

The Source

September 15, 2021

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DiCarlo

Market Alerts

Apples – New crop Grannys, Galas, and Honey Crisp in full production. New crop Red and Gold Delicious will get going over the next two weeks.

Asparagus – Asparagus supplies continue to be extremely tight. Wet weather and transition is causing Mexican grass to be limited. Peruvian grass is logistically a struggle to get to Florida. Look for the market to stay strong going into next week.

Avocados – Markets on large sized fruit remain on the strong side with good demand. Markets on smaller sized fruit are steady with light demand. Supplies on large fruit remain light as well as all #2 grade fruit. Mexican growers are slowly transitioning into new crop.

Bell Peppers – Markets firmed up this week on green bells due to lighter volumes. Michigan season is winding down but still have decent availability out of OH and other pockets in the northern areas like NJ. As crops transition south into the Carolinas and GA, expect supplies to improve over the next few weeks. California bell peppers are also a bit lighter as they are past peak production. Colored bell pepper market is steady; with yellows being more limited. Increased production out of Mexico keeping prices stable.

Berries (Blackberries) – Product is readily available market is steady.

Berries (Blueberries) – We are experiencing a gap in production into next week when we should see more import product become available from Mexico and Peru. Demand exceeds supply.

Berries (Raspberries) – Product is readily available and the market is steady.

Berries (Strawberries) – Quality issues in the North have caused a 2 tiered market to emerge.

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Continued

Broccoli – Demand exceeds supplies on all Broccoli and Floret packs. The recent warm weather has brought fields forward and fields have been lost due to quality issues. Look for this market to stay strong through next week.

Brussels Sprouts – Supplies and quality are starting to get better. Look for the market to continue to correct downward as more supplies come through the pipeline.

Carrots – Quality is good on all bulk and value-added product. Demand continues to be very strong for school/DOD business. Value-added packs are on weekly allocations. We strongly advise putting orders in early. Markets remain steady. We do have options out of Texas as well on jumbos.

Cauliflower – Cauliflower supplies are starting to become limited due to the recent heat. Expect this market to follow Broccoli going into next week.

Celery – This market is slightly stronger both in northern as well as southern California. Large sizing continues to have the strongest availability. The quality continues to be above average. This commodity continues to be a good item to promote as multiple shippers continue to flex for volume type orders.

Citrus (Lemons) – Domestic supplies continue to be very light with markets holding firm on both Fancy and Choice grade fruit. We're seeing steady import supplies out of the east & west coast, all depending release times at the port. Supplies out of Mexico are starting up as well and have options to load out of Texas. Reach out if you have any interest.

Citrus (Limes) – Supplies are steady and quality is looking good. We have availability out of Texas, and also have cross dock options out west and east coast.

Citrus (Oranges) - We're seeing strong demand for school business, small sizes on 113's & 138's remain very limited and light. Markets remain firm. Sizes are peaking on 72's and larger. Quality of the fruit is looking tired, the heat, lack of water, and gas times are taking a toll on the fruit. Keep inventories tighter for better shelf life.

Continued

Cucumbers – Increased demand and tighter supplies pushing markets upward in the west coast. Large sizes remain limited as crop transition to newer fields. Rain is forecast in the Baja region over the next several days. In the east, markets are steady. Eastern cucumbers are transitioning to southern growing areas in NC and GA.

Eggplant – Supplies are sufficient but a bit lighter in the East; Michigan season is winding down. Georgia has started in a light way and North Carolina will begin in about 2 weeks. Supplies in the west remain snug. Expect fairly steady markets until supplies increase towards the end of the month out of Coachella.

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

Grapes (Green) – Lots of nice grapes out there. The market seems to have found it's level. Expect more of the same for the next few weeks.

Grapes (Red) – Lots of nice grapes out there. The market seems to have found it's level. Expect more of the same for the next few weeks.

Green Onions – Green Onion supplies are starting to improve. Look for this market to continue to adjust lower as we move into next week.

Kale – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Watch this market closely with the upcoming heatwave.

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Lettuce (Iceberg) – Demand continues to exceed supplies with this commodity. Suppliers are trying no to reach too far ahead of production. This will make gaps in production to be minimized, and weights better. The problem is that demand is stronger. Expect this market to be active throughout the week. Light weights, pink ribbiness and discoloration has been reported.

Lettuce Leaf – This market is firm. A few suppliers have started the week with better availability on romaine and romaine hearts compared to last week. Green and red leaf have firmed up in the marketplace. Tip and fringe burn is being reported from multiple suppliers on all leaf items. Expect demand to gradually increase throughout the week.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Plenty of tender leaf items is keeping this market steady. Look for this market to stay steady going into next week.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – Markets on large fruit are slightly higher with good demand. Markets on smaller sized fruit are steady with good demand. Quality is excellent.

Melons (Honeydew) – Markets are active and demand is strong. Supplies will remain tight for the balance of September. Quality is great.

Melons (Watermelon) – Good supply of watermelon and demand is on the lighter side. Quality is excellent.

Onions – Market is elevated on all sizes and colors. Crop is peaking on medium sized onions. Limited quantities of supers are available, with better availability of colossals.

Pears – Washington Bartletts are in full production. Market adjusting to seasonal levels. Red pears have started.

Continued

Pineapples – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality is good on whole and crownless fruit.

Potatoes – With harvest operations under full steam, 40 - 80 CT are more available than in recent weeks. Market is weaker, but less availability of 90 - 120 CT as well as #2 stocks.

Squash – Northern growing areas in the east are transitioning there way south to NC, GA, and even FL. Supplies will gradually improve as these newer areas ramp up production. Quality is fair but seeing much better quality out of the newer areas. Western supplies out of California are good with yellow being a bit more snug out of the San Joaquin Valley. Mexican season out of Nogales, AZ will begin in a light way towards the end of the month.

Stone Fruit – Market steady on Peaches, Plums, and Nectarines. Volume on peaches starting to drop as we get nearer to the end of the season. Good quality available on all. Small sizes are scarce.

Tomatoes – Round market is steady on both coasts with moderate demand. East Coast was slightly affected by recent storms but will see improved numbers over the next few weeks. The west will see steady supplies for the balance of week. Romas are higher this week; lighter eastcoast supplies has shifted demand out west causing higher markets. Overall quality is good with size profile on the larger side.

Weather

California – A cooling trend begins this week as a upper level system moves over the region and steadily deepens the marine layer. Temps stabilize starting Thursday and will last through the end of the week.

Mexico – Isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected over the next 5 days, as a heat system coupled with low-level moisture help to fuel the shower activity.

Florida – East to southeasterly flow continues over the peninsula as a low pressure centers over the western Gulf. Flow will turn southwesterly over the week as the low dissipates into the north Georgia for Thursday, with a frontal boundary remaining over the southeast. Expect a slight clearing over the state for Thursday into Friday as high pressure builds in behind the frontal boundary.

Arizona – Temps today unseasonably warm cooling close to seasonal averages over the weekend due to an upper level low passing through the Great Basin area.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Apples | Pears |
| Blackberries | Pineapples |
| Carrots | Stone Fruits |
| Limes | Blueberries (Past Peak Season) |
| Green Grapes | Strawberries (Past Peak Season) |
| Red Grapes | |



































Freight

Trucks remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average remained steady and is at 3.372 per gallon.

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Commodities at a Glance

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|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
|  APPLES | Quality is good, pricing is higher |  CELERY | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  LETTUCE LEAF | Quality is fair, pricing is steady |
|  ASPARAGUS | Quality is good, pricing is higher |  CITRUS (LEMONS) | Quality is fair, 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 steady |  MELON (CANTALOUPE) | Quality is good, pricing is steady |
|  BELL PEPPERS | Quality is good, pricing is higher |  CITRUS (ORANGES) | Quality is fair, pricing is higher |  MELON (HONEYDEW) | Quality is good, pricing is higher |
|  BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES) | Quality is fair, pricing is lower |  CUCUMBERS | Quality is good, pricing is higher |  MELON (WATERMELON) | Quality is good, pricing is steady |
|  BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES) | Quality is fair, pricing is higher |  EGGPLANT | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  ONIONS | Quality is good, pricing is higher |
|  BERRIES (RASPBERRIES) | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  GARLIC | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  PEARS | Quality is good, pricing is steady |
|  BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES) | Quality is fair, pricing is higher |  GRAPES (GREEN) | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  PINEAPPLES | Quality is good, pricing is steady |
|  BROCCOLI | Quality is fair, pricing is higher |  GRAPES (RED) | Quality is good, pricing is steady |  POTATOES | Quality is good, pricing is steady |
|  BRUSSELS SPROUTS | Quality is fair, pricing is lower |  GREEN ONIONS | Quality is fair, pricing is lower |  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 fair, pricing is higher |  LETTUCE ICEBERG | Quality is fair, pricing is higher |  TOMATOES | Quality is good, pricing is higher |



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