

The Source

May 3, 2023

PRO*ACT

Market Updates

Apples –Granny Smiths remain scarce. Washington shippers have stepped up their Gala packing as they approach the end of the storage season.

Asparagus –West Coast product continues to be tight. There are fewer 28/1 being packed. Volume has been helped by the majority of suppliers moving back to 11/1. Caborca is slowly finishing. The next region is still a week away. Washington asparagus has started and is helping fill the pipeline.

Avocados –The market is slightly lower with good big fruit supplies. 60/70s are still in short supply, but improving. Warmer weather in Mexico should bring more fruit of all sizes. California fruit supplies are increasing.

Bell Peppers –The market is firm as we transition west from Nogales to Coachella. New crops at Coachella command higher prices due to better quality versus Nogales. Reds will start in about 3 weeks. East supplies are lighter as they work through last week's weather.

Berries (Blackberries) –There are a few more blackberries coming into the market out of Baja Mexico and Central Coast California. We expect numbers to slowly increase once the weather warms up.

Berries (Blueberries) –Georgia and Florida are still going strong and West Coast production is increasing slightly.

Berries (Raspberries) –This item still remains tight coming out of Central Mexico. Central California production is not expected to begin for a few more weeks. Raspberries need summer heat to mature and so far we have not seen much of that.

Berries (Strawberries) –The Mother's Day pull has begun and unlike in recent years, we are experiencing good availability of regular 8/1 clamshells and long-stem berries. Markets are moderately priced and moving well.

Broccoli –Broccoli supplies including florets have started to improve. Supplies in Santa Maria and Mexico are steady. Overall, the quality is above average. Look for this market to adjust lower for the weekend.

Continued

Brussels Sprouts –Brussels sprout supplies are extremely limited. Oxnard normally starts the first of May and has been pushed back a few weeks. Expect the market to increase as we approach the weekend. Overall, although good quality is reported, the sizing is smaller.

Carrots –Whole carrot supplies are in a better position. Markets are down slightly. Imperial Valley growing region will go until mid/late May.

Cauliflower –Cauliflower supplies including florets continue to be tight as production in Salinas has started. Supplies have slowly improved with the warmer weather. Expect this market to continue to adjust lower as we approach the weekend.

Celery –This market continues to gain strength in the marketplace. Oxnard/Santa Maria production will be moderate at best this week and next week is expected to be very light. The weather has been cool and rain is expected throughout the week. There are a few common defects, including slight seeder and pith. Quality continues to be above average with most shippers.

Citrus (Lemons) – The main growing region is District 1 and is peaking on FCY fruit. District 2 is ramping up and will bring more choice-grade fruit into the market. Small fruit is tight due to the rain helping to increase fruit size. The market continues to climb upwards.

Citrus (Limes) –Markets continue to soften. Large-size fruit 110s/150s remains tight. The big price spread is between large and small fruit. Expect this trend to continue as new crops starts up.

Citrus (Oranges) -Supplies peak at 72/88ct. The quality is good. Markets are tightening up on the small fruit with significantly less volume. To help with the short supply of 113/138ct navels, Valencia's have started very lightly.

Cucumbers –The markets are fairly steady. Florida and Mexico have a steady supply. Baja has started and Georgia is about 2 weeks away.

Continued

Eggplant –Supplies come from Florida and Mexico. Coachella starts this week. Overall, the quality is good.

Garlic -California's production is steady and expected to continue throughout the week. Good quality has been reported.

Grapes (Green) –The supply gap between South America and Mexico is real. It is not a total absence of grapes, but a severe shortage that will hit different shippers at different times. This tight supply period will last through May and into the first half of June.

Grapes (Red) –The supply gap between South America and Mexico is real. It is not a total absence of grapes, but a severe shortage that will hit different shippers at different times. This tight supply period will last through May and into the first half of June.

Green Onions –Mexican-grown supplies continue to improve this week. Mexico's warmer weather is helping spur growth. Overall, the quality is good.

Kale –This market continues to be steady. Moderate to good availability is expected throughout the week. Overall, the quality is good and the market is steady.

Lettuce (Iceberg) –There is a steady demand for this commodity. Huron is almost finished with production. Salinas will have moderate availability this week. Yuma had late plantings, but the crop is nearing its end due to warm temperatures in this region. Value-added items will escalate throughout the week. Light weights, puffiness, and misshapen heads are being reported.

Lettuce Leaf – Overall, demand is steady for romaine as well as the green and red leaf. Escalated pricing on value-added items continues with all Romaine and leaf items. Romaine hearts are becoming less available than in previous weeks. Fringe and tip burns, blistering, along with leaf discoloration are being reported. Huron will likely finish this week. Production in Salinas is moderate at best.

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Lettuce Tender Leaf –Italian parsley, cilantro, and arugula (baby and wild) remain tight. The product in Salinas continues to be behind schedule due to the heavy rains we had back when the growers tried to plant the product. The product is slowly growing and the weights are not to spec. We hope growth improves as the weather warms up in the Salinas Valley in the next week.

Melons (Cantaloupe) –The offshore deal has two weeks to go. Cantaloupes out of Nogales could start later this week or early next. The desert deal looks like it will start 10 days later than normal. Supplies are tight and the market is up.

Melons (Honeydew) –Two more weeks for the offshore deal. The honeydew market is mostly steady. 5/6's have light supplies. The quality overall is good. Nogales has started on Honeydews. Demand is good.

Melons (Watermelon) –Offshore fruit is done. Steady supplies coming out of Mexico.

Mushrooms –Availability and supplies are excellent.

Onions –There is an increase in supply of California onions. Excellent supplies from Georgia. Due to recent rains, the quality of Texas onions has diminished.

Pears –The market is slightly higher. Expect prices to gradually rise from May to July as storage supplies reach the end. The upcoming crop of California Bartlett's is projected to start the week of July 10th but could be later due to weather.

Pineapples –Light open market volume. Overall, the quality is good and the market is steady.

Potatoes –The market remains extreme. 40 - 70 CTs are limited.

Continued

Squash –The market is stable but will weaken as Georgia ramps up. Florida and Mexico are in steady supply. Quality is fair as there is some wind scarring present in some lots coming out of Nogales.

Stone Fruit –Imported peaches, nectarines, and plums are done on both coasts. The market for imported Kiwis is higher. Supply remains light. California cherries are projected to start the week of May 8th as well as apricots, peaches, and nectarines.

Tomatoes –The tomato market continues to be steady on most items. Supplies are coming from Florida and Mexico. Baja has started and will be in better production in about 2 weeks.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Weather

California –Through Thursday, a low-pressure system will bring below-normal temperatures and rain. The additional rainfall total is expected to be between a tenth and a quarter inch. The morning lows will be in the mid-30s to 40s, while the daytime highs will be in the mid-50s to low 60s. As high-pressure returns Friday, skies will clear, and temperatures will slowly warm over the weekend, reaching the 60s to low 70s.

Mexico –After a dry day today, isolated showers are expected across the region from Thursday through Sunday due to an increase in moisture. There will be trace amounts of rain in most showers, up to 0.20 inches. Some T-storms may occur with higher totals. Through Sunday, max temperatures will range from mid-70s to mid-80s. Through the weekend, morning temperatures will be mostly in the upper 40s to mid-50s.




































Florida –Over the weekend, upper-level disturbances are expected. Over the weekend, high pressure will build over the region, resulting in dry conditions and a slow but steady warming trend. Afternoon highs climb from the low-upper 80s today to the upper 80s-low 90s by Saturday and Sunday.

Arizona –Cool temperatures and strong gusty winds continue through Thursday due to an upper-level low passing through the area. Wind gusts up to 35-40 mph are expected today and tomorrow. Temperatures are up to 10 degrees below normal today (upper 70s-low 80s) cooling a few more degrees tomorrow.

Freight

Trucks remain steady in California, Idaho, and the Northwest. The national diesel average dropped slightly and is currently at 4.018 per gallon. California's price is also lower at 4.903 per gallon.

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