

# The Source

November 10, 2021

FOOD SERVICE  
**DiCarlo**

## Market Alerts

**Apples** – Market steady on moderate supplies. Retail bag movement keeping the price up on smaller lower grades.

**Asparagus** – Very good supplies and quality continue to come out of Peru and Mexico at this time. Market will continue to be aggressive through the weekend.

**Avocados** – With the holidays last week the dip in supply should help keep pricing steady and keep the market in line with demand. Supplies on 48's and larger remain light, with markets are on the strong side. Supplies on smaller sized fruit look to be in better shape this week.

**Bell Peppers** – Markets are lower this week on both coasts. GA still picking pepper and that region will run through the end of November. FL has started harvest on crown picks. Good availability with choice a bit more limited. In the west, Coachella is in peak production, volume is steady with Nogales starting in a light way on green bell peppers. Colored bells remain adequate out of Coachella; prices should hold steady on red bells for the balance of the week.

**Berries (Blackberries)** – Decent amounts of product are beginning to cross through Texas from Mexico. Markets should remain steady through the end of November.

**Berries (Blueberries)** – Good Volume from Central America and Mexico are keeping the market flat through November.

**Berries (Raspberries)** – The season is picking up out of central Mexico, we should see markets flatten as more berries are becoming available.

**Berries (Strawberries)** – Weather related challenges have caused yields to plummet. Mexico is delayed in starting for most shippers. Market is in Demands exceeds supply mode.

**Broccoli** – Although still extremely limited in Mexico, supplies are slowly improving but still limited out of the Salinas Valley and Santa Maria. Fields have been lost due to quality issues such as pin rot, brown bead and cat eye. Look for this market to continue to adjust going into the week.

## Continued

**Brussels Sprouts** – Supplies and quality continue to stay steady. Look for the market to continue to stay steady going into next weekend.

**Carrots** – Quality is good on all bulk and value-added product. Demand on value-added packs continues to be strong and all packs are on weekly allocations. We strongly advise putting orders in early.

**Cauliflower** – Cauliflower supplies continue to improve slightly. Quality is fair with minor discoloration. Expect supplies to be limited going into next week.

**Celery** – As we get closer to the holiday, this market continues to be active in the marketplace. Large sizing has the best availability. Salinas is just about finished in production, Yuma will start approximately in December. Continue to purchase from southern California where the best offers continue. Good quality continues on this commodity.

**Citrus (Lemons)** – Domestic supplies out of the desert are steady and markets are stable. Imports are winding down for the season, lots of deals out there to move them out. Supplies out of Mexico are steady and we have options to load out of Texas.

**Citrus (Limes)** – Production is expected to decline as supplies begin to wind down. Markets are expected to strengthen in the weeks to come when new production starts, but will start out light on supplies due to lower pack outs. We have availability out of Texas, and also have cross dock options out west and east coast.

**Citrus (Oranges)** - We have plenty of Navels supplies, peaking on 88's and smaller. Markets are stable, but should stabilize in a couple weeks when everyone is in full swing. Current brix levels are 9-12, and quality is looking very clean.

**Cucumbers** – Eastern supply has been supplemented with FL. Both GA and FL cucumbers now available. Quality is good; we expect a fairly steady supply now through early December once demand shifts to Honduran cukes. Baja and Nogales cucumber supplies are strong. Prices are low and quality is good. Expect steady prices for this week.

## Continued

**Eggplant** – Eastcoast production is adequate. FL will start in about a week as GA is still going on beans. In the west, Nogales is ramping up while Coachella has about 2 more weeks left in their season. Expect steady to slightly lower prices for the back of the week.

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

**Grapes (Green)** – Market slightly higher due to weather and seasonal volume decline. Expect adequate supplies thru early December.

**Grapes (Red)** – Market slightly higher due to weather and seasonal volume decline. Expect adequate supplies thru early December.

**Green Onions** – Green Onion supplies are slightly limited. Look for this market and quality to continue to stay steady as we move into next week.

**Kale** – Steady supplies are keeping this market level. Watch this market closely with this past rain storm.

**Lettuce (Iceberg)** – Demand continues to exceed supplies. Salinas production is weak in quality. The best places to purchase is in Yuma and Huron. Santa Maria has moderate to good quality. The weights are averaging 37-42 pounds in Yuma and Huron. Overall quality out of Salinas has been poor and advised to no longer purchase from. This market will continue to be strong throughout the week.

**Lettuce Leaf** – Romaine, as well as green and red leaf and butter continues to be active. Like lettuce, romaine and green leaf value added items are on escalated pricing. Quality defects include discoloration, tip and fringe burn and lightweights which is seen in a lot of the Salinas crop. If loading out of Yuma, expect much better quality. This market looks to be active throughout the week.

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**Lettuce Tender Leaf** – Steady supplies on spinach, arugula and cilantro. Quality is fair with the recent rains. Look for these markets to stay steady going into the weekend.

**Melons (Cantaloupe)** – Cantaloupe supply remains very limited. Very few cantaloupes coming out of Nogales. Desert supplies will wrap up week of Thanksgiving. Quality is good. Mexican markets are tight and most cants are staying south of the border. Mexico will run through first week of December. A limited supply of offshore cantaloupes are available out of Florida this week; size is ranging on Jmbo6s, Jmbo9s, and 9s.

**Melons (Honeydew)** – Ample supplies of honeydews coming out of Nogales; quality is good. Desert supplies are adequate. Domestic fruit will run through week of Thanksgiving; MX will run through first week of December. Offshore honeydews will be available out of Florida in a light way this Thursday. Size is peaking on 4's and 5's.

**Melons (Watermelon)** – Markets steady with good supplies and quality.

**Mushrooms** – Supplies chain issues are causing a Nationwide Shortage of supply that will go into the new year.

**Onions** – Market continues to remain elevated. Upward pressure on mediums pricing due to strength on supers, colossals and jumbos.

**Pears** – Tight supplies on small lower grade pears in all varieties. Market slightly higher.

**Pineapples** – Supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality is good on whole and crownless fruit. Plenty of product on both coasts.

## Continued

**Potatoes** – Thanksgiving pull has started. Cartons are more available, however shippers are promoting less than in previous years. Number 2s are strengthening,

**Squash** – Markets are fairly steady with ample supplies out of Nogales. Promotable volume available. Eastern squash is slightly higher this week as cooler temps have slowed harvest a bit. Overall quality is good.

**Stone Fruit** – Fall fruits are in full production. Kiwi, Pomegranates, and Persimmons in good volume. Still plenty of plums for November and maybe past that. Market steady.

**Tomatoes** – Markets are lower this week on all tomato varieties. Eastern supply has increased out of Ruskin/Palmeto growing region. In the west, CA is done with Oceanside running till the end of the month, We should see more fruit become available in the coming weeks to more of a moderate supply. Historically, Nov. and Dec. supplies out of Mexico are adequate, supplies should improve in early to mid January.

## Weather

**California** – High pressure moves into the area today allowing skies to clear and daytime temps to warm into the mid 60s to mid 70s, while overnight lows linger in the mid 30s to low 50s.

**Mexico** – Slightly below normal high temps will continue through the weekend. Isolated frost possible through Sunday. High temps mostly in the upper 60s to upper 70s through Friday and mid 60s to mid 70s over the weekend.

**Florida** – High pressure centers over the Atlantic, bringing steady east to northeasterly flow over the peninsula with light rain showers and afternoon to evening thunderstorms.

**Arizona** – Strong gusty winds up to 35-40 mph today becoming northerly gusts up to 20-25 mph focused along the Lower Colorado River Valley tomorrow/Friday in the wake of a passing cold system. Weekend looks to be unseasonably warm with temps in the low to upper 80s.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples  
Blueberries  
Raspberries  
Lemons  
Oranges

































## Freight

Trucks remain tight and expensive in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average remained steady and is currently at 3.730 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 higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 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 lower	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 MUSHROOM	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, 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 higher
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is higher		
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		

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