

The Source

December 29, 2021



Market Alerts

Apples – Market starting to slowly go up. 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 continues to be limited. Look for the market to adjust lower going into next week as the Holiday pull starts to come off.

Avocados – Supplies out of Mexico will be light these next two weeks due limited harvest crews for the holidays. 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 – Strong supplies persist. Florida weather is ideal. Northern growing regions in Mexico will be getting a bit of rain this week which may slow production a bit.

Berries (Blackberries) – Fair numbers of product are being sent into the strawberry growing regions in California and Florida.

Berries (Blueberries) – There is a temporary gap between the Central American growing regions. These lighter supplies are also affected by production shortages out of Mexico during the Holidays.

Berries (Raspberries) – Steady supplies are being transferred out West and East from Central Mexico.

Berries (Strawberries) – Multiple rain events are forecasted through this week in the California growing areas. Mexico and Florida are beginning to take up the slack in lost volume. Open market fruit will remain tight particularly in California.

Broccoli – Steady lighter supplies is keeping this market elevated. Although the market is holding steady, the cold weather will slow down growth. Look for this market to catch and start to move back up with the cold weather this week.

Continued

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.

Carrots – Quality and size are good. Bakersfield growing region will run through the end of February. Quality and sizing are looking great in the Bakersfield region in all categories. Snack pack will get tight as demand picks up with schools coming back into play.

Cauliflower – Given the cold weather in the forecast, look for this market to start going up as the growth process will slow. Santa Maria and Yuma are both seeing cold and wet weather this week.

Celery – Cold and wet weather has slowed production with this commodity. Southern California continues to be the main growing area for this commodity. Yuma has light production currently. The quality continues to be above average with large sizing having the best availability.

Citrus (Lemons) – Domestic supplies are steady and markets are stable. Quality has been clean.

Citrus (Limes) – Prices were higher to start off the week as less fruit is coming across thru South Texas due to the holidays.

Citrus (Oranges) - Navels supplies will continue to be tight due to the rain events in the Central Valley. Harvest has been significantly reduced due to the rain and muddy field conditions. Markets are starting to firm up, and demand will pick up to start the new school year. We advise to send orders in advance to help secure orders.

Cucumbers – Strong supplies persist. Honduran imports now available on the eastcoast. Northern growing regions in Mexico will be getting a bit of rain this week which may slow production a bit.

Eggplant – Good supplies in both FL and MX. Rain and cold weather this week will reduce harvest.

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

Continued

Grapes (Green) – We are done with Domestic. It's all about the Imports now. Supplies remain the tightest anyone has ever seen. Shippers are hoping they will get some relief once Chile starts around the middle of January. Quality on the fruit that is landing is very nice.

Grapes (Red) – We are done with Domestic. It's all about the Imports now. Supplies remain the tightest anyone has ever seen. Shippers are hoping they will get some relief once Chile starts around the middle of January. Quality on the fruit that is landing is very nice.

Green Onions – Green Onions supplies continues to get very tight. Cold weather and lack of labor are contributing to the shorter supplies. Look for this market to go higher going into the weekend.

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

Lettuce (Iceberg) – The cold weather and rain has caused the quality of this commodity to be fair. Pinking, discoloration and misshapen heads are common defects being reported. On the value added front, the shelf life has been shorter due to weaker product so plan on ordering close to your sales numbers. There will be plenty of product throughout the week.

Lettuce Leaf – The romaine of all the leaf items has had the most issues on value added product. The common complaints is discoloration, heavy colored green leaves, and pinking. There is less bleached product at this time of the year. Again, order close to the needed quantities, there will be availability throughout the week. Green and red leaf as well as butter will have adequate supplies to fill all orders.

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.

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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.

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 – The extreme supply situation is ongoing but improving. Lack of labor and growing materials are the cause.

Onions – Market remains elevated. Weather related transportation issues has made movements difficult.

Pears – Market still steady. 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 workers taking vacation during the holidays. Volumes are expected to increase 2nd week of January. Fruit quality is good right now with no issues forecasted for the near future.

Continued

Potatoes – Market is weaker on 40, 50 and 6 ounce cartons. Weather related transportation issues has made movements difficult.

Squash – Supplies are fairly steady. Weather in Mexico this week may slow production.

Stone Fruit – Small amounts of imported peaches and apricots now landing on both coasts.

Tomatoes – Overall markets are fairly steady on all varieties. Culiacan region continues to ramp up.

Weather

California – The wet pattern continues through Thursday while temps stay cold with mid 30s to mid 40s for lows and mid 40s to upper 50s for highs. Skies clear late Thursday allowing daytime highs to warm somewhat, but overnight lows will remain cold.

Mexico – Cool and dry mornings will allow for light spotty frost over the surrounding areas of central Mexico. However, most locations should remain free of frost into the end of the workweek. No rain through December 31st.

Florida – High pressure continues over the peninsula, gradually shifting eastward to the western Atlantic for mid-week, allowing for light southerly flow through the week with continued clear to partly cloudy skies. Low pressure remains to the north with a weak frontal system crossing over the panhandle and extreme north Florida, with light isolated rain showers for New Year's Eve Day.

Arizona – Chance for rain Thursday afternoon through Friday with rainfall amounts from 0.50" to 1.00"+. Heavy rainfall and flash flooding will be a concern. Also look for lows to reach the low to mid 30s this week with light to moderate lettuce ice on Wednesday in most Yuma area valleys.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Pears
Apples (Past Peak Season)
Blueberries (Past Peak Season)
Stone Fruits (Past Peak Season)










Freight

Trucks remain extremely tight in the Northwest, Idaho, and CA/AZ. The national average remained steady and is currently at 3.615 per gallon.

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Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 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 higher	 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 steady	 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 higher	 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 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 steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 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 fair, pricing is steady	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		

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