

The Source

February 8, 2023

PRO*ACT

Market Updates

Apples – The market for small galas is down slightly as supply is finally recovering from the holidays. Small grannies will remain scarce until the upcoming harvest in September. Large-size gala inventories remain tight. The market overall is steady.

Asparagus – Mexico's product volume is growing as the Caborca region is gaining momentum, bringing down prices for both standard and large. XL and JBOs are limited. Overall, the quality is good and the price is lower.

Avocados – A good supply of fruit in all sizes. Promotional deals are available. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Bell Peppers – Markets are fairly steady. Florida's spring crops should start in early March. Overall quality has been good, but there is a bit more scarring than normal out of Mexico. Adequate amount of choice products available. Good availability of colored 11# cartons with bushels a bit tight.

Berries (Blackberries) – Slowly declining yields out of Central Mexico are still producing steady and adequate numbers. Markets remain steady.

Berries (Blueberries) – Steady numbers from Central Mexico and Chile are combining to keep markets flat. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Berries (Raspberries) – Demand exceeds supply situation exists in all areas for this commodity. Cold weather and previously occurring rains have severely hindered yields. This situation will remain unchanged for the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Berries (Strawberries) – There is product available out of California, Baja, Central Mexico, and Florida in slightly increasing numbers. Overall, the quality is good and the price is lower.

Broccoli – Supplies continue to be good in Santa Maria and Yuma. Overall, the quality continues to be above average. Crown production continues to be better than most suppliers.

Continued

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

Carrots – Whole carrot supplies continue to be tight due to recent inclement weather. Markets are up as well.

Cauliflower – Cauliflower supplies continue to struggle in Yuma, Mexico, and Santa Maria. The cold weather has slowed growth causing cauliflower supplies to be short. Look for this market to remain high and limited supplies going into the weekend.

Celery – Overall, multiple shippers are firm about all sizes. The cool weather in the past weeks has slowed production down, but demand overall is down. All carton orders are being filled. Value-added items are being watched closely as averages are coming into play. Within 2-3 weeks, expect better supplies of value-added products. Production in Florida is moderate at best. Escalated pricing is off on all value-added items.

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) – The market is on the rise. The old crop is about 10 days away from finishing up as we transition to the upcoming crop. Low yields are forecast due to winter weather through March, possibly April. Overall, the quality has improved. Size is peaking at larger sizes, 110/150s. Offshore fruit is available to supplement the supply.

Citrus (Oranges) - Now that the rain has passed, expect the markets to level off. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Cucumbers – There is a soft tone this week on the market as Honduras reaches peak production. Nogales' supply is steady with good quality. Florida should begin their spring crops in early March which should overlap with the offshore season.

Eggplant – The market is steady for this commodity. Expect an increase in demand starting next week as we approach Lent.

Continued

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

Grapes (Green) – Imports are in better supply on both coasts as Chilean volume starts to ramp up. The market is adjusting and the quality is excellent.

Grapes (Red) – Imports are in better supply on both coasts as Chilean volume starts to ramp up. The market is adjusting and the quality is excellent.

Green Onions – Mexican-grown supplies are slightly improving this week. Recent cold weather has delayed the crop. Overall, the quality is improving.

Kale – This market continues to be steady. Moderate to good availability is expected throughout the week. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – Cool weather has slowed production. With that being said, all orders are being filled. There has been slight damage to the outer wrapper leaves due to the past cool weather, but overall the quality is above average. The weights have been 39-43 pounds with multiple shippers. All value-added items are at normal channel pricing. Expect steady markets throughout this week.

Lettuce Leaf – The market remains steady on romaine as well as the green and red leaf. Aside from some blister and peeling on the outer leaves, the quality amongst multiple shippers continues to be good. Suppliers are at normal channeled pricing for all value-added leaf items. Expect supplies to be steady throughout the week.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – There are good supplies of baby leaf items like spring mix, spinach, and arugula are in available in the desert. Overall, the quality is expected to be fair and at steady pricing.

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Melons (Cantaloupe) – Cantaloupe supplies are tight on JBO 9's, 12's, and good volume on 15's. This will continue into the next couple of weeks due to diverse weather conditions in the past weeks.

Melons (Honeydew) –Supplies are limited for this commodity. There was light production last week causing late vessels. There will be slightly better supplies for the end of the week. Overall, the quality is good and the prices are steady.

Melons (Watermelon) – We continue to see good supply out of Mexico and pricing is in the mid-20s. Offshore supply is lighter at higher prices.

Mushrooms – Great availability and supply. Overall, the quality is good and the price is higher.

Onions – Mexican supplies are increasing. The northwest crop has good supplies until mid-April. Prices are lower on storage crop.

Pears –The market is steady at high levels. Inventories continue to be light. Most shippers are down to Anjous and Bosc pears.

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

Potatoes – Larger cartons are more available. #2s remain extremely limited. Overall, the quality is good and the price is higher.

Squash – The market continues to be steady. Demand is moderate and quality has been mostly good. There is some scarring present more so on yellow and grey therefore there is a decent amount of #2 product available out of Nogales.

Continued

Stone Fruit Imported peaches, plums, and nectarines have started on both coasts; supplies are light and quality is very nice. Greek and Italian imported kiwi have started in a light way. California Asian Pears are still available.

Tomatoes – Strong volume from Mexico in all varieties has decreased prices. Overall quality is good and the best availability is on larger sizes, 4x4s/4x5s on rounds and JMBO and XL on Roma.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Blackberries (Past Peak Season)
Raspberries (Past Peak Season)

Weather

California –High pressure and light offshore flow will cause morning lows in the mid-30s in the coastal valley and inland fields today with upper 30s to low 40s closer to the coast. Daytime highs will be in the 60s to mid-70s. A low-pressure system moves through Friday night causing a chance of showers, a shift to onshore winds, and substantial cooling of max temperatures to the 50s to low 60s through the weekend. Rain totals on Saturday are expected to be under ¼”.

Mexico – Morning temperatures will moderate and warm through Friday with increasing moisture flowing into the region. However, on Friday, a cold front will impact the region bringing cooler morning temperatures over the weekend. Frost will continue to be an issue over the weekend. Light isolated showers are possible from Wednesday through Friday over much of the region. Rainfall totals should be less than 0.10” where showers do occur.

Florida –High pressure riding in from the Atlantic produces moderate easterly winds and warming temperatures today and tomorrow. Stronger southerly winds begin Friday as the next cold front slowly approaches from the northwest. Showers from the system begin over northern counties before sunrise Friday, spreading southward through Saturday afternoon.

Arizona – Today and tomorrow, most Yuma valleys will see lettuce ice with temperatures in the mid-60s to mid-70s. Lower-to-upper 70s Thursday as the high-pressure ridge strengthens. Strong gusty winds are expected Thursday/Friday due to a tightening surface pressure gradient. A passing upper-level low will cool temperatures into the low-upper 60s Sunday, bringing some rain.

Freight

Trucks remain steady in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national diesel average dropped and is now 4.539 per gallon and in California diesel price is 5.458 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 lower	 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 steady	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MUSHROOM	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 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 higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady		
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		