

The Source

December 15, 2021



Market Alerts

Apples – Market still steady. The crop is light on our favored sizes and grades but mediocre demand is keeping the market from taking off. Expect this market to perk up after the first of the year.

Asparagus – Steady on lighter supplies and good quality continue to come out of Mexico and Peru. Larger sizing are very limited. Look for the market to adjust higher next week.

Avocados – Supplies out of Mexico are steady. Markets are strengthening on 60's, 40's and larger are still on the lighter side with firm markets. #2 fruit is only making up a small % of the pack but should improve in the next couple of weeks. Supplies on 48's and 70's look to be in better shape.

Bell Peppers – Nogales supplies remain strong on green bells. FL weather has improved and should help increase volume. Overall quality is good. Colored bells are steady.

Berries (Blackberries) – Mexican crossings are strong keeping the market flat.

Berries (Blueberries) – Mexican and South American production is steady keeping markets low.

Berries (Raspberries) – Good numbers of product are crossing now through the end of December.

Berries (Strawberries) – Multiple rain events in California will disrupt production into late next week. Texas and Florida are still going strong with numbers helping to pick up the slack.

Broccoli – Steady lighter supplies is keeping this market elevated. Market is starting to come off slowly. Look for quality and supplies to improve as we move forward.

Brussels Sprouts – Extreme limited supplies continue this week. Quality is fair as suppliers are battling decay from the recent wet and cold weather. Look for this market to stay high and supplies limited for the next couple of weeks.

Continued

Carrots – Quality and size are good. Bakersfield growing region is now in play and will run through the end of February. Quality and sizing are looking great in the Bakersfield region in all categories.

Cauliflower – Market steady as supplies coming out of Mexico, Santa Maria and Yuma continue to improve. Look for this market to continue to stay steady going into the weekend.

Celery – The holidays are creating demand for this commodity. The large sizing has the best availability but all sizing is available. This market will be stronger this week and likely taper off the week of Christmas. Oxnard/Santa Maria continues to have the sharpest pricing available.

Citrus (Lemons) – Domestic supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality has been clean. Reach out on all opportunities.

Citrus (Limes) – The market has plateaued as demand trends return to stagnancy. Consistent rain forecasted in Veracruz region will keep crossings reserved. Overall volume will decrease towards the end of December as the new production cycle is fully activated.

Citrus (Oranges) - Navels supplies are snug this week due to the rain in the Central Valley. Markets are steady, and demand is backing off with schools going on break. Current brix levels are 9-12, and quality is looking very clean.

Cucumbers – Good supplies on both coasts. Markets remain flat. First Honduran imports will be available in FL over the next week.

Eggplant – Good supplies and quality out of Nogales and FL. Demand remains light to moderate.

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

Grapes (Green) – Domestic grapes are on their last lap. Quality on domestic greens fair to poor. Plenty of imported greens now at about a \$10 premium vs. domestic.

Continued

Grapes (Red) – Quality on domestic reds falling fast. Price up sharply on grapes that will make arrival. Expect California to be done before New Years. Some imported reds have landed. Mostly extra large premium varieties that are looking for big dollars. Smaller less toney reds should start to trickle in next week.

Green Onions – Green Onion supplies continue to be 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) – Steady supplies is expected with this commodity all week with multiple shippers. Demand is off. The overall quality continues to be above average with weights ranging from thirty-seven to forty two pounds. Shippers will be flexing so promote as much as possible.

Lettuce Leaf – This market is firm on romaine as well as romaine hearts. Green and red leaf as well as butter remains steady. Demand is moderate at best. Slight fringe and tip burn is being reported, but minimal. Overall the quality is good. Production is in southern California as well as Yuma on all leaf items.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Quality is battling light mechanical damage from the rain and cooler weather but overall fair to good quality with texture and size within spec. Look for this market to stay steady.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – Cantaloupe supplies continue to arrive into all ports; markets are expected to remain steady. Mexican grown Cantaloupes loading in Nogales, AZ will finish up this week. Cantaloupes are available to load in Pompano, FL. Stocks of Cantaloupes are available to load on the West Coast, out of the Port of Hueneme, as well as Houston, TX. Size manifest on cantaloupes continue to run on the larger side; Jumbo 6s, Jumbo 9's, 9's, less on 12's and 15's.

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Melons (Honeydew) – Very minimal Mexican supplies of Honeydews will remain available in Nogales, AZ through the winter season. Markets remain elevated on smaller sizes due to less availability. Offshore fruit is available to load in Pompano, FL, as well as limited supplies available on the West Coast and Houston, TX. Honeydews are running on the larger side; Jumbo 4's, Jumbo 5's, and 5's.

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

Mushrooms – Supplies are extremely limited.

Onions – Suppliers are holding to averages. Limited supplies of supers and colossals.

Pears – Pretty much the same as the apples. The crop is light on our favored sizes and grade but mediocre demand is keeping the market from taking off. Expect this market to perk up after New Years.

Pineapples – Lower volume on the pineapple front, due to recent rains in Costa Rica. Volumes are expected to increase 2nd week of January. Fruit quality is good right now with no issues forecasted for the near future.

Potatoes – Packing sheds are operating limited hours during the holidays. Call aheads for loading appointments. Market is steady.

Squash – Strong supplies remain on squash. Great quality out of FL or Nogales. Prices will be steady for the balance of the week.

Stone Fruit – Imported stone fruit will start late January.

Continued

Tomatoes – Prices lower again this week. Good weather and moderate demand driving prices down in FL. Western supply is moderate as we wait for Culiacan to fully ramp up. Romas and grapes have started in a light way. Vineripes will be available in January. Overall quality is good.

Weather

California – Though a few showers will linger, all rain should end by this morning. With the clearing skies, this mornings lows will be very cold with upper 20s to low 40s and daytime highs in the 50s. Another system passes by tomorrow bringing a slight chance of light rain before high pressure returns Friday.

Mexico – Relatively steady temps through the weekend but by Sunday the progression of a cold front is being tracked as it heads southward toward the region. Lows mostly in the low 40s to near 50 through the weekend.

Florida – High pressure and easterly flow dominate the weather pattern over the peninsula. Up to a 1/4 inch of rain is forecasted for Lake Oke for Wednesday, with scattered rain showers and isolated thunderstorms. Wind gusts up to 25 mph for today and tomorrow.

Arizona – Chance for rain this morning due to a passing low pressure system that will cool afternoon highs to the mid 50s to low 60s. Widespread moderate to heavy lettuce ice Thursday and Friday morning as morning lows dip into the upper 20s to mid 30s. Warmer temps this Saturday and Sunday - low to upper 60s.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples	Pears
Blackberries	Green Grapes (Past Peak Season)
Raspberries	Red Grapes (Past Peak Season)
Strawberries	Stone Fruits (Past Peak Season)
Lemons	
Oranges	


Freight

Trucks in the Northwest and Idaho remain tight. CA and AZ trucks are steady. The national average dropped slightly and is currently at 3.649 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 steady	 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 steady	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 STONE FRUIT	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady		
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is lower	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		

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