

The Source

September 8, 2021

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Market Alerts

Apples – Pink Ladys and Fuji's are the new tight apples as old crop finishes before new crop starts. Expect small sizes to be a struggle on both. New crop Fuji's next week. New crop Pinks won't show up before the end of the month.

Asparagus – Asparagus supplies continue to be tight as Mexican grass is transitioning from Central Mexico to Northern Baja. Supplies are also limited from the heavy rains over last few weeks.

Avocados – Steady markets with good demand. Supplies on 48s and larger are limited as well as #2 grade fruit. Good availability on 70s and 84s with plenty of opportunities to move volume.

Bell Peppers – Markets are fairly steady. Some smaller eastern local programs were spared from last weeks heavy rains others were not as lucky. Rain related quality issues may be present. Eastern veg will start its southern transition with Georgia over the next week. Western markets are steady with good quality and supply.

Berries (Blackberries) – Over all availability is good quality is improving.

Berries (Blueberries) – Pacific Northwest is finishing very light numbers of Mexican, Peruvian and Argentinean fruit is slowly becoming available. We expect a gap for the next few weeks.

Berries (Raspberries) – Over all availability is good quality is improving.

Continued

Berries (Strawberries) – Santa Maria product is just coming on. Supplies in Salinas and Watsonville are declining. Market is still very light

Broccoli – Broccoli supplies are currently extremely tight. The recent heat has produced quality issues and has lowered yields. Look for the market to remain active the next couple of weeks.

Brussels Sprouts – Supplies continue to remain very tight and not keeping up with demand. Look for supplies to continue to be tight going into next week.

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 allocations. We strongly advise putting orders in early. Markets remain steady. We do have options out of Texas as well on jumbos.

Cauliflower – Good supplies currently but look for this market to go higher. Quality issues is seeing some discoloration and may need to sub sizing. Look for this market to adjust higher going into the weekend.

Celery – Celery continues to have strong supplies in Oxnard/Santa Maria and this will continue throughout the week. Salinas has moderate production. This commodity multiple shippers are flexing on so promote as much as possible. Row crop items are getting active but in terms of value and quality, this item has excellent value.

Citrus (Lemons) – Domestic supplies out of Ventura County continue to be light with markets holding firm on both Fancy and Choice grade fruit. We're seeing steady supplies out of the east & west coast on imports. Supplies out of Mexico are starting up as well and have options to load out of Texas. Reach out if you have any interest.

Continued

Citrus (Limes) – Supplies are steady, as we're seeing better crossings weekly at the border. We have availability out of Texas, and also have cross dock options out west and east coast.

Citrus (Oranges) - We're seeing strong demand for school business, small sizes on 113's & 138's remain very limited and light. Sizes are peaking on 88's and larger. Overall, quality is good and prices are strengthening weekly.

Cucumbers – Eastern supplies are steady out of northern growing regions in Michigan, New Jersey. Carolina will start this week and Georgia will be in good volume by the end of the month. Western cucumbers remain snug out of Baja, expect better volume by the end of the month.

Eggplant – Overall steady markets and good supply.

Garlic – California supplies remain tight. Imports from Mexico and Argentina will 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 it's 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 it's level. Expect more of the same for the next few weeks.

Green Onions – Supplies continue to be extremely tight as wet weather in Mexico is causing some quality issues and slower harvest.

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

Lettuce (Iceberg) – Very warm temperatures in the growing regions has yielded less product with most shippers. This market is very active. Internal burn as well as tip burn and discoloration is being reported. Expect supplies to tighten up throughout this week. Value added lettuce items will likely be on escalators by next week. Shippers are going to be watching averages. This gap in production will continue for ten to fourteen days, minimum.

Lettuce Leaf – Romaine as well as **romaine hearts** are very active. Green and red leaf have firmed up in the marketplace. Due to excessive high heats this past week, common defects include fringe and tip burn as well as leaf discoloration. Expect moderate to light production throughout the week. Pricing will get stronger throughout the week.

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) – Cantaloupe markets are steady and demand is good. Quality is has been consistent and brix sugars are 12% and higher. Peaking on 9/9 and limited on 15s.

Melons (Honeydew) – Markets remain strong and supplies are limited. Peaking on 5/5 and limited on 6s. Quality is great and sugars as well.

Continued

Melons (Watermelon) – Markets are steady and demand is fair. Production is on the decline as we are on the back end of the season. Quality has been great on seedless and minis.

Onions – Supers and colossal are extremely limited. New crop onions sizing is peaking on mediums.

Pears – Washington Bartletts are in full production. Market adjusting to seasonal levels.

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

Potatoes – Supplies are ramping up. 40 - 50 CT russets are snug, but with more sheds running new potatoes, market is expecting to level off.

Squash – Markets are slightly lower with moderate demand. Smaller programs in the east were also hit with rain last week however supplies are sufficient. Western supplies are slightly improved with squash out of Nogales starting in a light way at the end of September.

Stone Fruit – Market steady on Peaches, Plums, and Nectarines. Good quality available on all. Small sizes are scarce.

Tomatoes – Markets remain steady out East. Production out of Baja and Northern California remains steady. Small romas and rounds are tight, quality is good. Mexican production will continue to improve in the coming weeks.

Weather

California – The peak of the heat wave continues through today and only slowly cools as the high pressure causing the heat drifts east through the weekend. Look for temps in the Salinas Valley to reach mid 90s to low 100's through Thursday.

Mexico – Isolated showers are possible on Thursday through Saturday. Overall expect temps to be near to slightly below normal through Saturday.

Florida – Onshore flow from the Gulf will continue to bring light rain fall through Thursday, with partly cloudy skies as scattered isolated thunderstorms will be plentiful over the peninsula, with only traces of rain expected.

Arizona – Cooler temps today into Friday due to increasing moisture and thunderstorm activity associated with a tropical storm tracking along the Baja Peninsula.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples
Blackberries
Raspberries
Limes
Green Grapes
Red Grapes

Onions
Potatoes
Pears
Pineapples
Stone Fruits
Blueberries (Past Peak Season)
Strawberries (Past Peak Season)

Freight




































Trucks remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average remained steady and is currently at 3.373 per gallon.

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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 lower	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is fair, 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 higher	 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 steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 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 higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher