

# The Source

September 29, 2021

PRO\*ACT

## Market Alerts

**Apples** – Market mostly steady with most varieties in new crop. Except for Pink Lady's which should be along in about 2 weeks.

**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. Supplies on smaller sized fruit is starting to tighten up with markets firming up. Seeing better supplies on 48's & 60's. California crop is done for the season, and Peru has about another week left. Mexican growers are slowly transitioning into new crop.

**Bell Peppers** – Markets are steady with good supplies. Baja crossings have began in a light way out of San Diego. Bells are expected to start their transition south to Coachella over the next several weeks. Georgia pepper will be in crown picks over the next week; supplies should gradually increase heading into October. until then Eastern markets remain firm. Quality is good.

**Berries (Blackberries)** – Market is steady with lower tones as more product begins to arrive from Mexico.

**Berries (Blueberries)** – The beginning of the Mexican deal has begun in a light way while Peruvian Imports are still struggling with port of entry labor issues.

**Berries (Raspberries)** – Markets are steady as we see more Mexican fruit begin to reach the USA.

**Berries (Strawberries)** – Strawberries are beginning to build numbers in the Santa Maria and Oxnard areas while Salinas and Watsonville continue to drop.

## 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 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 limited due to the recent heat and minor discoloration. Expect this market to follow Broccoli going into next week.

**Celery** – Salinas production is light and southern California production has tightened up considerably compared to past weeks. The quality continues to be above average with slight pith and seeder being reported but minimal. Expect this market to be stronger next week as we wind down the Salinas season.

**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** – Market remains fairly steady with a slight undertone. Nogales will begin in a light way mid October. Georgia cucumber availability is light to start out but light demand keeping prices steady. Overall quality is good.

**Eggplant** – Markets are steady with supplies slowly increasing on both coasts. Coachella will start in a light way next week with Georgia increasing as well.

**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 grapes at reasonable prices. Expect it to remain this way for the next couple of weeks.

**Grapes (Red)** – Still lots of good quality grapes at reasonable prices. Expect it to remain this way for the next couple of 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)** – Demand has picked up and supplies are moderate to light. Shippers are not flexing like in past weeks. The market is definitely stronger. Puffiness and light weights has been reported as well as slight insect pressure. Expect moderate supplies at best with some shippers while others are struggling to meet contract obligations. This is the outlook for the week.

**Lettuce Leaf** – Romaine and romaine hearts are very active in the marketplace. Green and red leaf as well as butter has been slightly more active as well. The quality has been fair with tip and fringe burn as well as insect damage being reported. Expect supplies to get tighter on a daily basis. Salinas and Santa Maria are the main growing regions at this time for all leaf items. Yuma will start in November.

**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 slightly higher with moderate demand. A bit lighter supplies this time of year as the summer season out of the San Joaquin Valley wraps up. New crop melons out of the Arizona desert will start in a light way next week and get into better volume by middle of October.

**Melons (Honeydew)** – Supplies remain extremely limited and prices remain high. Quality is ok with bigger sizing a challenge. Crop will transition south over the next few weeks. Markets will remain fairly steady on the high side until production increases from new growing regions.

**Melons (Watermelon)** – Markets are slightly higher with good demand. Cooler temperatures and end of the season resulting in a bit shorter supplies. Quality is good. Mexican watermelons will begin in a light way next week and volume will increase as they get into mid to late October.

## Continued

**Onions** – Market continues to remain strong on Jumbos, Colossals, and Supers. Harvest is more than halfway complete. We'll have a good idea on the outlook of this crop soon.

**Pears** – Bartletts, Anjou, Bosc, and Red pears are all in production in Washington now. Markets steady at seasonal levels.

**Pineapples** – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality is good on whole and crownless fruit. Organic product is tight on both coasts.

**Potatoes** – 40 - 70 CT are more available while 90 - 120 and bales remain strong. Burbanks have begun harvest. Most shippers are waiting for them to undergo the sweat before they will be on the market - early October.

**Squash** – Squash supplies are increasing out of Georgia. Mexico has begun crossing supplies thru Nogales. Supplies out of Santa Maria are a bit lighter; with yellow a bit more snug. Availability from multiple growing areas causing lower markets.

**Stone Fruit** – Yellow nectarines are done for the season. White nectarines will finish this week. Peaches will go for 2-3 more weeks. Plums will be available thru Thanksgiving.

**Tomatoes** – **Round** supplies continue to be light out of the east coast. Production will transition south to Florida in October with Quincy bridging the gap. Quincy however reports less acreage this year. Expect tight supplies until late October once Central Florida ramps up. Out west supplies remain steady for the week with good quality; sizing is trending on the smaller side. California will continue for another 4 weeks or so. **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. Grape tomatoes are also limited. Central Florida will begin next week while Baja continues with light supplies this week.

## Weather

**California** – Strong high pressure sets up tonight turning winds offshore and allowing daytime highs to climb slightly above average. The high pressure is expected to weaken early next week as an upper low develops offshore.

**Mexico** – Scattered showers and thunderstorms are likely to develop through the day on Saturday. Precipitation totals should range from 0.10" to 0.35" in most showers but 1" to 3" is possible within thunderstorms during this period.

**Florida** – The Bermuda High rests strongly over the western Atlantic, with east to northeasterly winds through the week. Sunny days, clear nights, with light daytime winds of 5 to 10 mph, with a gusty Thursday afternoon for south Florida, with winds up to 20 mph.

**Arizona** – Chance for rain and thunderstorms today through Thursday due to a passing upper level low. Best chance for rain is tonight through tomorrow morning with rainfall amounts of 0.20" possible.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples  
Strawberries  
Limes  
Green Grapes  
Red Grapes  
Lettuce Leaf

Onions  
Pears  
Stone Fruits  
Blackberries (Past Peak Season)  
Blueberries (Past Peak Season)  
Raspberries (Past Peak Season)

## Freight





































Truck remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average is up slightly and currently at 3.406 per gallon.

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# 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 higher	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 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 higher
 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 higher
 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 higher
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher