

The Source

October 5, 2022

PRO*ACT

Market Alerts

Apples – Most varieties are back in supply. Fujis are getting started with Pinks waiting in the wings. The gala market has adjusted down to normal levels and movement is brisk.

Asparagus – The asparagus market is steady out in Mexico and Peru. Overall, good supply of all sizes.

Avocados – The market is steady and pricing is up a couple dollars. Smaller fruit starting to show up out of Mexico and Peruvian is slowly finishing up.

Bell Peppers – As colder weather approaches and the season nears its end, supplies of green bells in the Eastern growing regions of North Carolina, Michigan, and New Jersey decrease. Georgia and South Carolina have begun in a light way and have been spared most of the damage caused by Hurricane Ian in other parts of the Southeast. Next week, growers will have a better idea of supplies as they assess weather damages to Florida crops. As the northern California growing regions wind down, southern desert growing regions will pick up in mid-October, with green bells expected to start out of Coachella the week of October 16. On both coasts, red and yellow bells remain extremely tight.

Berries (Blackberries) – Better availability is expected moving into October coming out of Mexico and Central coast California.

Berries (Blueberries) – Good volume and excellent quality are coming out of Peru and Central Mexico

Berries (Raspberries) – Very large quantities are flooding the market from Baja California.

Berries (Strawberries) – Strawberries remain in a demand exceeds supply with little to no open market available. Greener fruit are expected to begin to color up next week and should help supplies.

Broccoli – Supplies are extremely limited as a result of the heat wave and rain. Quality issues such as pin rot are causing extremely lower yields. Look for this market to continue to rise steadily moving into the weekend.

Continued

Brussels Sprouts – Supplies continue to be good. Expect better quality and the market to be steady going into the weekend.

Carrots – Carrot supplies are ample with Bakersfield growing region under way.

Cauliflower – Cauliflower supplies continue to be extremely limited in all areas. Quality has been affected by the heat and rain. Look for supplies to remain tight going into next week and the market elevated.

Celery – The celery market has picked up as supplies in the Salinas Valley lessen. Southern California continues to be the best place for quality and pricing for this commodity. Slight seeder is being reported. There is no shortage of production.

Citrus (Lemons) – Oxnard/Ventura County are nearing their end. California Desert/Arizona Region will begin harvesting in a light way Early-October. San Joaquin Region will get going in a light way beginning of October. Supplies across the board will be snug for the next couple of weeks.

Citrus (Limes) – Lime markets continue to ease as the weather improves in the main growing region of Veracruz, Mexico and we move into the new crop. Larger size limes remain in short supply with better availability on smaller sizes. Quality is average - some light-colored fruit and oil spots can be expected, though they are usually being culled during harvest.

Citrus (Oranges) - Supplies of all sizes are extremely tight throughout the season. Expect good quality and pricing to be steady.

Cucumbers – For the next few weeks, cucumber supplies are expected to remain steady out of the Eastern growing regions of Georgia & North Carolina. Despite Hurricane Ian's severe weather, these regions managed to avoid damage to their plantings. Colder Fall weather will most likely end northern seasonal supplies in Michigan & New York in the next week or so. Out West in Baja, supplies are steadily increasing after setbacks caused by west coast Hurricane Kay a couple of weeks ago. The quality is good. Sonoran growing regions should be coming online in the next 2-3 weeks, with crossings into Nogales expected by the beginning of November.

Continued

Eggplant – Eggplant supplies from the East are high, good quality, and plenty of products available. Markets out West are more limited as the San Joaquin Valley season comes to an end. However, Mexican products crossing through Nogales are expected to come online in the next two weeks.

Garlic – The garlic supply remains tight and China's imports will help offset it in a minor way. The new California crop for 2022 will help supplies. Overall, the quality is good and the price is higher.

Grapes (Green) – Green grapes are still in good supply. Market slightly higher as shippers start the last few varieties of the season.

Grapes (Red) – Red grapes are still in good supply with good quality. Expect good supply and quality to last several more weeks.

Green Onions – Green Onion supplies are starting to improve. The current scattered showers and thunderstorms in Central Mexico may not help with improved supplies going into the weekend.

Kale – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Look for this market to stay steady going into the weekend.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – Demand exceeds supplies for this commodity. This will continue through the month of October. INSV and fusarium have ruined the production of this commodity in the Salinas Valley. Southern California simply cannot handle the surplus of business left behind from Salinas. Therefore, there is a severe shortage. Expect to see light weights, discoloration, misshapen heads as well as small heads. Value-added items are on second-tier escalations. Huron is expected to begin production in a few weeks. Yuma will begin approximately the second week in November.

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Lettuce Leaf – All leaf items will be tight in availability throughout the month of October. Like lettuce, the fusarium and INSV have destroyed the crop that was going to lead us to Yuma. Second-tier escalation on value-added romaine and green leaf is in effect, with red leaf right around the corner. Butter lettuce is extremely tight as well. Demand clearly exceeds supplies. Lightweights, discoloration, and tip and fringe burn are common defects being reported. Light supplies on Romaine hearts continues as well. Yuma will begin production approximately the second week in November.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Supply has been good with most tender leaf items with fair quality in size and texture. Cilantro supplies continue to be limited due to lower yields from the heat a few weeks ago. Look for the Cilantro market to continue to increase going into the weekend.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – The market is steady. The westside deal is starting to transfer to the desert over the next 10-15 days. Overall, good quality and pricing is higher.

Melons (Honeydew) – The market is steady. The westside deal is starting to transfer to the desert over the next 10-15 days. Overall, good quality and pricing steady.

Melons (Watermelon) – Supplies continue to stay light out in California. Mexico's volume improving.

Mushrooms – Market is steady and supplies are good

Onions – Harvest is concluding. Sizing is peaking on jumbo sized onions. Market is lower on medium and jumbo sized onions and higher on super colossals.

Pears – Washington pears are in full production with the market adjusting down to maintain sales velocity.

Pineapples – Better open market availability as we come out of storm season in the tropics.

Continued

Potatoes – Market remains elevated, but supplies are improving with greater availability of all sizes.

Squash – Michigan is about finished with squash for the season, with moderate supplies coming out of Eastern North Carolina, Georgia, and Northern Florida. Overall, quality has been good, with some issues present in regions that received a lot of rain in recent days. Next week, we should receive more information about the condition of southeastern crops. In California, Santa Maria supplies are limited with more quality issues from recent heat waves and rains. Northern California is expected to finish up around mid-October, with Mexico ramping up over the coming weeks on both green and yellow squash.

Stone Fruit – Nectarines are done for the season with peaches soon to follow. Plums will continue for about another month with moderate supplies. Chilean kiwi is coming to a close this week and next week as the new crop in California begins Monday. Pomegranates and persimmons are starting to harvest in the Central Valley.

Tomatoes – Tomato markets are poised to rise as severe weather impacts both coastal growing regions. North Carolina & Tennessee are winding down as Quincy, FL is set to start next week, which will begin the Florida season. Hurricane Ian passed over central Florida's growing regions where plantings were already in the ground. Damages will be assessed over the next week or so. Mexican supplies are adequate though Eastern & Central growing regions were also slowed by rainy weather. Baja production was affected by Hurricane Kay, which may push fall crops back into November. Tropical Storm Orlene is also brewing off the West Coast, with landfall expected early next week near Culiacan which usually begins around December. In California, the Central Valley should be on for the next three weeks before that season wraps up. More availability of smaller sizes with good quality is expected.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Blueberries

Weather

California – There will be strong high pressure and light offshore winds this week, which will keep temperatures away from the coast above average, while the marine layer will keep coastal temperatures near normal. On Saturday, daytime temperatures will be in the upper 60s to 70s near the coast and 80s to upper 90s further inland before light onshore winds return temperatures to normal.

Mexico – Across Central Mexico, showers and t-storms are expected today and Thursday. Within some t-storms, rainfall may reach 0.50" or more. Showers should total between 0.05" and 0.30". Expect more isolated showers over the weekend, as the region is expected to experience drier weather.

Florida – A high-pressure system moves into Florida this weekend, continuing the dry, mild weather. Temperatures will be near to below normal, but will gradually warm. Today's highs will be in the low-mid 80s and will rise to the mid-upper 80s by Saturday. By Sunday morning, morning lows will rise from the upper 50s to the mid-60s and low 70s. There will be moderate northeasterly winds through Friday, increasing to 20-25 mph on Saturday and Sunday.

Arizona – There is a chance for rain and thunderstorm activity tomorrow through Sunday due to increasing moisture and a passing upper-level low. 0.25" of rain is possible in higher terrain and in areas with stronger storms.

Freight

Trucks remain steady in California. Trucks in the northwest and Idaho remain tighter than normal. The national diesel average dropped slightly and is currently at 4.964 per gallon. California diesel price remained steady and is 6.149 per gallon.

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Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MUSHROOM	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is poor, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 STONE FRUIT	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is higher		
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is higher		