

# The Source

June 7, 2023

PRO\*ACT

## Market Updates

**Apples** –The supply of Granny Smiths has been limited all year, and they are even tighter now. There are very good prices available on galas and reds.

**Asparagus** –There is good domestic supplies coming out of Washington and Michigan, including Mexico. Mexico supplies are improving this week. Peru continues to produce only limited quantities from the south, mostly in Ica. However, we expect the large growing areas to begin in late June or early July. With overlapping production from Mexico, Canada, Peru, and the United States, supplies will be good in June.

**Avocados** –On 48ct fruit, the market is steady, but on 60/70ct fruit, the market is a bit lower. The current crop will end within the next month. The next crop will be Flora Loca, which should peak at 48-70ct in sizing.

**Bell Peppers** –As Nogales and Florida wind down, greens remain steady. Within the next week, Coachella will transition to Bakersfield. Georgia's supply is steady. The quality is good overall.

**Berries (Blackberries)** –California's cold weather is delaying fruit maturation. Central Mexico is trending downward rapidly. Late this week, Georgia will begin to produce small numbers. The overall availability is very low. We should see better numbers the week of June 25th.

**Berries (Blueberries)** –North Carolina and Georgia are dealing with rain, while California's West Coast is being held back due to cold temperatures. There are still very light crossings in Central Mexico. As a result, availability is limited. Market conditions are expected to remain steady. Our production should gradually increase out West over the next few weeks as summer approaches.

**Berries (Raspberries)** –Due to declining Mexican production and delayed West Coast California harvests, supplies are very limited. With most shippers only covering contracts and previous commitments, markets are elevated.

## Continued

**Berries (Strawberries)** –Due to heavy open market volume and light demand, the market has flexed lower. Despite cloudy and colder weather in all growing regions, growers should still be able to keep rotation manageable. Market conditions are expected to remain moderate.

**Broccoli** –Santa Maria and Salinas continue to have a good supply of broccoli, including florets. Quality overall is above average. As we head into the weekend, we can expect this market to remain steady with good supplies and quality.

**Brussels Sprouts** –The supply of Brussels sprouts remains very limited. Oxnard normally begins the first of May but has been delayed. As the weekend approaches, the market is expected to remain steady. Overall, seeders are being reported and it is causing lower yields and smaller sizing. Next week, supplies should improve.

**Carrots** –Whole carrot supplies are in a better position. There is a slight decline in the markets. Imperial Valley growing region will go until mid/late May. Bakersfield's growing region is next up with no issues forecasted on sizing.

**Cauliflower** –There is a good supply of cauliflower in Salinas and Santa Maria. We see no issues with supplies going into the weekend as this market remains steady.

**Celery** –Despite a drop in demand, supplies remain light. Southern California continues to offer the best deals. In Salinas, production will not begin until the end of June, depending on the weather. All value-added items will be subject to third-tier escalation this week. Seeder is being reported by all suppliers.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – District 1 is the main growing region for FCY fruit. District 2 will have more choice-grade fruit as it ramps up. Small fruit is tight due to the rain helping to increase fruit size. The market continues to rise.

**Citrus (Limes)** –The market is steady, with good supply and quality.

## Continued

**Citrus (Oranges)** –There is a peak in 72/88ct supplies. The quality is good. Right now, both navels and valencias are in play. It is expected that 100% navels will be available by the first week of July. Until offshore fruit is available on the west coast, expect a 1-2 week gap on mandarins.

**Cucumbers** –There is enough supply to meet demand. In the next few weeks, we will start seeing more local deals, including in North Carolina and New Jersey. Out west, Baja will be in more of their seasonal volume by next week.

**Eggplant** –Nogales is winding down. There is still product coming out of Coachella, so expect some overlap when eggplant starts in the Central Valley next week. Supplies are steady out of Georgia.

**Garlic** –Throughout the week, California's production is expected to remain steady. It has been reported that the quality is good.

**Grapes (Green)** –Green grapes are now being shipped in good volume from Nogales and to a lesser extent from Coachella. There is a rapid adjustment in the market to more normal levels.

**Grapes (Red)** – Red grapes are now being shipped in good volume from Nogales and to a lesser extent from Coachella. There is a rapid adjustment in the market to more normal levels.

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

**Kale** –We continue to see a steady market. Throughout the week, availability is expected to be moderate to good. In general, the quality is good, and the market is stable.

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**Lettuce (Iceberg)** –Compared to the past two weeks, supplies are lighter. Market pricing will remain low throughout the week because of a gap in the marketplace. Due to the end of the school year, demand is down overall. Salinas Valley continues to provide the best quality with weights averaging 40-44 pounds. The quality continues to be above average, despite a few slightly misshapen heads being reported.

**Lettuce Leaf** –There are strong supplies of romaine, green leaves, and red leaves in the Salinas Valley, according to multiple suppliers. You can also expect good availability of romaine hearts. Please be aware that shippers are flexing for volume orders, and promote as much as possible. You can expect good weights on romaine as well as green and red leaf items. Also, very good quality has been reported.

**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)** –We are finally starting to see some better volume on cantaloupe in the desert deal. Sizes are on the smaller side, but should improve next week. As volume increases, the market adjusts downward.

**Melons (Honeydew)** –There has been no improvement in the desert honeydew crop. Volume will be very light until at least next week. The market is firm.

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

**Mushrooms** –Supply and availability are excellent.

## Continued

**Onions** –California remains the primary growing region. A late start to the season was caused by rains earlier in the year in the San Joaquin Valley. Stocks are increasing in New Mexico.

**Pears** –The market is slightly higher. As storage supplies decline, prices should gradually rise through July. New crop California Bartletts are projected to start the week of July 17th but could be later due to weather.

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

**Potatoes** –The market remains extreme. Number twos are limited in availability.

**Squash** –We have started to source local product from North Carolina and New Jersey as Georgia winds down. Western supply is steady, Nogales is winding down quickly, and the Central Valley has good availability. It has been a light start for Santa Maria.

**Stone Fruit** –The availability of peaches, nectarines, and cherries is much better this week. Plums and apricots are still limited. The peach and nectarines market has remained steady, but the cherry market has dropped.

**Tomatoes** –The markets are firm. The eastern supply has shifted to Quincy and South Carolina. Quality is fair with first picks, but is expected to improve. In Nogales, volume has slowed down, while in Baja, volume and quality have improved significantly. The North California tomato season is expected to start by the first week of July, while the crop in the east will move to Tennessee and North Carolina. In June, you can expect adequate supplies.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

## Weather

**California** –Today's low-pressure system leaves the region, allowing weak high pressure to develop. The end of the week will remain cloudy, drizzle-spotty, and near to below-average temperatures in the deep marine layer. Daytime highs will range from low 60s to low 80s with morning lows in the middle 40s to mid 50s.

**Mexico** –Over most of Central Mexico, a warm but tranquil weather period is expected through June 10th. There may be a few isolated light showers through the middle and end of the week, but most showers should be less than 0.10". In most growing areas, today's high will be in the low-upper 80s, Thursday's will be in the mid-80s to low 90s, and Friday's and Saturday's will be in the upper 80s and upper 90s.







**Florida** –Today and tomorrow, a surge of moisture from the Gulf will bring scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the peninsula, with the highest rainfall totals likely south of I-4. Mostly dry conditions are expected for central and north Florida this weekend, with isolated showers in the south.

**Arizona** –As a series of upper-level lows passes over the area, afternoon highs will remain unseasonably cool for most of the week, preventing a high-pressure ridge and warmer temperatures. Temperatures today will fluctuate a few degrees from the upper 80s to mid-90s until Saturday (low to upper 90s). There will be minor cooling on Sunday between the mid-80s and upper-90s.

## Freight

Trucks remain steady in California, Idaho, and the Northwest. There has been a slight decline in the national diesel average, which now stands at 3.797 per gallon. There was also a decrease in California diesel prices, which are currently at 4.765 per gallon.

# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is fair, pricing is high	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is low
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 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 high	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is high
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is high	 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 low	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is low	 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 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 good, pricing is high	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is high
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady		
 CELERY	Quality is fair, pricing is low	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		