

the source

Weather Update

The cool moist weather pattern continues along the west coast this week. Temperatures remain below seasonal averages with a deep marine layer, fog and drizzle along the coast.

High pressure brings warming into the weekend. The southwest will see gradual warming into the weekend with gusty winds as high pressure builds.

The southeast will see scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms with temperatures in the 80s to low 90s through the week.

Market Alerts

Potatoes - Idaho- Large cartons 40-60 count are in a demand exceeds supply situation.

Lemons - Demand exceeds supply. Summertime demand and lighter production caused by the California drought. Expect lighter supplies throughout the summer and into the fall.





Truckin' Along

Trucks remain steady in AZ and the West Coast. Idaho and Washington trucks remain steady as well. Crude oil remains under 60.00 per barrel and is currently 58.25. Be aware of the 72 hour DOT checkpoint that is slated to start June 1st. This will create a capacity issue.v

U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices* (dollars per gallon) [full history](#)

	Change from				
	05/11/15	05/18/15	05/25/15	week ago	year ago
U.S.	2.878	2.904	2.914	↑ 0.010	↓ -1.011
East Coast (PADD1)	2.997	3.007	3.014	↑ 0.007	↓ -1.008
New England (PADD1A)	3.091	3.093	3.101	↑ 0.008	↓ -1.029
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	3.151	3.158	3.162	↑ 0.004	↓ -0.965
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	2.860	2.875	2.884	↑ 0.009	↓ -1.032
Midwest (PADD2)	2.748	2.791	2.800	↑ 0.009	↓ -1.084
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	2.771	2.793	2.803	↑ 0.010	↓ -0.980
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	2.772	2.813	2.830	↑ 0.017	↓ -1.116
West Coast (PADD5)	3.139	3.162	3.174	↑ 0.012	↓ -0.853
West Coast less California	3.002	3.033	3.057	↑ 0.024	↓ -0.872
California	3.250	3.268	3.269	↑ 0.001	↓ -0.840

Commodities at a Glance



Apples	Market	Quality
Coopersville/Belding/Sparta, MI	Steady	Good
Hudson/Pleasant Valley/Red Hook, NY	Steady	Good
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good
Asparagus		
Coborca, Mexico	Steady	Good
Ica, Peru to Trujillo	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Avocado (California)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Excellent
Temecula/Escondido, CA	Steady	Excellent
Avocado (Mexico)		
Michoacan, Mexico	Steady	Excellent
Berries (Blackberries)		
Central Mexico	Steady/Higher	Fair
Santa Maria, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Bell Peppers (West)		
Southern Sonora, Mexico	Steady	Good
Oxnard, CA	Steady	Good
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Bell Peppers (East)		
Lee / Grady County, GA	Steady	Good
Hillsborough / Western Collier County, FL	Steady	Good
Berries (Blueberries)		
Central Mexico	Steady	Poor
Watsonville, CA	Steady	Good
Berries (Raspberries)		
Central Mexico	Steady	Fair
Watsonville, CA	Steady	Excellent
Berries (Strawberries)		
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Good
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Fair

Broccoli	Market	Quality
Celaya Guanajuato Mexico	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Lower	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Lower	Good
Carrots		
Bakersfield/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Cauliflower		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Lower	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Lower	Fair
Celery		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Cherries		
Fresno / Visalia, CA	Steady/Higher	Excellent
Stockton / Lodi, CA	Steady/Higher	Excellent
Citrus (Lemons)		
Merced/Bakersfield, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Citrus (Limes)		
Veracruz, Mexico	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Citrus (Oranges)		
Merced to Bakersfield, CA	Steady	Good
Riverside, CA	Steady	Good
Cucumbers (West)		
Southern Sonora, Mexico	Steady	Good
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Cucumbers (East)		
Hillsborough / Western Collier County, FL	Steady	Good
Lee / Grady County, GA	Steady	Good
Eggplant (West)		
Northern Sonora, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Eggplant (West)		
Hillsborough / Western Collier County, FL	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Grapes (Green)		
Sonora, Mexico	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady	Excellent



Commodities at a Glance



Grapes (Red)	Market	Quality
Sonora, Mexico	Lower	Excellent
Coachella Valley, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Green Onions		
Mexicali, Baja	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Lettuce Iceberg		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Fair
Lettuce Leaf		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Fair
Melon (Cantaloupe)		
Maricopa, AZ	Steady	Excellent
Yuma, AZ	Steady	Excellent
Holtville, CA	Steady	Excellent
Brawley, CA	Steady	Excellent
Melon (Honeydew)		
Maricopa, AZ	Steady	Excellent
Yuma, AZ	Steady	Excellent
Brawley, CA	Steady	Excellent
Hermosillo, Mexico	Steady	Excellent
Melon (Watermelon)		
Coachella Valley	Steady	Good
Southern Sonora, Mexico	Steady	Good
Onions		
Calipatria/El Centro, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Huron/Metler, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Las Cruces, NM	Steady/Higher	Good
McAllen/Uvalde, TX	Steady	Fair
Pears		
Chile	Steady	Good
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good

Potatoes	Market	Quality
Hamer/Rupert, ID	Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Steady	Good
Eastern Colorado	Steady	Good
Plover/Bancroft, WI	Steady	Good
Potatoes (colored)		
Bakersfield, CA	Steady	Good
Phoenix, AZ	Steady	Good
Hastings/Bunnell/East Palatka, FL	Steady	Good
Pearsall, TX	Higher	Good
Squash (West)		
Central Sonora, Mexico	Steady	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Southern Coast CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Squash (East)		
Hillsborough / Sarasota County, FL	Steady/Higher	Good
Lee/Grady/Echols County, GA	Steady	Good
Stone Fruit		
Madera south to Arvin, CA	Steady	Excellent
Tomatoes (Eastern)		
Southern Florida	Steady	Excellent
Tomatoes (Western)		
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady	Good



Commodity Updates



APPLES

New York is still packing Red Delicious and Red Romes but only light volume. Both varieties are steady and continue to peak on larger fruit. The New York shippers expect to pack through next week and then they will be done.

Michigan is still packing Jonathans, McIntosh, Red Delicious, and Red Romes, they have finished with Ida-Reds and Jonagolds. The Red Romes and Red Delicious are still peaking on 100's and larger. The Jonathans and McIntosh are peaking on 100's and smaller. Availability is light for all varieties as the end of the season approaches.

Washington Red Delicious are steady but the price- flex on volume orders of 88's and larger is still available. Most packers are peaking on 88's and larger in the premium and Washington extra-fancy #1 grades. Small reds remain relatively short. Golden Delicious are steady on all sizes. All sizes of Goldens are available but the 125's and smaller are more limited. Granny-Smith remain steady and are peaking on 64/72's. Granny 100's and smaller supplies remain limited. Fujis are steady to higher and are peaking on the larger sizes. The Fuji volume is starting to drop as the end of the season approaches. Small Fujis remain extremely short. Galas steady to higher and are still peaking on 88/100's. The Galas have better availability in the smaller sizes than most other varieties but the Gala volume is all lower as the end of the season is in sight. Opals, Only odd sizes and light supplies of a few varieties remain.



ASPARAGUS

The market on grass has remained unchanged. Peruvian production continues to be strong in availability and represents the best deals to be had. FOB pricing out of Miami continues to have the sharpest pricing. All sizing is available, with the majority coming in standard and large size packs. Loading in Southern California is an option as well. Mexican production is moderate to good. Standard and large sizing are the main packs available on eleven pound cases for Mexican as well as California product.



AVOCADO

California - California growers continue to harvest good volume. They are peaking on 60's and smaller, with 48's and larger still limited in harvest. We hope to see crop fill in with a broader range of sizing as we move into and through June. Overall volume of this year's California crop looks to be lighter than first projected due to the drought. Quality and flavor are both very good.

Mexico - Mexico is over 80% harvested for their season. Good supplies continue to come in, and still heavy to 60's and smaller. 48's and larger remain tight, but are showing some slight improvement. Quality and flavor are at their peak.



BELL PEPPERS

West: Colored bells from Mexico are starting to taper off in volume as some growers are wrapping up. Green bells continue short from Nogales especially on large fruit. Sonora is the main source of green bells but their run will be wrapping up soon. Large fruit in both green and colored bells remain short and at a premium.

Southern California has started and production is increasing with green bells and colored bells also. Loading locations in Southern California: Coachella, San Diego & Oxnard.

East: Volume on pepper continues to be light as many Georgia shippers are not working as much pepper as anticipated. Supplies out of Florida remain light as well. With Nogales finishing up, it remains an active market on the in the Southeast.



BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)

Market is starting to firm up slightly due to the Mexican production finishing for the season and California not being up to speed yet. Quality on the Mexican product is fair at best due to rain in the growing area. The quality out of California is good. We should see volumes pick up quickly out of California in the next couple weeks.



BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)

Market is steady with moderate demand. Georgia is in peak volume currently. Quality is fair due to weather in the growing area. North Carolina just broke ground this week and should have good volumes the middle of next week. Market is firm out of this area but will weaken as we get into next week. Quality is good. California supplies have been limited the last couple of weeks due to the cool weather. The forecast is calling for a warming trend which should improve supplies. Quality is good.



BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)

Market and demand are both steady. Mexico growers are getting close to being done for the season. Quality out of this area is fair. California supplies are building each week. Quality is good.



BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)

Salinas/Watsonville is the main growing area for strawberries. Oxnard is all but done other than one grower still packing for the fresh market. Santa Maria growers has switch most of their fields to the freezer market. Only a few growers are still packing for the fresh market. The Market is starting firm up the middle of this week as some growers in the Salinas/Watsonville have transition some of their fields to freezer due to the light demand and weak markets. Quality is starting to im-



Commodity Updates



prove as the weather warms up, are used too. We will make every effort to cover your orders. Trucks will be held up at the cooler and could be moved at the last minute due to availability. Get ready to hold on for the wild ride.

BROCCOLI

This market is a bit softer. Crowns as well as bunched product have better availability. The main production continues to be out of the Salinas Valley. The quality has picked up in all the growing regions, especially in Salinas. Crowns are expected to be moderate for the rest of the week. Santa Maria will be light to moderate in availability for the rest of the week. Production in Mexico looks to be steady for the rest of the week, with crowns being more readily available.

CARROTS

California desert crop has finished. Bakersfield crop is now fully up and going. Size is fair coming, but improving quickly. Jumbo size carrot supplies are starting to come back into better supply.

CAULIFLOWER

This market has softened as supplies have picked up. High pricing has steered customers away from this commodity. Escalated pricing is in effect but has lowered. Quality issues continue to be reported with irregular size heads, slight insect damage and discoloration seen upon arrival. Santa Maria and Salinas are the main growing regions currently. A few dollars can be saved on sixteen count packs if this is an option.

CELERY

This market is firm. Smaller sizing continues to demand a higher price. Loading in Oxnard/Santa Maria continues to give the best fob price. Salinas will not begin production until mid to late June. The overall quality down South is being reported as good. A few issues of bowing and insects have arisen, but these have been minimal complaints. The overall quality is favorable. Loading in Salinas for this commodity will cost extra money due to the transportation fee from the Oxnard region tacked onto the fob price.

CHERRIES

The market on Mexican flames continues to drop as a result of increased harvest and mounting inventories. Sizing continues to run heavily to the medium /large to large fruit with excellent quality. The Coachella market on flames remains steady with limited supplies and

CITRUS (LEMONS)

Size curve of the crop is peaking on 140's and smaller. Demand is exceeding supplies on all sizes and grades of fruit. Very good demand and drought conditions in growing areas producing less fruit and no size growth are the major factor for the demand exceed conditions.

CITRUS (LIMES)

The lime market continues to come down on the larger sizes. The smaller sizes are holding pretty steady with a hint of upside in the prices from some shippers. Supplies are increasing on larger sizes now and decreasing slightly on smaller sizes. Lower prices have helped spur demand on all sizes. The overall quality is very good on the new crop that is being harvested.

CITRUS (ORANGES)

California Navel crop is dropping off and peaking on 72's/56's. There will be some larger Navels available through June. California Valencia oranges are going in good volume. Labor to pick the fruit has become an issue now with the labor force being split with the stone fruit harvest going as well. Quality on Valencias is very good, color is nice and brix are 12.5 - 14.00 average.

CUCUMBERS

West: Market is steady. Production from Sonora is steady volume. Market is showing signs it will get unsettled as some Sonora growers are beginning to wrap up and press market higher as supplies lighten up. Baja California is shipping with good quality, but at higher FOBs.
East: The cucumber market remains unchanged, movement is good and product quality is excellent out of both Georgia and Florida.

EGGPLANT

West: Market is higher as some Mexican growers are wrapping up. We anticipate market to go up as Mexico supplies dwindle. Once Mexico wraps up, Southern California will be the next source for eggplant. Most eggplant will be from California here on out.
East: This market is weak but quality remains good. Eggplant will start showing up in South Georgia by the weekend



Commodity Updates



GRAPES

Green Grapes -The market on green grapes out of Mexico has adjusted downward as the domestic green market has remained consistent. Demand for both continues to be steady. The Perlette deal is winding down quicker than expected and will be coming to an end over the next several days. Sugarones are coming on now. However, estimated harvest numbers are expected to be 30% of normal. The cooler weather in Coachella is still holding supplies down.

Red Grapes - The market on Mexican flames continues to drop as a result of increased harvest and mounting inventories. Sizing continues to run heavily to the medium /large to large fruit with excellent quality. The Coachella market on flames remains steady with limited supplies and is projected to finish 7-10 days ahead of schedule. Scarlet Royals will be coming off about the same time we finish on the Coachella flames with early reports showing excellent quality and sizing.



GREEN ONIONS

This market is steady with most shippers. Most of the production for this commodity continues to be produced from the Baja region of Mexico. Supplies will be good throughout the week. All sizing is available. Light supplies are being harvested in Salinas. The heavier abundance of product is coming in small and medium size packs.



LEAF LETTUCE

The romaine market continues to gain strength. Quality issues continue. Tip burn, wind burn and mildew are common defects with this commodity. Insect damage has also been seen. The weight have dropped to 30-32 pounds as suppliers peel back to have a cleaner product. These same issues are also evident in green and red leaf items. A little better availability exists on this commodity, but overall supplies continue to be light. Red leaf inventories have picked up. Both of these commodities are on escalated pricing. Shippers still are holding customers to averages on green leaf.



ICEBERG LETTUCE

This market is up. The Salinas Valley continues to produce the bulk of the lettuce supplies. The sizing has been large with weights on palletized ranging from 46-49 pounds. Production in Santa Maria is lighter and the lettuce is not as heavy as the Salinas Valley. Local production seems to be slowing down as production in California is in higher demand. Issues on Salinas' product include ribbing, insect damage, rusting and puffiness. This will continue throughout the week.



MELON (CANTALOUPE)

Offshore cantaloupes are finished for the season and what's left is poor in quality. The desert is harvesting good numbers of very nice cantaloupes currently. Good supplies and quality look to continue for the next few weeks as the desert peaks in production. Very nice quality is coming out of the desert. A few shippers had older fruit for sale last week which dragged down the overall market. The market has stabilized at the current lowered levels.



MELON (HONEYDEW)

Offshore honeydew supplies will be finished before the end of this month. Some offshore shippers have already finished for the season. Demand is not very good on offshore dewes because of lower quality. Supplies out of Mexico are tapering off now from their peak production levels. The desert has started with volume picking up nicely and the dewes are excellent quality. The quality on Mexican and domestic dewes are very nice and they all have high sugar contents too. The peak size is 6's on all dewes coming in. The dew market is steady on all domestic and Mexican dewes while deals are being made on the lower quality offshore product.



MELON (WATERMELON)

Most production is coming from Sonora. Market is steady and promotable volumes available as Memorial Day pulls have concluded. Most product coming in bins cartons packed upon request. Some light supplies from Southern California. Southern Texas has also started.



ONIONS

We are in the middle of the onions growing areas switching growing areas which has this market active on all colors and sizes. Markets should setting in the next 7 to 10 days as these new areas get up to speed. Southern California will finish shipping the front part of next week. Huron, California growers will all be going in a light way next week and should be up to full speed by the end of the week. The first fields out of this area are running on the small size mainly peaking on mediums. Quality is being reported as good. New Mexico just start up in a very light way this week with Yellows. They will get into reds and whites next week. Sizing is starting out small. This should change mid next week and they should start to get better size. Quality is being reported as good. Texas has about two to three weeks left but they have not been much of a factor due to rain. Quality is hit and miss with shippers fighting staining from the rain. Market is steady.



Commodity Updates



PEARS

Washington continues to pack both D'anjou and red pears and the markets are steady. The D'anjous are peaking on US#1 80-100's with little if any fancy-grade fruit. The red pears are peaking on 50/55 half-cartons and supplies are light. They red pears will be available through May. On the import side we still have Chilean Packhams and Bosc and a few Argentinian Packhams and Bosc. Both varieties are steady on all sizes in both The Chilean and Argentinian fruit. The Chilean Packhams are peaking on 100's while Argentinian are peaking on 90's and larger. The Bosc are heavier to 100/110's while the Argentinian Bosc are producing 90's and larger. California is set to start packing new crop Bartlett pears the week of July 6th.



POTATOES

Idaho - Demand is light to moderate on 80 - 120 count potatoes. Still in a demand exceeds supply situation on 70 - 40 count potatoes. I don't see this situation changing till new crop starts up the end of July front part of August. Quality is still being reported as good.

Washington - Market is steady on all sizes and packs. Washington still has good supplies of large cartons. Quality is still good.

Colorado/Wisconsin - Market is steady on most sizes. Some shippers have large cartons available and other don't. Demand is light to moderate. Quality is good



COLORED POTATOES

Bakersfield, California is packing all colors and they are all peaking on A-size. The California markets are all steady and the volume flex on red A's is still there. The quality has been good. Phoenix, Arizona continues to pack reds and golds. The reds are peaking on A's but there are plenty of B's as well. The golds are heavier to B-size. The quality has been good. Pearsall, Texas is still rained but they have more to pack once its dry. Northern Florida (Hastings) is packing all colors. The Red market is steady on all sizes and they are producing mostly A-size. The white market is being quoted as steady but there is good availability and some volume flex. Golds are steady to higher with some suppliers having lighter availability and some reporting only fair quality. The Florida red and white quality has been good.



SQUASH

West: Italian squash is mostly steady along with yellow squash. Yellow squash has wide range of quality and better lots are selling at the higher end of the quotes. Sonora is approaching wrapping up the growing season.

Southern California is shipping and Santa Maria is also starting.

East: Squash is still readily available throughout South Georgia and Central Florida. However, with the market being on the floor for so long, many growers will quit and by the front of next week the market will firm up accordingly. Watch for a gradual increase in price and limited availability on green next week.



STONE FRUIT

The market on peaches and nectarines has moderated on the larger sizes and firmed up on the smaller sizes. We expect to see this trend continue as the limited bud set this winter begins to make itself felt at harvest. Red and black plums are readily available now in a wide variety of sizes. Quality is reported to be excellent. Pluots have also begun and are available in limited supplies from several shippers. The apricot market is firming up as we move further into the season and supplies begin to clean up. Demand for all is reported as good.



TOMATOES

East - Palmetto/Ruskin growers are harvesting heavy volumes of round tomatoes this week. Quality remains very nice on both rounds and romas. Roma available in the Southeast however most the volume is crossing in the West. When it comes to cherry and grape tomatoes, product availability by region continues to drive pricing on both items. Florida grape and Cherry tomatoes are past their flush and have slowed down in production allowing for a small increasing in pricing with no major shifts in demand.

West - There are good supplies of round tomatoes coming out of the west right now. Hearty supplies of minimally-priced fruit are still available daily, though typically only western buyers have interest in this product. The freight rates keep the supply regional to shipping point, but given Florida's low pricing, even some western buyers have been looking east for their procurement needs. Production has begun in the California desert and the Central Valley is expected to begin as we head into next month also. Mexico continues to harvest romas in strong volumes. With more growers starting production in Baja the outlook is good for supply and availability. Grape production is increasing in Baja with good supply crossing into southern California where supplies should be ample through the rest of the year.

