market for a couple of weeks until Nogales ramps up production. Overall condition has been very good and quality as well out of Baja, and improving through Nogales.

Eggplant – Fresno eggplant has had good quality and condition. Pricing has been soft to steady. Eastern supplies are ramping up keeping their markets lower and more demand has been loading on the east coast. Coachella is anticipating production to start in the next week. There are supplies of #2 available for processing at much lower prices.

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

Grapes (Green) – Still lots of good quality green grapes at reasonable prices. Expect it to remain this way for the next couple of weeks.

Grapes (Red) – Still lots of good quality red grapes at reasonable prices. Expect it to remain this way for the next couple of weeks.

Green Onions – Green Onion supplies continue to be steady. Look for this market and quality to continue to stay steady 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) – Demand exceeds supplies on this commodity. This will continue for the entire week. All value added lettuce items will escalate this week. Common defects being reported are discoloration, misshapen heads and the overall lighter weights. Yuma will begin the first to second week in November. Huron is expected to begin next week.

Lettuce Leaf – Supplies on romaine as well as romaine hearts are tightening up daily. Green and red leaf as well as butter has firmed up with most suppliers. Fringe and tip burn is being reported with all shippers. Expect this market to get stronger throughout the week. As of now there are no leaf items on escalation for value added 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) – Prices are fairly steady. Supplies should steadily increase as new growing regions ramp up out of the desert and Mexico.

Melons (Honeydew) – Better supplies this week on honeydews. Markets remain firm but expect slightly lower prices at the end of the week as volume increases out of the desert and Mexico.

Melons (Watermelon) – Markets are fairly steady with supplies gradually improving out of Mexico. Expect much better volume next week and lower prices.

Onions – Harvest is complete. Super, colossal and jumbo sized onions remain elevated.

Continued

Pears – All major varieties in full production out of Washington now. Smaller lower grade pears in light supply as the crop is running big and is of high quality. Market steady.

Pineapples – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality is good on whole and crownless fruit. Plenty of product on both coasts.

Potatoes – Burbank harvest is underway. Sizing is peaking on 90 CT. Burbanks will become available at the end of the month, once they've undergone the sweat.

Squash – Supplies are increasing on both coasts. In the east, supplies out of Georgia are good. In the west, squash out of Nogales has supplemented domestic supplies; markets are lower.

Stone Fruit – Nectarines are done for the season. Peaches will be done by the end of the month. Plums will be in good supply into December.

Tomatoes – Markets are active. Supplies on both coasts are past peak production. In the east, Quincy will help bridge the gap from summer to fall crops but the acreage is less this year versus last. In the west, demand is up and CA will finish up the last week of October. Hurricane Pamela will hit growing regions in Mexico and may further drive prices upward for the balance of the week, possibly into November.

Weather

California – High pressure moves in today and causes a warming trend through the rest of the week with daytime highs Friday in the 70s to upper 80s under light offshore flow and overnight lows in the upper 30s to low 50s.

Mexico – Mostly dry weather through Thursday excluding a few isolated sprinkles across the area. By Friday into Saturday a few light isolated showers or even a thunderstorm or two is not out of the question as a cold front begins to descend into Central Mexico.

Florida – High pressure remains to the north of the forecast area, bringing east to northeasterly winds to the peninsula. Expect weak isolated rain showers extending into this morning. High pressure returns with sunny skies and clear nights for the rest of the week.

Arizona – Recent cool temps give way to a gradual warming trend today through Saturday. Northerly wind gusts up to 25-30 mph possible along the Lower Colorado River Valley.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples
Lemons
Green Grapes
Red Grapes
Pears

Stone Fruits (Past Peak Season)

Freight

Trucks remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average continues to rise and is currently at 3.586 per gallon.

Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, 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 steady
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 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 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 higher
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 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 higher
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher