

The Source

January 4, 2023

PRO*ACT

Market Alerts

Apples – Apple inventories continue to be low. Overall, supplies are limited and prices remain elevated.

Asparagus –There are light supplies available from Peru. Mexican supplies will be ramping up in two weeks.

Avocados –There is a good supply of all sizes. Overall, the quality is good and pricing is steady. Suppliers dealing with volume.

Bell Peppers – The markets are fairly steady. Supply is adequate on both coasts, but will improve in the coming weeks. Red bells remain short but field pack supply out of Mexico is expected to slowly improve over the next few weeks.

Berries (Blackberries) –Lighter crossings will result in limited availability and firmer markets. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is higher.

Berries (Blueberries) –Steady supplies out of Chile and Central Mexico should keep markets leveled. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Berries (Raspberries) –Lower numbers crossing will firm up markets. Overall, the quality is fair and the pricing is higher.

Berries (Strawberries) –We are experiencing multiple weather events reducing availability, especially in the West Coast growing regions.

Broccoli –Supplies are moderate this week but it's expected to be much better in the early part of next week. Expect value-added escalators to be less by the end of this week to early next week. Overall, the quality continues to be above average. Crown production is anticipated to be better than most suppliers.

Brussels Sprouts –There is good availability and pricing is competitive in the industry. Expect steady production with this commodity throughout the week. Good quality is being reported.

Carrots – Carrot supplies are ample. Organic rainbow and conventional jumbo carrots are in a better spot as well. Lake Park Georgia carrots are now available for loading.

Continued

Cauliflower – Cauliflower supplies have improved dramatically. There are good supplies available in Yuma and Santa Maria. The recent warm weather has brought on production with multiple shippers. Value-added escalation will be decreasing this week.

Celery –Demand continues to exceed supplies, industry-wide. Heavy rains in Southern California and light production in Florida and Yuma are the reasons for light availability. Escalated pricing on value-added products is in effect. Supplies are expected to be tight for two weeks minimum. Overall, the quality is above average.

Citrus (Lemons) –California Desert/Arizona Region and San Joaquin Region are the main growing regions for this commodity. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Citrus (Limes)–Prices are steady on the high side. Quality has improved as new crop fruit has started crossing in a light way. Yields remain light out of Mexico. Markets are expected to remain volatile over the next few months.

Citrus (Oranges) - Supplies are scarce and markets are increasing. Rain continues to be in the forecast for the next two weeks with little to no harvest. Shippers will do all they can to harvest if there is a break in rain.

Cucumbers –Overall, the supply has lightened up. Low eastern supply from Florida and Honduras has shifted demand to Nogales who have already been dealing with cold weather. Prices are expected to remain firm this week and supply will improve a bit next week with more seasonal temperatures in Mexico.

Eggplant –Eggplant supply has lightened up in Florida due to weather but there is a good supply in Mexico and light demand keeping prices fairly steady.

Garlic –Steady California production is expected throughout the week. Good quality has been reported.

Grapes (Green) –Domestic green grapes are done for the season. Imports are light but adequate supply on both coasts. The market is firm and the quality is excellent.

Continued

Grapes (Red) –Domestic red grapes will finish this week. Imports are light but adequate supply on both coasts. The market is firm and the quality is excellent.

Green Onions –Heavy rains in the growing regions of Mexico have made this commodity light in availability. Escalated pricing on value-added products is in effect. Expect light supplies and active markets throughout the week.

Kale –This market was expected to be stronger but demand has fallen off. Moderate to good availability is expected throughout the week. Shippers are competitive and listening to offers. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Lettuce (Iceberg) –There are multiple offers being made from shippers as demand has declined. There is an escalation in value-added products but we expect these escalations will drop this week with all suppliers. The gaps in pricing have become much smaller as offers are being made daily in this industry. There will be no rain in Yuma this week and ideal temperatures. Production is expected to get better throughout the week.

Lettuce Leaf –Due to ideal weather conditions in the Yuma region, there is an abundance of romaine and green and red leaves. Multiple shippers are flexing. Apart from some light blister and peel being reported from most suppliers, weights and quality have improved. Shippers are cleaning up the product as much as possible. Romaine hearts have better availability compared to past weeks. Escalated pricing on straight romaine and green leaf items has gone away.

Lettuce Tender Leaf –Better supplies are expected on baby leaf items like spring mix, parsley, spinach, and arugula in the desert. Due to the rains, light supplies are expected in Southern California, so availability will be moderate at best. Expect some shortages going through the weekend. Overall, the quality is expected to be fair.

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Melons (Cantaloupe) – There is a good supply of all sizes; volume deals on 12's. Next week's supplies are expected to run big in sizing, mostly JBO 6 and JBO 9's. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Melons (Honeydew) – There is good demand as Mexico's production has slowed down due to the weather. The holiday pricing on the offshored on the west coast has increased to 4 dollars compared to the east coast. East has good supplies of big fruit no 6's or 8's until Thursday/Friday.

Melons (Watermelon) – There is a good supply of offshore product and more by the end of the week from Mexico. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Mushrooms – Mushroom supply is good and prices are steady.

Onions – Good supplies and availability in the northwest. Transportation is slowed due to winter weather.

Pears – The market is higher on light inventories. Most shippers are done with Bartletts.

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

Potatoes – Markets remain extreme and #2s are limited. Transportation is slowed due to winter weather.

Squash – Overall, the markets are steady with enough supply to cover demand on both coasts.

Stone Fruit – Imported peaches and nectarines have started on both coasts; the quality is good. The California kiwi is peaking on smaller sizes. Pomegranates are nearly done in the Central Valley. Persimmons will finish this week.

Continued

Tomatoes – The tomato market is stable on rounds, cherries, and grapes. Romas have become active and pricing is increasing. Tomatoes are coming from Florida and Mexico with Sinaloa ramping up over the next few weeks. The cold weather has slowed the start of the season.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Weather

California – A strong low-pressure system arrives today with moderate to heavy rain and winds gusting up to 35 mph. Also, anticipated rain totals have increased with expected rainfall now between 1-3" with over 4" possible on storm-affected fields.

Mexico – Cool mornings will continue through January 8th. This is due to the dry nature of the air and generally light winds in the overnight hours. Lows should cool into the mid-40s to mid-50s through tomorrow, low-upper 40s on Friday, and mid-30s to mid-40s over the weekend. Temperatures will still warm nicely during the daytime hours with the upper 60s to mid-70s likely over most fields over the next five days.

Florida – Moderate and gusty southerly winds will prevail through tomorrow, while a cold frontal boundary slowly passes across north Florida today into Thursday afternoon. Showers from this system will impact stations north of Brooksville by 4 PM today, becoming moderate overnight but only far north counties are expected to see more than a tenth-inch. Light and spotty showers may linger through early Thursday afternoon as far south as Naples.

Arizona – Southerly winds today will reach up to 10-15mph in the morning, then diminish through the evening. This is ahead of an approaching cold front that should bring light-moderate showers to the Imperial and Coachella Valleys Thursday afternoon and overnight. Friday through the weekend will be cooler with lows dropping from the 40s to the upper 30s-low 40s, with possibly light icing Saturday morning.

Freight






Trucks are tighter than normal in California this week. Trucks remain tight in the northwest and Idaho. The national average remained steady and is currently at 4.537 per gallon. California's price is also steady and is now at 5.415 per gallon.

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Commodities at a Glance

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