

# The Source

December 22, 2020



## Market Alerts

**Apples** – Market steady on poor demand.

**Asparagus** – Demand good on Peruvian product as airfare increased and Shippers are buying. Mexican product steady as supplies are consistent.

**Avocados** – Market is steady on avocados from Mexico. Current size structure peaking on 60's and showing high yields of #2 grade fruit as well. Mexico may not harvest Christmas week and could cause an uptick in price. Good availability for the balance of the month and quality continues to improve.

**Bell Peppers** – Market on **green** bells is steady, **red** and **yellow** bells are still strong. New fields on **red** and **yellow** bells should start in Sinaloa in about 7-10 days.

**Berries (Blackberries)** – The market remains slow going into the holidays quality looks good on most lots primarily coming out of Mexico.

**Berries (Blueberries)** – Imported blueberries are sporadically arriving with lackluster demand. There are periods of plenty followed by short periods of waiting for transfers or boat arrivals to come. Look for the market to remain flat.

**Berries (Raspberries)** – Heavy supplies are beginning to lighten up but minimal demand has caused the market to remain flat. Quality has been fair.

**Berries (Strawberries)** – Lack of demand is causing some areas to fall behind in moving out inventories particularly in the Texas area. Quality has been good with some bruising being reported upon arrival.



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## Continued

**Broccoli** – Fields are behind as the cold weather is hampering growth. Market is higher and will continue into the weekend.

**Brussels Sprouts** – Tighter supplies has been keeping this market strong. The cooler overnight lows is supporting the higher market.

**Carrots** – The carrot market remains steady with the **snack packs, cellos, and jumbos**. We have light supplies out of Georgia as well if you have any interest.

**Cauliflower** – Cold weather and overnight lows is causing slow growth. Supplies continue to struggle to keep up with demand. Look for this market to remain strong.

**Celery** – This market has gained strength. Production in Santa Maria is light. Oxnard has moderate production, but the cool weather in Yuma has delayed the growth of the plants and has put on greater pressure to cover orders out of Oxnard. The best sizing continues to be in the large sizing, twenty-four counts in particular. The overall quality continues to be above average.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – Supplies and quality is looking steady on small sizes. 115's and larger are holding firm due to retail holiday pull. Please reach out for any advance prices.

**Citrus (Limes)** – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Please place orders with lead time.

**Citrus (Oranges)** – Navel supplies are looking good on 88's and smaller. 72's and larger is holding firm on markets due to retail pull for the holiday. Quality is still looking really nice. Please reach out for any advance prices.

## Continued

**Cucumbers** – Continuous supply and demand is keeping market steady and quality good. No straggling inventory.

**Eggplant** – Eggplant demand is meeting supply and quality has been very good. Opportunities on #2 product for processing to save on price!

**Garlic** – Steady supplies keeping this market level.

**Grapes (Green)** – Domestic green grapes still exist but are poor quality. Import greens much nicer at higher prices.

**Grapes (Red)** – Domestic reds still available quality mostly fair. Imported reds better quality at higher prices.

**Green Onions** – Steady supplies out of Mexico is keeping this market steady.

**Kale** – Plenty of supplies in the pipeline. Market to continue to stay steady going into the weekend.

**Lettuce (Iceberg)** – Demand is off as we approach the holiday. Multiple suppliers are flexing for volume type orders. Availability will be good overall. Cold weather in the Yuma region has caused for a few defects. Blister, discoloration, and misshapen heads have been reported upon arrivals. The weights are averaging 38-42 pounds.

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**Lettuce Leaf** – Cool weather in the Yuma region has caused for blister and peel to be seen on romaine as well as green and red leaf. The market is steady overall, with romaine hearts showing the biggest fall off for demand. This week, orders are expected to be minimal. The issue shippers will be dealing with is having a lack of labor to harvest. This will inevitably cause delays in loading. Shippers are doing all they can to speed up production in the fields.

**Lettuce Tender Leaf** – Market and supplies continue to stay steady on **Spinach** and **Arugula**. **Curly Parsley** market continues to have strength.

**Melons (Cantaloupe)** – The industry remains in a demand exceeds supply situation. Very limited offerings in the pipeline as suppliers struggle to cover contract programs. Quality is fair but seems to be improving.

**Melons (Honeydew)** – Honeydews remain in high demand and very limited. Market is active and quality is just fair. Retail demand is strong and keeping this market firm.

**Melons (Watermelon)** – Markets are slightly higher and demand is good. We continue to see a wide range in condition and quality. Mini watermelons are limited as well.

**Onions** – Onions are a steady go. The Northwest is still shipping out of storage. Quality is excellent. Deals available on large sized yellow onions in Idaho. Call for these deals.

## Continued

**Pears** – Market steady on poor demand.

**Pineapples** – Supplies are steady out of both coasts. Current markets are stable and quality is looking nice. Reach out for any opportunities.

**Potatoes** – Idaho is shipping storage. Burbanks, which have undergone the sweat process, are available but limited and at an upcharge. Quality is excellent, peaking on 70 CT cartons. Call for more info.

**Squash** – Overall quality is very good on squash, some older zucchini is at bargain pricing, but overall market is steady.

**Stone Fruit** – Early peaches and nectarines available out of New Jersey.

**Tomatoes** – The tomato market remains elevated most significantly in the **roma** and **grape** tomato categories. Florida harvests are light in Immokalee, and Baja volume continues to wind down. XL fruit is very short. **Grape** tomatoes are in a supply gap with light overlap in harvests. Weak demand is keeping the market from a critical state. Nogales is getting started in a light way with the much awaited glut of winter tomatoes now not anticipated until the end of the month near the new year.

## Weather

**California** – Many record high temps seen Monday with 70s to mid 80s across many areas. Cooling expected Tuesday with onshore winds and some patchy low clouds. Possible rain sweeping the central coast this weekend.

**Mexico** – Slightly below normal morning temps with near to slightly above normal daytime highs over the next 5 days.

**Florida** – Steady warming expected through Thursday as high pressure strengthens. Then a strong cold front hits Thursday bringing moderate to heavy showers and thunderstorms.

## Freight

Trucks continue to be tight in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average continues to climb and is currently at 2.619 per gallon.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples  
Blackberries  
Blueberries  
Strawberries  
Carrots  
Lemons  
Limes





































Oranges  
Onions  
Pears  
Pineapples  
Potatoes  
Raspberries (PAST PEAK)



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# Commodities at a Glance

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

