

Weather Update

A broad trough stalls over the Central Coast with near average temperatures and a deepening marine layer providing plenty of moisture near the coast with warmer interior regions slightly above average. Baja and Northern Mexico will see gradual cooling through the week as an upper level low swings into coastal California late this week. Scattered showers will continue with the increase in monsoonal moisture late this week. Central Mexico will see slight cooling and an increase in monsoonal activity especially along the western coast into the weekend. Florida and the southeast will see light scattered showers mainly in the afternoons as a high pressure system pushes the storm track to the north. The gulf coast region of Texas and Louisiana remains under flash flood advisories as heavy rains continue to pound the region.





Market Alerts

Berries (Blueberries): Domestic production is falling off sharply and supplies are continuing to tighten up.

Berries (Raspberries): Production is falling off sharply this week and demand is exceeding current supply!

Berries (Strawberries): Demand is very good while supply continues to drop off in all growing regions, with all shippers. Availability is lighter than anytime in recent weeks.

Cilantro: Cilantro supplies are still extremely limited and quality is fair at best. The market is extremely active.



The Source





Truckin' Along

California trucks remain steady and look to remain that way again this week. Washington and Idaho potato trucks remain steady as well. The National Average for diesel remained steady and is currently at 2.306 per gallon. A difference of .305 from this time last year. California prices remained steady as well and are currently at 2.696 per gallon. Crude oil is on the rise and is at 46.57 per barrel.

				Change from	
	08/01/16	08/08/16	08/15/16	week ago	year ago
U.S.	2.348	2.316	2.310	+ -0.006	+ -0.305
East Coast (PADD1)	2.354	2.321	2.314	+ -0.007	+ -0.382
New England (PADD1A)	2.396	2.378	2.368	₽ -0.010	+ -0.435
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	2.441	2.412	2.406	₽ -0.006	+ -0.410
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	2.279	2.241	2.233	- 0.008	+ -0.350
Midwest (PADD2)	2.304	2.275	2.273	₽ -0.002	♣ -0.266
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	2.224	2.184	2.179	₽ -0.005	+ -0.299
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	2.419	2.396	2.394	♣ -0.002	+ -0.233
West Coast (PADD5)	2.630	2.595	2.583	♣ -0.012	+ -0.248
West Coast less California	2.492	2.454	2.441	₽ -0.013	♣ -0.249
California	2.741	2.707	2.696	↓ -0.011	₽ -0.249

Transitions & Temperatures

Berries (Blueberries): Peru, Argentina and Uruguay blueberries should begin to hit US ports with light volume by the end of August, increasing volume by mid-September.

Berries (Strawberries): Santa Maria has just begun packing their new (summer planted) fall crop. Volume is very limited out of the area so far. Sizing is in the low twenties to low thirties. New crop fruit is firm with some white shoulders and green tips and salmon (overall lighter color.) Grower/shippers are charging a premium for the new crop berries.





Washington - Red delicious are steady to higher on all sizes and grades with only light availability of the fancy-grade. Most shippers continue to peak on extra-fancy 72-88s but supplies are light due to strong demand. Expect the market to remain strong through the balance of the storage season. Earli Golds & Ginger Golds are steady to higher and supplies are very light. The remaining fruit is still peaking on Wash-Extra 88/100/113s. Supplies of lower-grade fruit are esp short. Granny Smith are steady to higher on most sizes and continue to peak on 88-113s. New-crop Gala supplies remain fairly short due to strong demand but supplies are improving as more shippers get started. The Galas are peaking on higher grade 100/88/113s. Two suppliers have started packing Honey Crisp and one will follow shortly. The Honey's are big peaking on 80/72/64s. The quality for C.A. reds, goldens, and granny-smith has been good. The newcrop Gala quality has also been good.

California - Galas are steady and they are still peaking on smaller fruit but supplies are light due to light packing. Some suppliers are done packing and selling from inventory. The quality has been good.

Chile - Chilean Pinks Ladys are steady but only 70s are available. Chilean Fujis are also steady and peaking on 80-size. The import quality has been good.



Volume from Peru is lower. Central Mexico is almost done, while Northern Baja Mexico has just started.



California harvest volumes have decline significantly. Southern groves are cleaned up, northern groves are declining quickly. Many shippers expect to be done with California fruit by next week and all expect to be done by first week of September. Crop is still skewed towards smaller fruit, with good supplies of 60s and smaller fruit.



Mexico's harvest has slowed with rains. Supplies are good on 60s and 48s have better availability, but still fairly limited. The summer crop volume estimate has been dropped by 25 percent from what was first estimated.



BELL PEPPERS (EASTERN)

The green bell pepper market is steady/ lower. There is good production of Bell pepper being produced from the Mid Atlantic to the Northeast and west to Michigan. The whole northern part of the US and Canada is in good supply of green pepper and with so much local product demand has fallen significantly. Supply is heavy to jumbo size No. 1 fruit, quality is good for the most part. With the low prices, movement has picked up and we don't think these cheap prices will last much longer but should continue through the weekend.



Green bells out of Fresno and Otay are showing good quality and condition. Gilroy is also offering a low volume of green bells at a cheaper price but quality and condition is fair. Red bells out of Fresno, Bakersfield, and Otay are showing good overall quality and condition.



Production is trending down and supply is tightening. Demand has been steady but getting stronger. Quality is good overall but there have been a few reports of overripe and red cell.







BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)

Domestic production is slowing down sharply out of the Pacific Northwest and the Upper Midwest. Rain events and warm weather over the past few weeks have affected production in both regions - quality and availability. Volume is winding down out of both areas. Availability is less than previous weeks and markets continue to strengthen. Overall, quality has been fair to good. We have seen some shrivel, wet, leaky and mold in lots that were previously exposed to weather, etc. and seeing good fruit in other lots.



Production has fallen sharply this week with continued cooler weather and volume will continue to decline until the Central Mexican deal picks up at the end of September. Supplies will become more limited than in recent weeks and demand is remaining very good. Quality has been good overall.



Production has slowed down in Salinas and Watsonville. Cooler weather is reducing the

harvest estimates and lack of labor is slowing down the harvesting of ripe fruit. Berries are running smaller, 21-30 berries per 1 pound clamshell. Therefore, it is taking more berries to fill each clamshell and pickers are covering more ground to do so as well. The marine layer has been heavy and leaving additional moisture on the plants and fruit which is also resulting in some wetness in the packs and subsequent quality concerns. White shoulders, water damage, overripe, bruising and dry/brown calyx have all been reported as well.

It is imperative that the cold chain be maintained from loading until end user delivery, berries should be held at 32-34 degrees continuously. Any exposure to warmer temperatures will accelerate decay and increase severity of bruising. Expectations of quality must also be adjusted as we are late in the summer season and fruit will not be as strong as you are used to. Order for quick turns and do not get long on berries.



Broccoli supplies from all growing regions continue to be abundant. This has kept the market at low price levels. Quality has been really good with an occasional arrival issue here and there



BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Supplies have taken a turn south. The current weather in the Salinas Valley is holding back acreage. Small size brussel sprouts will be the most abundant pack. The market remains strong at current price levels. Quality has been excellent from both Oxnard and the Salinas Valley. Nice green color with little defects.



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



Cauliflower supplies from both growing regions continue to be steady. Lighter supplies are headed our way. The market is holding firm at the higher price levels. Quality is really nice with white color and little yellow discoloration or bruising.



This market continues to be flat. This pattern will continue for the rest of the week. Steady supplies and good quality is expected out of all the growing regions. Michigan, Southern California as well as Salinas continues to produce high quality product. Shippers are expected to be very competitive all week with flexing occurring throughout the industry. Large sizing continues to have the best availability, but small sizing is readily available as well.







Pablano - Good quality and condition expected to continue.

Tomatillo - Rainy weather has affected quality of Tomatillo. Many grower's showing water blister's turning into decay.

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

Quality and Condition are good overall. , California supply has remained steady.



The cilantro market is still trending strong with limited supplies form all growing regions. Quality is fair to good depending on growing region. Better quality is being reported out of the Salinas growing region but the acreage can't meet demand.



The Ventura crop is our main supplier of domestic fruit. Demand is strong and continues to build. We are seeing 140s/165s/200s/235s supplies getting very tight. Chilean fruit is available in good supplies.



The larger 110ct and 150ct are less expensive than the smaller sizes. Demand is good on all sizes across the board. Limes are peaking on the 150ct now. Quality is good overall with some leaf shading (yellow color) showing up and occasional stylar end breakdown showing up from previous rains. The market is steady on the limes.



Shippers have good supplies of Valencias and peaking on 88s/113s/138s. Demand for 113s and 138s is high and increasing as school demand continues to ramp up. These smaller sizes are beginning to get tight and market is firming up on them.



The cucumber market is steady at a slightly higher market. Cucumber supply is coming from Virginia to New England and west to Michigan. Quality is getting better this week and there is good demand for number one product, off grade product has not reacted as fast but is starting to pickup. Retailers are grabbing most of the number 1 product and off grades are moving well but still enough product to satisfy demand. We expect the market to stay steady through the weekend.



Good quality and condition on cucumbers coming out of Northern Baja coast. All sizes are being packed in 11/9 bushel boxes. Also 24's-36's-42's being packed. With rain's in Baja, California it has not permitted harvesting to be done as frequent.



The eggplant Market is steady. there seems to be a split market between Michigan and the east coast. Michigan has started to pickup a little volume and New Jersey is in steady volume, keeping the market a little lower in the east. Those are the two biggest supply regions this time of year. There is some supply from Ohio, Virginia and Pennsylvania. With the west being very short on supply some of the pressure on Michigan shippers has been eased. We expect a steady market through the weekend.





Quality and condition on eggplant has become better coming out of Fresno. Minimal cosmetic issue's like scaring being shown. Showing green calyx on all size's. Volume has increase on all sizing.



Green grapes supplies continue to be steady. We have multiple varieties to choose from with a wide range of size. Quality has been reported as excellent on all the new varieties. The weather has been very warm this week, so some of the older varieties (Thompsons) may show some amber coloring on the berries. Market prices on all varieties have been level with volume opportunities available.



Good supplies of red grape varieties. Scarlet Royals, Crimsons and Magentas are being harvested currently. Sizing in on the bigger side with most fruit peaking in the Large to XL range. Quality has been very strong. Harvest has been consistent, but the warm weather may slow production down slightly. The market prices on the new red varieties have been higher and are expected to remain firm through next week.



The heat in the growing region of Mexico is taking its toll on supplies of both iced and iceless. The heat will obviously affect the quality. This will bring on more yellow to brown discoloration. The market is trending higher because of these factors.



Steady supplies of kale are still the theme here. Quality has been excellent with minimal dehydration and yellowing. The market is steady from all growing regions.



This market continues to be flat, and suppliers seek business. Although a few shippers have stronger pricing to start the day, this is just optimism. Schools have begun across the nation, yet this commodity remains steady in the marketplace. Shippers are expecting stronger markets possibly by the start of next week. The weights continue to average 42-48 pounds on palletized. Processors are expected to ramp up their business in the next few weeks.



Supplies are steady and demand is off. Expect this pattern to continue for the rest of the week. Although markets were expected to increase with the emergence of schools opening, this simply has not happened yet. Very warm temperatures this past week may hinder quality in the next few weeks. For now, however the quality is good and plentiful on romaine and all leaf items. The weights on romaine continue to average 33-37 pounds. All other leaf items are also having strong reports on good weights as well. Expect processors to begin to purchase larger acreage of raw material by the start of next week.



The supplies are holding steady but demand has weakened. The market is lower on the larger sizes and steady at the low levels on the smaller ones. Many of the growers are packing 9ct through 15ct with a few packing 18ct. 9ct supplies are not as plentiful as the 12ct or 15ct. Quality out of the West Side is excellent with good sugar levels.



Growers are harvesting steady supplies of honeydews currently. Demand has weakened a bit from earlier levels which is causing the market to be slightly lower to steady. Weather has been favorable for high quality honeydews out of the West Side and they are arriving in excellent condition.







MELON (WATERMELON)

Seedless Watermelon supply has dropped. Extreme heat in the last few months brought most of the crop to harvest. The current availability is limited and offering medium to smaller sizes. Mostly 60 size fruit being offered.



Supplies of all color and sizes of Onions are building out of the North West (Idaho and Washington) which marks the beginning of storage season. California and New Mexico are slowly finishing for the season. Supplies are plentiful and are meeting current demand. We are anticipating good supplies of onions during the Northwest storage season. Quality is being reported as good.



California - Bartlett pears are steady on all sizes and they continue to peak on 100/110/90s . Wraps are still more limited than tight-fills and most suppliers don't have any fruit smaller than a 120-size. Some shippers are done packing and shipping entirely from inventory. The quality has been good. Crimson pears are steady and continue to peak on half carton 45/40s but supplies are short. Bosc are available in limited quantities and they are peaking on smaller fruit. The quality has been good.

Washington - Bartlett pears are steady with some lower and are peaking on 90/100/110s. Supplies are improving as more shippers get into the deal. The quality is good. A couple suppliers have started packing D'anjou pears.



Supplies are light from the tropics and are going to be so through August and possibly into September.



New crop supplies continue to build out of all growing areas (Idaho, Washington, Colorado and Wisconsin). All signs are pointing to above average crop with larger than normal size profile. Pricing is expected to weaken over the next couple weeks as supplies build. Quality is being reported as good. Colorado is still not producing any cartons or very few if they are, this will change by the end of this month. Demand is moderate to light out of all areas.



Stockton, California - Reds, whites, and golds remain steady and all colors continue to peak on A size. Baker and premium whites and golds as well as gold A-size remain limited. The quality has been good for all colors.

Muleshoe, Texas - Red potatoes are cleaning up for the season. The quality has been good.

Minnesota - Red and gold potatoes are steady with good availability on most sizes. The quality and color have been good.

Wisconsin - The red potato market is steady and the availability is good on all sizes. Gold supplies are more limited than reds but are improving. The quality is good.

Washington - Eastern red potatoes are steady and are peaking on A-size. Some suppliers have finished with golds. The quality is good.

Delaware - They have good availability on red, white, and gold A and B size with some premiums and bakers as well. The quality has been good.



The squash market is moving well on green and yellow. There is good supplies Quality on green squash has gotten better, good yellow squash is harder to find. There has been some weather around the various growing regions in the past week, not enough to do any real damage but some wind is all it takes to scar tender yellow squash and that is what we are dealing with at the moment. We expect the squash market to be on the tight side this weekend.





Supply on Italian squash and Yellow S/N out of the San Joaquin Valley has lightened. Supply should remain light for remainder of week as shipper's make transition into new fields. Quality and condition are fair to good.



STONE FRUIT

Stone fruit availability is becoming more limited. The warm weather has pushed a lot of fruit forward. Harvest is breaking early indicating an earlier than expected end of season. Peaches and Nectarines are expected to last through September and Plums will go through October. Sizing remains on the large side. Quality has been steady and strong. Market prices have been on the rise and are expected to remain firm moving forward.



TOMATOES (EASTERN)

Rounds - The market is steady / higher. With schools back in session, the market has ticked up a bit due to demand. Rains in the east have curtailed parts of production, which is lowering supplies and helping the market. The local tomato deals are about over for the season. Out west, schools are also starting back up. Quality is Good.

Roma - The market is steady / higher. As with rounds, production in the east has been slowed up due to weather. And, with demand a bit higher with schools in, the market is ticking up. Out west, Mexico is experiencing heavy cloud cover along with rains. Mexico is in a slight gap at the moment. Range in quality from fair to good.

Cherry - The market is steady. Supplies on cherry's are holding steady, along with the market. Demand should begin to steadily increase soon, with schools back in. Quality is Good.

Grape - The market is steady / higher. Along with all the others, grapes look to be on the upswing due to demand. Supplies continue to be good, however, with demand on the rise, FOB's should begin to follow. Quality is Good.



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Roma - The market is steady / higher. Mexico is experiencing heavy cloud cover along with rains. At the moment, they are in a slight gap due to the past heat wave when all product came on too early. And with schools back in session, demand is on the uptick. Back east, production has slowed due to the recent rains. Look for the market to steadily increase. Range in guality from fair to good.

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Grape - The market is steady / higher. Along with all the others, grapes look to be on the upswing due to demand. Supplies continue to be good, however, with demand on the rise, FOB's should begin to follow. Quality is Good.



Commodities at a Glance

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Apples		
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Chile	Steady	Good
Asparagus		
Ica, Peru to Trujillo	Steady	Good
Central Mexico	Lower	Fair
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Lower	Good
Avocado (California)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Excellent
Avocado (Mexican)		
Michoacan, Mexico	Steady	Good
Bell Peppers (Eastern)	,	
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Lower/Steady	Good
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Lower/Steady	Good
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Bell Peppers (Western)	Charach // Linkary	Caral
Northern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Berries (Blackberries)		
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Berries (Blueberries)		
Mossyrock, WA	Higher	Good
Pitt Meadows, BC	Higher	Good
Salem, OR	Higher	Good
Grand Junction, MI	Higher	Good
Berries (Raspberries)		
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Good
Berries (Strawberries)		
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Good
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Good
Broccoli		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Celaya Guanjuato Mexico	Steady	Good

	Market	Quality
Brussels Sprouts		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Excellent
Oxnard, CA	Steady/Higher	Excellent
Carrots		
Bakersfield/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Cauliflower		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
	,g	
Celery	Ctoody	Cand
Michigan	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Chili Peppers		
Northern Baja California Sur, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Cilantro		
Baja, MX	Higher	Fair
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Fair
Salinas, CA	Higher	Good
Citrus (Lemons)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Fair
Citrus (Limes)		
Veracruz, Mexico	Steady	Good
	Steady	9000
Citrus (Oranges)		
Merced to Bakersfield, CA	Steady	Good
Riverside, CA	Steady	Good
Cucumbers (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady/Higher	Good
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Steady/Higher	Good
Cucumbers (Western)		
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Eggplant (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady	Good
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Steady	Good
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Eggplant (Western)		

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Commodities at a Glance

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Grapes (Green)		
Arvin, CA	Steady	Excellent
Grapes (Red)		
Arvin, CA	Steady/Higher	Excellent
Green Onions		
Mexicali, Baja	Higher	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Good
Kale		
Salinas, CA	Steady	Excellent
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Baja, MX	Steady	Excellent
Lettuce Iceberg		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Lettuce Leaf		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Melon (Cantaloupe)		
Firebaugh, CA	Lower/Steady	Good
Mendota, CA	Lower/Steady	Good
Melon (Honeydew)		
Firebaugh, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Mendota, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Melon (Watermelon)		
Central California	Steady	Good
Onions		
Huron/Metler, CA	Lower/Steady	Good
Las Cruces, NM	Steady	Good
Ontario, OR to Nampa, ID	Lower/Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Lower/Steady	Good
Pears		
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Steady	Good

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Pineapples		
Alajuela, Costa Rica	Higher	Good
Heredia, Costa Rica	Higher	Good
Limon, Costa Rica	Higher	Good
La Ceiba, Honduras	Higher	Good
Retalhuleu, Guatemala	Higher	Good
Peten, Guatemala	Higher	Good
Potatoes		
Hamer/Rupert, ID	Lower/Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Lower/Steady	Good
Monte Vista, CO	Steady/Higher	Good
Plover/Bancroft, WI	Steady/Higher	Good
Potatoes (colored)		
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Big Lake Minnesota	Steady	Good
Plover, WI	Steady	Good
Pasco/Tri-Cities, WA	Steady	Good
Muleshoe, TX	Steady	Good
Squash (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady	Good
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Steady	Good
Squash (Western)		
Southern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Stone Fruit		
Madera south to Arvin, CA	Higher	Good
Tomatoes (Eastern)	5	
Benton Harbor/Byron Center, MI	Steady/Higher	Good
Cedarville/Hammonton, VA	Steady/Higher	Good
Eastern North Carolina	Steady/Higher	Good
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Tomatoes (Western)	Stood // lists	Coord
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Southern Baja California Sur, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Southern California Coast	Steady/Higher	Good

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