

The Source

June 23, 2021

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Market Alerts

Apples – Quality is good on all varieties, and pricing is steady. As the end of the primary season approaches, market pricing will continue to increase over the summer.

Asparagus – Supplies have tightened a bit, with domestic field transition, lower yields on the Peruvian crop and increased demand ahead of the 4th of July holiday. Quality is fair and pricing may be higher.

Avocados – Supplies and pricing are steady on 60 CT and larger #1 grade fruit. #2 grade fruit and smaller sizes remain less available. Quality is good but shelf life may be shorter than normal due to higher oil content, typical of a late season harvest, expected to last through mid-July.

Bell Peppers – Plentiful supplies of Green Bells, with lower prices on larger sizes in particular. Colored Bells are also in good supply. The extreme heat in the west is accelerating harvest and causing the crop to finish early. Quality is good to fair.

Berries (Blackberries) – Supplies are good, particularly out of the Southeastern U.S., Mexico and California. Quality is fair in the west due to extreme heat.

Berries (Blueberries) – Multiple growing regions, some in a seasonal peak, means plenty of berries available. Quality and pricing are good.

Berries (Raspberries) – Supplies remain light but continue to improve, with Mexico's harvest offsetting lighter California production. Quality is fair due to extreme heat.

Berries (Strawberries) – The California heat is affecting yields and quality in a minor way so far, with some smaller, darker berries being harvested. Pricing is steady.

Continued

Broccoli – Excellent quality and pricing on bulk and value-added product.

Brussels Sprouts – Mexico's harvest continues to be lighter than in recent weeks. Market continues to be higher, however, quality is good.

Carrots – Quality is good on all bulk and value-added product. Jumbo carrots remain light out of California. We do have options out of Texas as well.

Cauliflower – Good supplies on field pack and florets out of Salinas and Santa Maria is keeping this market aggressive. Look for good quality and aggressive pricing going into the weekend.

Celery – Quality is good, with minimal seeder issues reported. Pricing is trending higher, with 24 CT size the most available.

Citrus (Lemons) – Field transition from the Central Valley to Ventura is limiting supplies briefly. Pricing may be higher on both **Fancy** and **Choice** grade fruit, through early July when imported product begins to arrive. Quality is good.

Citrus (Limes) – 175 CT and smaller sizes remain the best value and quality is good. The growing regions in Mexico continue to have some ongoing rain that could halter production and crossings. We could see some higher prices until supplies improve.

Citrus (Oranges) - The Navel season is coming to an end, with 72 CT and larger sizes most available. The Valencia crop is ramping up slowly. Quality is fair and pricing may be higher.

Cucumbers – Excellent quality and steady pricing on all grades of field-grown Cucumbers. North Carolina's harvest has begun in the east, and Nogales is winding down in the west.

Continued

Eggplant – Eastern (Georgia) supplies are steady, and Western field transition from Coachella to Fresno is in progress. Steady pricing and good quality.

Garlic – California supplies remain very tight. Imports from Mexico and Argentina will offset in a minor way. Pricing is higher and quality is good.

Grapes (Green) – Supplies and pricing are steady, with good quality.

Grapes (Red) – Supplies and pricing are steady, with good quality.

Green Onions – Good supplies coming out of Mexico. Look for this market to stay steady.

Kale – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Watching this market closely with the upcoming heat wave.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – The heat wave in California is affecting lettuce quality and yields. Market pricing is higher, and quality issues such as misshapen heads, insect activity and shorter shelf life are being seen. Value-added product may be a better cost and quality option.

Lettuce Leaf – The heat wave in California is affecting leaf lettuce quality and yields, particularly whole and heart Romaine. Market pricing is higher, and quality issues such as tip burn and shorter shelf life are being seen. Value-added product may be a better cost and quality option.

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Lettuce Tender Leaf – Supplies are steady, however quality is impacted by the CA heat wave. Shorter shelf life and dehydration may be issues.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – Cantaloupe market remains steady and demand is good also. Size structure is trending large, limiting availability on smaller sizes. Brix/sugars are trending 10% or better. The heatwave in the desert last week disrupted the harvest with limited production. Quality may be an issue moving forward.

Melons (Honeydew) – Honeydew markets are higher and demand is strong. Supplies are light on all sizes. Due to the heatwave last week, production was impacted and quality is suspect.

Melons (Watermelon) – Watermelon demand is good and markets continue to strengthen. Strong retail ads in play with the upcoming 4th of July holiday. Quality is great on seedless and minis.

Onions – Excellent supplies of yellows. Excessive heat has caused a disruption in supply on whites and reds. Pricing is steady.

Pears – Similar to apples, quality is good and market pricing is trending higher as the end of the storage crop approaches. California's harvest will begin in mid-July.

Continued

Pineapples – Supplies are tightening and will remain so for the next 4-5 weeks, typical of this crop's early summer growing cycle. Quality is very good and pricing is steady on whole and crownless fruit.

Potatoes – Expect 40 - 70 CT and 100 CT to remain elevated until new crop is available Aug 2nd. Plenty of 6 oz #2s available.

Squash – Field transition, windy conditions in the west and heavy rains in the east have caused supplies to tighten slightly on Yellow and Zucchini. Scarring is being addressed mostly at the field level, keeping finished quality good. Pricing may be higher in certain markets.

Stone Fruit – **Peaches, Plums, and Nectarines** all in good supply. The shippers are done with the earliest varieties and eating quality will only get better for the next 10 weeks.

Tomatoes – Production is improved out of California, Baja and the East Coast, as field transition concludes and growing conditions are better. Quality is good. Grapes are still in short supply, and pricing, while easing, is expected to remain higher than normal for all varieties throughout June.

Weather

California – Deep marine layer cloudiness cause near to below average temps across the region through Thursday. High pressure returns this weekend as temps reach mid to high 90s in the Salinas Valley.

Mexico – Humid air will allow for showers and thunderstorms through Thursday. On Friday through Sunday shower activity will lessen and become more isolated in nature.

Florida – Daytime highs will remain in the upper 80s to low 90s as high pressure build in over the peninsula. Daily sea breeze will allow for afternoon rain showers further inland for the beginning of the weekend.

Arizona – Chance for scattered thunderstorms today due to moisture associated with Tropical Storm Delores interacting with an upper level trof. Best chance for rain is this morning with rainfall amounts up to .10". Heavier rainfall

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Carrots
Limes
Oranges
Stone Fruits

Potatoes (past peak season)


























Freight

Trucks remain tight and expensive in the northwest, Idaho, AZ, and California. The national average remained steady and is currently at 3.287 per gallon.

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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 higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, 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 fair, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 POTATOES	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 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 good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady



1630 North Ocean Avenue
 Holtsville, New York 11742
 1-800 DICARLO dicarlofood.com

Depot Centers:
 Bellmawr, NJ Newark, NJ Westborough, MA

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