

The Source

September 14, 2022

PRO*ACT

Market Alerts

Apples – There is a good supply of Washington Galas. The market has dropped back to normal and food service sizes are available. Currently, Galas are the bargain apple for food service.

Asparagus – West coast supplies are tight and good supply and better pricing on the East coast. Heavy rain in Mexico is causing a minor setback in the supply chain.

Avocados – Good supplies of large fruit. Overall, good quality and steady pricing.

Bell Peppers – Markets are slightly higher as northern regions on both coasts are winding down and transitioning to southern areas. Georgia will start in about 2 weeks. Colored bell peppers are still very limited but expect to see some relief in about 2 weeks.

Berries (Blackberries) – Blackberry supply is fluctuating with some shippers. Product is currently coming out of the central California coast and Central Mexico. Overall, quality is fair and pricing is steady.

Berries (Blueberries) – Chilean and Central Mexico imports are beginning to dominate the market place as we see the Pacific Northwest begin to decline sharply.

Berries (Raspberries) – Good numbers are expected over the next several weeks coming out of Central Coast California and Mexico. Overall, quality is fair and pricing is lower.

Berries (Strawberries) – A flush of berries has hit the market causing prices to decrease. We should see numbers become more manageable as the weather cools and growers work through the past heat related issues.

Broccoli – Supplies are starting to become limited as a result of the heat wave. Look for the market to rise steadily moving into the weekend.

Brussels Sprouts – Supplies continue to be good. Expect better quality and market to be steady going into the weekend.

Continued

Carrots – Carrot supplies are ample with Bakersfield growing region under way. Snack pack carrot demand is increasing due to schools coming back in session.

Cauliflower – Supplies are steady in both Salinas and Santa Maria despite the heat wave last week. Look for the market to stay steady moving into the weekend.

Celery – Large sizing has the best in availability but demand is being met on all sizes. The quality continues to be above average with only slight seeder being reported. Overall, the market continues to be steady.

Citrus (Lemons) – Central Valley is finished and Oxnard/Ventura County is now the main growing region. A gap is expected between growing regions. Harvesting will end early-June and new crop production will start in early November. Expect good quality and supplies steady.

Citrus (Limes) – Rain, high temperatures, and humidity are driving prices higher. Crossings are below normal. Quality is fair. The Mexican National holiday this week will limit labor further keeping upward pressure on the market.

Citrus (Oranges) - Supplies of all sizes are extremely tight throughout the season. Expect good quality and pricing to be steady.

Cucumbers – Supplies have improved out east as the North Carolina fall crop has begun. Baja supplies will be limited for several weeks. Growers are transitioning to new fields and Hurricane Kay disrupted some crops. Overall, quality is good and pricing is steady.

Eggplant – Supplies and quality are steady.

Garlic – The garlic supply remains tight and China's imports will help offset it in a minor way. The new California crop for 2022 will help supplies. Overall, the quality is good and the price is higher.

Grapes (Green) – Green grapes are still in good supply with good quality. Expect good supply and good quality to last several more weeks.

Continued

Grapes (Red) – Red grapes are still in good supply with good quality. Expect good supply and good quality to last several more weeks.

Green Onions – Extremely limited supplies brought on by the heat the last couple of months in Mexico. The rain last weekend has caused even lower yields. Look for this market to continue to be strong the next several weeks.

Kale – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Look for this market to go up slightly as we move through the current heat wave through the current heat wave.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – The demand for this commodity will continue to exceed supplies throughout this week and next week. High heat and INSV have been major obstacles growers have been fighting. The overall quality is fair. Lightweights, discoloration, puffiness, and internal burn are common defects being reported. These issues are industry wide and will continue throughout the week. Value-added lettuce items continue to increase.

Lettuce Leaf – Yields continue to suffer on romaine, green and red leaf as well as butter. Suppliers are expecting light production numbers throughout the week. Tip and fringe burn and lightweights will be common defects being reported throughout the week. Demand continues to exceed supply, industry-wide. Value-added leaf items will increase throughout the week. Romaine heart supplies are also scarce.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Supply has been good with fair quality with size and texture. Despite the heat wave last week, markets are staying steady.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – Pricing is higher, light supplies, and good demand.

Melons (Honeydew) – Supply is light and quality is good.

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Melons (Watermelon) – Supply is light and quality is good.

Mushrooms – Supplies and quality are good.

Onions – Supplies are increasing on all onions out of the northwest. Supers remain limited.

Pears – Washington is in good supply and California is nearly done. Good quality out of Washington with most packouts peaking on US#1. Overall, good quality and pricing is steady.

Pineapples – Light volume on the pineapple front due to storm season in the tropics. Supplies expected to improve beginning next week.

Potatoes – The market remains high on large cartons and lower on small cartons. Overall, quality is good and pricing is higher.

Squash – Markets are steady to slightly lower. The local programs in the east are winding down, as they have begun in the states of Georgia and North Carolina. The quality is good, and the volume is expected to improve in the coming weeks. West markets continue to hold steady out of Santa Maria, but volume will begin to decline by mid-October as their season concludes. There has been a slight start to zucchini production out of Nogales, and yellow squash will follow next week.

Stone Fruit – Nectarines are nearly done and harvest is done and very few are left in inventory. Peaches are in light supply but should continue until near the end of September. Plums will continue into October.

Tomatoes – Eastern supply remains adequate on all varieties; volumes are not expected to improve until October. California supply is steady and will start to wind down the 1st week of October. Eastern Mexico's supply is steady and Baja's supply is light which is normal for this time of year.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Raspberries
Green Grapes
Red Grapes

Blackberries (Past Peak Season)
Oranges (Past Peak Season)

Weather

California – The deep marine layer and a trough passing to the north keep temperatures near to below average Wednesday. Near the coast, lows will be in the 40s and 50s, with highs in the mid-70s to mid-80s further inland. Temperatures slowly warm back toward normal on Thursday due to weak high pressure.

Mexico – As humid air moves into the region over the weekend, isolated to scattered showers are more likely over the weekend. Over the next five days, temperatures are expected to remain below normal. Temperatures will be in the low 70s to low 80s through Friday and in the low 70s to upper 70s over the weekend. Over most of the region, temperatures will fall into the low 50s to low 60s by early morning.

Florida – Through Friday, a stalled frontal boundary will keep the peninsula cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms. By Sunday, high pressure will build in, bringing dry conditions across the board. The week's highs will range from the mid-80s to the low 90s, and the lows will range from the low 70s to mid-80s.

Arizona – In the Western US, an upper-level low will pass through mid-week, keeping temperatures below normal. Until early next week, rain and thunderstorms are unlikely to hit our region due to the southwesterly flow.

Freight

Trucks remain tight in the Northwest and Idaho. California trucks remain steady. The national average for diesel dropped slightly to 5.033 while California prices remained steady at 6.164 per gallon.

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