

# The Source

June 21, 2023

PRO\*ACT

## Market Updates

**Apples** –There are good supplies of foodservice size galas, Fujis, and Reds. Golds are nearing the end of the storage crop. The supply of Granny Smiths remains low.

**Asparagus** –The heat in the fields has limited Mexico's supplies this week. In the south, mostly in Ica, Peru continues to produce only limited quantities. However, we expect the large growing areas to begin in late June or early July. This week, markets are up as we head into the weekend due to the heat in Peru and Mexico.

**Avocados** –The market is rising extremely fast as Mexico holds off shipping fruit to increase demand and price. Within the next month, the current crop will come to an end. The next crop is Flora Loca, with 48-70ct sizing expected to peak. Peruvian fruit is light, but increasing each week

**Bell Peppers** –Bakersfield will start this week as volume and sizing have started to decline out of Coachella. Meanwhile, eastern markets have reacted to inclement weather.

**Berries (Blackberries)** –We are still in a gap on this item, however, temperatures are warming in the California central valley and coastal regions. These higher temperatures should help produce more fruit arriving to the market over the next 2 weeks.

**Berries (Blueberries)** –Due to multiple loading options, several growing regions are combining to lower the market. California, Georgia, North Carolina, and New Jersey are among these options.

**Berries (Raspberries)** –This item's industry-wide shortage is beginning to ease up. The amount of Baja fruit crossing has been moderate. Due to previously cooler weather, California is still coming on slowly.

**Berries (Strawberries)** –Santa Maria is past peak season and declining slowly. In mid-July, Salinas and Watsonville should reach maximum production.

**Broccoli** –There continues to be a good supply of broccoli in Santa Maria, Mexico and Salinas, including florets. Overall, the quality is above average. With good supplies and quality, we can expect this market to remain steady into the weekend.

## Continued

**Brussels Sprouts** –While supplies have been tight recently, we are seeing better supplies moving forward. As the weekend approaches, the market is expected to decline slightly. Low yields and smaller sizes have been reported due to seeders and discoloration. Supplies will continue to improve over the next few weeks.

**Carrots** –The Imperial Valley is finished. The main growing region is Kern County. Conventional products have strong sizing. Due to rain damage sustained during planting, rainbow carrot packs are gapping for a few weeks. There are still baby rainbows and other value-added packs available.

**Cauliflower** –Cauliflower supplies continue to be good in Salinas and Santa Maria. As this market remains steady, we do not expect any issues with supplies going into the weekend.

**Celery** –There have been fewer supplies of this commodity this week, causing a stronger market for it. The largest sizes are the least available. Production in Salinas is moderate to light. The situation in Southern California is similar. Expect higher markets throughout the week as suppliers are flexing less. Overall, the quality is fair with seeders still an issue that all suppliers are quoting. The escalation of value-added product will continue through the week.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – District 1 is finished. District 2 is the main growing region and will bring more choice-grade fruit to the market. Small fruit is extremely tight. The market for Fancy and Choice grade products continues to rise.

**Citrus (Limes)** –Overall, markets are steady. The sizes peak on the 230/250s, with larger sizes a bit tight.

**Citrus (Oranges)** –The supply of 72/88ct is at its peak. The quality is good. Currently, both Navels and Valencias are in play. 100% navels are expected in the first week of July. Offshore Mandarins are available on the west coast.

## Continued

**Cucumbers** –Plenty of supplies in the east with several local deals starting. The Nogales cucumber crop is all but finished, and the quality is diminishing. Toward the end of the month, Baja crops will reach seasonal volumes.

**Eggplant** –The crops continue to transition north on both coasts. There is a slight increase in prices.

**Garlic** –California's production is expected to remain steady throughout the week. Quality has been reported to be good.

**Grapes (Green)** –This week, green seedless are in much better supply. The market is lower.

**Grapes (Red)** – In Nogales, red seedless are readily available. There is a soft market price.

**Green Onions** –Mexican-grown supplies continue to be good this week on Green Onions. In Mexico, the warmer weather has helped spur growth. The quality is good overall.

**Kale** –The market continues to be steady. The availability is expected to be moderate to good throughout the week. Overall, there is good quality and a stable market.

**Lettuce (Iceberg)** –The market is stronger with all suppliers. Salinas and southern California are seeing a decline in production even though schools are out. Overall, demand is steady. Some shippers are seeing sclerotinia in the fields which is causing lower yields. Prices rise when yields decline. In comparison to previous weeks, weights have decreased. The average weight of liner product is 37-41 pounds. Expect this market to be active throughout the week.

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**Lettuce Leaf** –In the Salinas Valley, this market is becoming more active. With multiple suppliers, romaine and green and red leaf are less available than in the past weeks. There have been reports of sclerotinia as well as fringe and tip burn from a few suppliers. With schools out, overall demand is moderate. Romaine hearts are firming up as well.

**Lettuce Tender Leaf** –There are still a limited number of tender leaf items, such as Italian parsley and cilantro. As a result of the heavy rains that we had when growers were planting the product, the product in Salinas is still behind schedule. Hopefully, the weather in the Salinas Valley will warm up and growth will increase over the next few weeks.

**Melons (Cantaloupe)** –Cantaloupe volume is finally improving for the desert deal. Sizing is on the larger side.

**Melons (Honeydew)** –There has been no improvement in the desert honeydew crop. There is good volume coming out of Nogales, which keeps the market going. The market is generally steady, but lower on smaller sizes.

**Melons (Watermelon)** –There are limited supplies of Watermelon crossing through Nogales. Seedless bins are mostly larger sizes.

**Mushrooms** –The volume is excellent and promotable.

**Onions** –California is transitioning from El Centro to the Central Valley. Supplies are ramping up in New Mexico.

**Pears** –This market is expected to gradually rise through June and July as storage supplies run out. The new crop of California Bartletts is expected to begin the week of July 17th.

**Pineapples** –There is a light open market volume. The quality of the product is good, and the market is steady.

## Continued

**Potatoes** –Supplies remain extremely limited.

**Squash** –As a result of recent weather, Eastcoast supply is coming on in new areas as older fields in Georgia and North Carolina struggle with quality. The North California growing regions in SM/Fresno will finally see some sunshine, which will increase volume.

**Stone Fruit** –Cherry supplies are good in both California and Washington. Yellow peaches are in shorter supply this week compared to last week. The market is steady on peaches.

**Tomatoes** –As Quincy winds down, the eastern supply is lighter. Similar out west, with western Mexico finishing by the end of the month. Baja volume and quality are improving. Once the NC/NC mountain region and north California crops get going in early July, we expect steady to moderate supply.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Blueberries**

## Weather

**California** –Weak high pressure weakens the marine layer, allowing temperatures to rise, but high winds gusting up to 35 mph will prevent them from exceeding average. The morning lows will be around 40°F to 50°F with the daytime highs in the 60s to 70s near the coast and 70s to upper 80s farther inland.

**Mexico** –Temperatures will remain warm through Friday. Temperatures may cool a couple of degrees over the weekend. Over Central Mexico, expect relatively dry weather beyond a sprinkle or two. There will be maximum temperatures in the upper 80s to mid-90s through Friday, mid-80s to mid-90s on Saturday, and low 80s to low 90s on Sunday. Over most fields, temperatures will cool into the mid-50s to mid-60s in the morning.

**Florida** –A stalled frontal boundary continues to draw moisture from the Gulf through the remainder of this week. North and central peninsulas will experience scattered showers and thunderstorms today, followed by light to moderate showers and isolated thunderstorms Thursday through Saturday. Afternoon highs will run near-to-below normal in the mid-80s to low 90s daily with lows in the low to mid-70s, about 3 degrees above seasonal norms.

**Arizona** –Over the next few days, it will be warm and dry with gusty winds. Wind gusts of 35-40 mph are expected today through Friday. Today's afternoon high will be in the upper 90s-103 degrees, cooling a few degrees Thursday/Friday (low-upper 90s on Friday).

## Freight


Trucks remain steady in California, Idaho, and the Northwest. The national diesel average remained steady and is currently 3.815 per gallon. California's price is also steady at 4.773 per gallon.

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# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is low	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is low
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is high	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is high
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is high	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is high	 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 steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is low	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is low	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is low	 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 high	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is high		
 CELERY	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		