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the source

Weather Update

Temperatures will be on a gradual warming trend this week out west as high pressure over the Central U.S. expands westward. A persistent marine layer will keep coastal fields near average as inland regions warm to 5-10 degrees above average as the high stall over the west late this week. The expanding high pressure system will bring a warming trend to the Southwestern deserts, Baja and Northern Mexico as monsoonal moisture from the south brings scattered showers mainly in the afternoons and early evening hours. Central Mexico will continue to see scattered showers and thunderstorms with near seasonal temperatures as the tropical storm track continues to send current storm systems out into the Central Pacific Ocean away from the Mexican Coast. the Southeast will see near average temperatures along with typical scattered showers as a few weak frontal systems move through the region.



Market Alerts

Avocado (California): Demand exceeding supplies.

Avocado (Mexican): Limited volume start hitting the US shipping points. Most of this fruit will be 60s and 70s, with a very small percent of 48's. Demand exceeding supplies.

Berries (Raspberries): We will be in a demand exceeds supply situation for the next several weeks. Mid-July will likely be our lowest point. Production should ramp back up in both CA and Baja Mexico by early-mid August but we will remain in short supplies until then.

Cherries: Rain in the Northwest is forcing harvest to come to an early end. Market prices are on the rise.

Cilantro: The cilantro market is active due to limited supplies coming from Mexico due to quality.





Truckin' Along

California trucks remain steady and look to remain that way for the week. Washington and Idaho potato trucks remain steady as well. The National Average for diesel hardly changed and is currently at 2.404 per gallon. A difference of .380 from this time last year. California prices remained steady as well and are currently at 2.780 per gallon. Crude oil is also steady and is now at 45.20 per barrel.

U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices* (dollars per gallon)

[full history](#)

	07/04/16	07/11/16	07/18/16	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	2.423	2.414	2.402	↓ -0.012	↓ -0.380
East Coast (PADD1)	2.438	2.424	2.411	↓ -0.013	↓ -0.462
New England (PADD1A)	2.482	2.469	2.446	↓ -0.023	↓ -0.550
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	2.535	2.521	2.503	↓ -0.018	↓ -0.482
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	2.355	2.341	2.332	↓ -0.009	↓ -0.430
Midwest (PADD2)	2.389	2.385	2.369	↓ -0.016	↓ -0.310
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	2.282	2.261	2.262	↑ 0.001	↓ -0.412
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	2.436	2.445	2.435	↓ -0.010	↓ -0.335
West Coast (PADD5)	2.709	2.708	2.686	↓ -0.022	↓ -0.318
West Coast less California	2.599	2.596	2.569	↓ -0.027	↓ -0.304
California	2.798	2.798	2.780	↓ -0.018	↓ -0.331

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Berries (Blueberries): Harvest volume is backing off out of the Pacific Northwest and many growers will be into their storage lots for shipping over the next several weeks.

Transitions & Temperatures

Onions: Washington has started in a light way with Idaho to start in the next couple of weeks.

Commodity Updates



APPLES

Washington - Red delicious are steady to higher depending on the supplier. Most shippers continue to peak on extra-fancy 72-88s. Golden Delicious are steady but firm and still peaking on Wash-Extra 100/113s. Storage golden supplies are limited so expect some suppliers to gap between C.A. and new-crop. Most suppliers still don't have much larger than an 88. Granny Smith are steady on all sizes and continue to peak on 88-113s. Most shippers still don't have much larger than an 88 or smaller than a 125. Galas are extremely short and will be finishing up over the next few days. Fuji supplies are also extremely short and will be finishing up shortly. Pink Lady's are steady to higher and the market remains firm due to very strong demand. The quality for all varieties has been good.

California - a couple shippers have started packing Galas and they are peaking on smaller fruit. The quality is reported as good.

Chile - Chilean Braeburns are peaking on 70-90s and they are steady on all sizes but supplies are limited. Chilean Pinks Ladys are steady and peaking on 70/80s. Chilean Fujis are also steady and peaking on 80-size. The import quality has been good.



ASPARAGUS

Asparagus supplies are still steady from Mexico and Peru. Quality is good from both regions.



AVOCADO (CALIFORNIA)

California has peaked on their harvest and is on a slow decline to mid August, when the next big drop looks to happen as its season begins its final seasonal harvest.



AVOCADO (MEXICAN)

Mexico is harvesting once again and fruit is beginning to move from Mexico to the States. The void in the supply line and demand is so great, that it will take several weeks for supplies to build. We will be in this Summer Crop (Flora Loca crop) of Mexico's for the next 6 to 10 weeks and

should have decent supplies going forward, unfortunately about 80% of this crop will be 60s/70s/84s. Not many 40s/48s and we don't see this size curve changing much, maybe 25% 48s and larger by September. We will also see very limit supplies on #2 volume, being it's early in the season, and fruit is very clean.



BELL PEPPERS (EASTERN)

The Bell Pepper market remains steady with a weaker undertone. North Carolina has had most of the supply and it was concentrated in very few hands. New Jersey has started and their supply is picking up. Michigan will start their summer crop this week. Quality has been good in the newer regions, North Carolina has had some storms and hot weather so that could change very soon. Michigan and New Jersey seem to have good crops ready to start.



BELL PEPPERS (WESTERN)

Bell pepper has moved up to the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley. Better supply and size on both Green and Red Varieties, Sizing is good on Both colors. Reds are still showing the effects of the heat with some condition defects, quality is expected to improve.



BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)

Supply is steady with production out of CA, OH, IN, WA and OR. Some growers are gapping in between varieties out of Oregon. Georgia and North Carolina season has pretty well wrapped up production, much smaller volumes. Demand has increased slightly out west due to GA and NC production coming off. Quality is good out of all areas. There have been some isolated instances of wet and leaky berries.



Commodity Updates



BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)

Overall supply remains steady with production in Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, Indiana, Michigan. The Pacific Northwest production has backed off some due to recent weather. New Jersey is wrapping up their season as some growers made their last picks last week. The southeast region has wrapped up major production although you may still find some GA and NC blues in circulation. Watch for soft/shriveled berries coming in from older lots or berries that were exposed to weather.



BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)

CA raspberries passed peak production and will continue to decrease in volume moving through July. We will be in limited supplies from here on. The CA crop hit peak production numbers in early June. Central MX production has all but finished for the season. Quality has remained good out of all regions, some isolated instances of wet, leaky or off-color berries.



BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)

Supply is fairly steady with good demand. Quality is good with pickers paying extra attention to pack quality and avoid bruised and overripe fruit. There have been a few reports of sun scald and white/green tips still showing up in the packs. Sizing remains smaller with berries running 18-24 per 1 pound clamshell. Weather has been cool leading to a reduction in harvest estimates. Labor is becoming more of an issue with all growers.



BROCCOLI

There are good supplies from all growing regions. The markets remain aggressive with your best value out of Santa Maria. Quality is really good with good crown size and minimal yellowing.



BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Supplies out of the Salinas Valley are plentiful with Oxnard and Mexico adding to the volume. This is keeping the market steady. Quality is excellent with little to no complaints.



CARROTS

The Bakersfield crop is in full production. Growth is good and producing good percentage of Jumbo size and supplies are getting much better. Supply of baby peeled carrots are good.



CAULIFLOWER

The cauliflower market is steady at current price levels. Supplies are plentiful out of Salinas and Santa Maria. Overall quality is good with occasional arrivals showing bruising.



CELERY

This market is steady. Although Michigan production is good, California is very competitive in fob pricing so please keep in mind. The delivered cost between the two regions are not that far off. The tightest availability still remains with the small sizes. Shippers are flexing on large sizing. Santa Maria and Salinas will have good supplies throughout the week. Shippers eagerly await school business to create a demand that currently is minimal.



CHERRIES

Cherry supplies are volatile. Last week's cooler weather looked like it was going to extend the harvest period to the end of the month. However, weather changes quickly, this morning the Northwest was hit with some rain showers. This will have an immediate impact on the harvest, supply and quality. Shippers are now expecting the final harvest to be this week with a majority of the fruit coming in the front part of the week. By Thursday, harvest will drop off quickly and finish by the weekend. Markets are reacting to the limited supplies and are increasing daily.



Commodity Updates



CHILI PEPPERS

Anaheim - Sizing and quality remain good. Lighter supply this week. waiting on increase in volume from Central California. Excellent size and color.

Pablano - Slightly lighter supply with some growers finishing. Good quality and condition expected to continue.

Tomatillo - Good supply of tomatillo shipping from California.

Jalapeno - Good quality on new crop pepper, mostly large sizing with good color.



CILANTRO

Supplies are starting to decrease at a rapid pace. The heat in Mexico has caused a decrease in supply due to burn and black spotting. This has put the pressure on supplies from Oxnard, Santa Maria, and Salinas.



CITRUS (LEMONS)

The Ventura crop is our main supplier. Demand is stronger than normal and continues to build. We are seeing 165s/200s/235s supplies tighten clean up daily.



CITRUS (LIMES)

The 110ct continue coming down and are nearly the same price as the smaller ones while the 150ct to 250ct are within a dollar of each other. Demand is good on all sizes across the board. Limes are peaking on the 175 and 200ct and the trend is continuing towards larger sizes. Quality is good overall with some leaf shading (yellow color) showing up. The overall supplies are increasing. The market is steady on the 175 - 250ct limes.



CITRUS (ORANGES)

Shippers have good supplies of Valencias and peaking on 88s/113s/138s. Starting to see some early demand on 113s and 138s as school demand starts to ramp up over the next few weeks.



CUCUMBERS (EASTERN)

The cucumber market is weaker. Virginia north to New England and west to Ohio and Michigan are all in Production now. A late cool spring and early summer has brought multiple regions together. The larger states like Michigan Ohio and New Jersey are in very good production. Quality seems to be good in all areas. High market the last 2 weeks has slowed movement and we don't expect the market to gain any strength this week.



CUCUMBERS (WESTERN)

Good quality and condition on cucumbers coming out of Northern Baja coast. Better production has picked up from multiple grower's this week. All sizes are being packed in 1 1/9 bushel boxes. Also 24's-36's-42's being packed. Color is just fair due to hotter temps



EGGPLANT (EASTERN)

The eggplant market is tight and good eggplant are even tighter. Still a few eggplant in Georgia but the quality is poor and they will wind up any day. North Caroling is harvesting in the peak of their crop but there is not much acreage planted. Michigan has started but volume will be light for another week to 10 days. New Jersey will not start until Late July, so we expect the market to stay strong for the near future on eggplant.



EGGPLANT (WESTERN)

With temperature's dropping, eggplant is showing improvement in quality and condition. Fresno showing good quality with limited supply. Cosmetic issue with egg plant are improving.



Commodity Updates



GRAPES (GREEN)

Green grape supplies remain consistent out of the San Joaquin Valley. Quality has been excellent. Sizing is peaking in the Large to Extra Large range. Currently, growers are harvesting Sugarone and Ivory varieties. Markets have been flat. Last week we did not see much fluctuation in price and this week starts off in the same range. As production volume continues to increase, we expect to see some flex.



GRAPES (RED)

Red seedless grape production out of the San Joaquin Valley continues to improve. Good availability on smaller size grapes (sizes Small - M/L). Larger profile berries are more limited. Quality on all sizes has been excellent. Markets have been consistent with the supply. Smaller sized grapes are being offered at more aggressive prices than the larger sizes. Shippers are anticipating bigger fruit to become more available as we move forward. This week, I expect to see market prices remain steady.



GREEN ONIONS

There are steady supplies of green onions from Mexico, and Domestic supplies are steady as well. The market is competitive on iced product but the iceless product prices vary. Quality is good with minimal yellow to brown discoloration of the tops.



KALE

As we start this week, kale supplies remain plentiful. The market is steady with competitive prices. Quality is excellent with little dehydration and yellowing.



LETTUCE ICEBERG

This week starts out steady on this commodity with most shippers. Suppliers continue to have issues such as puffy heads, insect and mechanical damage. Temperatures in the growing regions have been good, overall. Supplies

are expected to be good throughout the week. School business is expected to start up in August. This will create a demand that currently is lacking in the marketplace.



LETTUCE LEAF

This market remains steady to begin the week. Due to a lack of demand and good supplies, expect stable pricing thru the middle of the week at a minimum. Romaine heart supplies are good, and in particular a few organic suppliers are offering sharp deals for volume typed orders, so don't be shy to ask about. Romaine, Green and red leaf continues to be heavy in availability. A few defects continue on leaf items. These defects include slight insect damage, as well as tip and fringe burn. The defects, however are minimal in comparison to past weeks.



MELON (CANTALOUPE)

The West Side supplies are adequate for the current demand. Some growers are packing all sizes including 15ct and a few 18ct while others are packing only 9ct. Quality out of the West Side is excellent with good sugar levels. The market is steady right now.



MELON (HONEYDEW)

Growers are harvesting dews in the West Side and the volume will steadily increase. The desert honeydews are finished up for the season and Mexico is done now too. Quality in the West Side is excellent. The market is steady right now.



MELON (WATERMELON)

Demand for Western Watermelon has curtailed. Watermelon is being shipped from Western Arizona, Southern and Central California. Quality is good with mostly Large sizes being harvested. Extreme heat has increased the sizing to mostly very large fruit, 30s, 36 and 45s



Commodity Updates



ONIONS

Colossal and Super Colossal out of New Mexico are very limited to nonexistent. This has been caused by high heat during the growing season which did not allow the onions to size up. This looks to be the situation for the balance of their season. Jumbo's and mediums are in good supplies in all the colors (Yellow, Reds and whites) out of this growing area. Demand is good keeping the market firm but steady on jumbo's and smaller and slightly stronger on colossal and larger. Quality is being reported as good. California is getting extra demand as they have the Colossal and Super Colossal yellow onions. Quality is being reported as good on all colors and sizes. Demand is very good. Washington has started with some transplants and has started quoting yellows and reds. Sizing is good with quality being reported as fair on the transplants.

PEARS

California - Bartlett pears are steady on all sizes and continue to peak on 100/110/90s. The quality has been good. Crimson pears are also steady and they are peaking on half carton 45/40s but supplies are limited so expect them to remain firm. There are a few full carton Crimsons available as well. The quality has been good.

Washington - D'anjou pears are steady but supplies are very short and their season is almost over.

Chile - Chilean & Argentinian Bosc are both steady to lower and they continue to peak on 70-100s. The quality has been good.

PINEAPPLES

It's rainy season in the tropics. We are starting to see some water translucency show up in the pineapples and a greener shell color. Shippers will picking the fruit a little earlier to help prevent the water translucency, this leads to the greener shell color. Shell color is not an indication of ripeness. Supplies are tight and are expected to be so through July.

POTATOES

Idaho - Storage supplies are starting to wind down for the season with New Crop getting ready to start the first week of August. Some shippers should have storage crop into the middle or end of August. New crop has had excellent growing conditions up until this point and hopefully will stay good through harvest. Market is steady to slightly weaker with some deals being made on different sizes. Look for the market on storage crop to stay steady at these levels with New Crop demanding a premium. Quality is still holding up well on most of the storage crop.

Washington - New crop will start by the end of this week in a very light way just in time for the storage crop to finish up for the season. A few shippers finished with their storage crop the end of last week. Quality is still being reported as good on the storage crop. Market is firm but steady.

Colorado and Wisconsin - Supplies are winding quickly out of these two areas also with new crop scheduled to start up next week. Good demand has the market firm but steady.

POTATOES (COLORED)

Bakersfield, California - supplies are short and most shippers are finished for the season. The shippers that have product are steady. The quality has been good.

Stockton, California - Reds, whites, and golds are all steady to slightly lower and all are peaking on A size. Baker whites and reds are limited but there are a few golds. They have good quality with good maturity.

Alabama - Red potatoes are steady and they are peaking on A-size. There are no creamers packed in Alabama. The quality is good.

North Carolina - Reds and golds are steady but supplies are more limited in both colors. Whites supplies are very short. All colors are peaking on A-size and larger. The quality is fair to good.

Muleshoe, Texas - Red and gold potatoes are steady on all sizes. The quality has been good.

Missouri - They are steady on all sizes of red potatoes. The quality is reported as good.

Washington - Eastern red and gold potatoes are steady and both are peaking on A-size. Bs and smaller are limited in both colors.



Commodity Updates



SQUASH (EASTERN)

The squash market remains steady at lower prices. There are still supplies coming from Virginia, north to Massachusetts, and west to Ohio and Michigan; there is still a light supply coming from western North Carolina. Michigan shippers are starting to skip picking days to help offset the flooded availability. Next to no reports of quality issues in any of the growing regions. Demand at the lower levels is picking up and we expect the market to strengthen as the week goes on.



SQUASH (WESTERN)

Heavy production on both zucchini and yellow squash are being offered in volume. Sizing is mostly larger due to warm weather. Quality is mostly good but some scarring on certain lots.



STONE FRUIT

Not much change in stone fruit this week. Peaches, nectarines and plums continue to be readily available in larger sizes. Smaller sizes (volume fill) fruit will remain limited all week. Typical of this time of year, we see a big push on tray pack 2 layer fruit with aggressive prices being offered on volume buys. However, as the weather starts to cool down and we approach the end of summer, we can expect to see more availability on smaller sized fruit for school business. Markets will continue to be steady this week. Future school business should be discussed now.



TOMATOES (EASTERN)

Overall tomato volume is light in the East. The transition from larger growing areas in northern Florida and South Carolina are slowly moving to more localized production. There are light volumes of rounds coming out of Alabama, Tennessee and North Carolina with delayed harvests as weather during the growing cycle held fruit maturity back. Round and roma volumes will increase as more local deals come on board and current producers get further into harvests. Cherry tomatoes are steady and quality is preferred in the East. Grape tomatoes are very tight this week, only being available in a few pockets of production. By the end of the week prices should trend downward as production increases over the next several days with new operations starting in Virginia, Delaware, and Maryland bringing more tomatoes across varieties to the marketplace.



TOMATOES (WESTERN)

The tomato market in the west is stronger with supply shrinking this week. Central Mexico production has began to slow down simultaneously while Baja has been reduced to only the Northern area of production. As a result, vine-ripe and roma tomato volumes have slowed down. Growers are picking quickly to fill orders, so we're seeing lighter color and less big fruit available. In California, mature green production is in full swing but they are experiencing a lot of demand for eastern fruit where quality is shown to be better due to less heat exposure before harvest. Expect another week of higher prices until a new injection of fruit is made into the supply stream from Eastern programs. There are a few small grape tomato deals in California, but the majority of volume is coming out of Baja, where they are selling out daily. Cherry volume is also light where a majority of supply is still coming from the east.



Commodities at a Glance



Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Apples		
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good
Chile	Steady	Good
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Asparagus		
Central Mexico	Steady	Good
Ica, Peru to Trujillo	Steady	Good
Avocado (California)		
Temecula/Escondido, CA	Steady	Excellent
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Excellent
Avocado (Mexican)		
Michoacan, Mexico	Steady	Good
Bell Peppers (Eastern)		
Henderson / Buncomb County, NC	Steady	Good
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady	Excellent
Bell Peppers (Western)		
Southern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Berries (Blackberries)		
Salinas, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Watsonville, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Sheridan, OR	Steady/Higher	Good
Berries (Blueberries)		
Mossyrock, WA	Steady/Higher	Fair
Pitt Meadows, BC	Steady/Higher	Fair
Salem, OR	Steady/Higher	Fair
Hammonton, NJ	Steady/Higher	Good
Demotte, IN	Steady/Higher	Good
Grand Junction, MI	Steady/Higher	Good
Berries (Raspberries)		
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Good
Berries (Strawberries)		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Watsonville, CA	Steady/Higher	Good

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Broccoli		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Celaya Guanajuato Mexico	Steady	Good
Brussels Sprouts		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Excellent
Oxnard, CA	Steady	Excellent
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady	Good
Carrots		
Bakersfield/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Cauliflower		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Celery		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Michigan	Steady	Good
Cherries		
Yakima, WA	Higher	Good
Chili Peppers		
Southern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Cilantro		
Salinas, CA	Higher	Fair
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Fair
Baja, MX	Higher	Fair
Citrus (Lemons)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Good
Citrus (Limes)		
Veracruz, Mexico	Lower/Steady	Good
Citrus (Oranges)		
Merced to Bakersfield, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Riverside, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Cucumbers (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady	Excellent
Cucumbers (Western)		
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady	Good



Commodities at a Glance



Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Eggplant (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Higher	Good
Eggplant (Western)		
Fresno, CA	Steady	Good
Grapes (Green)		
Arvin, CA	Steady	Excellent
Grapes (Red)		
Arvin, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Green Onions		
Mexicali, Baja	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Kale		
Salinas, CA	Steady	Excellent
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Baja, MX	Steady	Excellent
Lettuce Iceberg		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Fair
Lettuce Leaf		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Fair
Melon (Cantaloupe)		
Firebaugh, CA	Steady	Excellent
Mendota, CA	Steady	Excellent
Melon (Honeydew)		
Firebaugh, CA	Steady	Excellent
Mendota, CA	Steady	Excellent
Melon (Watermelon)		
Phoenix, AZ	Steady	Good
Onions		
Huron/Metler, CA	Higher	Good
Las Cruces, NM	Higher	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Steady	Fair

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Pears		
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Chile	Steady	Good
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good
Pineapples		
Alajuela, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
Heredia, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
Limon, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
La Ceiba, Honduras	Steady	Good
Retalhuleu, Guatemala	Steady	Good
Peten, Guatemala	Steady	Good
Potatoes		
Hamer/Rupert, ID	Lower/Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Steady/Higher	Good
Monte Vista, CO	Steady/Higher	Good
Plover/Bancroft, WI	Steady/Higher	Good
Potatoes (colored)		
Bakersfield, CA	Steady	Good
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Ider, AL	Steady	Good
Pasco/Tri-Cities, WA	Steady	Good
Elizabeth City/Camden, NC	Steady	Fair
Muleshoe, TX	Steady	Good
Squash (Eastern)		
Henderson / Bucomb County, NC	Lower/Steady	Fair
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Lower/Steady	Good
Squash (Western)		
Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Stone Fruit		
Madera south to Arvin, CA	Steady	Good
Tomatoes (Eastern)		
Eastern North Carolina	Steady	Good
Cedarville/Hammonton, VA	Lower/Steady	Good
Tomatoes (Western)		
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good

