

The Source

December 8, 2021



Market Alerts

Apples – Moderate demand is still keeping this market steady.

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

Avocados – Supplies out of Mexico are steady this week, we don't see any inventory issues. Markets are slightly strengthening on 60's and smaller. 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.

Bell Peppers – Prices are lower this week due to light demand and strong supplies. Florida has good quality with size profile on the larger side. Coachella is winding down their season as Nogales production continues to increase. Peak volume available next week. Red bells are available in a light way; will start to see some field pack colored bell peppers starting next week then slowly ramp up.

Berries (Blackberries) – Good promotable numbers are available primarily from Mexico.

Berries (Blueberries) – Very good quality and quantities coming from South America and Mexico.

Berries (Raspberries) – Good promotable numbers are available primarily from Mexico.

Berries (Strawberries) – There are now loading options in California, Texas and Florida.

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

Brussels Sprouts – Very limited supplies continue this week. Quality is fair as suppliers are battling decay from the recent wet weather. Look for this market to stay high going into the weekend.

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 slightly lower as supplies coming out of Mexico, Santa Maria and Yuma continue to improve. Look for this market to continue to adjust going into the weekend.

Celery – This market is flat. Supplies exceed demand and this will continue throughout the week, minimum. The quality continues to be strong with only light seeder being reported. Yuma will not begin production until the third week in December with most shippers. Offers are plentiful so promote as much as possible.

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 looking good, peaking on 88's and smaller. Demand is strong and markets are steady. Current brix levels are 9-12, and quality is looking very clean.

Cucumbers – Lack of demand and strong supplies out west keeping prices low. Expect the same for the balance of the week. Eastcoast supply remains adequate. Honduran imports will begin in about 2 weeks. Very heavy supplies of HH cucumbers available.

Eggplant – Good supplies and quality demand remains light.

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

Grapes (Green) – Price continues to advance as we near the end of the domestic crop. Imports are already arriving on the east coast.

Grapes (Red) – Supplies in California continue to dwindle at an increasing rate. It still looks like we will have domestics until the imports show up but no-one is expecting domestic supplies in January anymore. Market up about \$2 vs. last week.

Continued

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) – Demand has fallen off and supplies are good with multiple shippers. The overall quality is good with slight misshapen heads and minimal discoloration being reported. Shippers are flexing and this will likely continue throughout the week so promote as much as possible. Most production is currently coming out of the desert, with production in Santa Maria also available if needed.

Lettuce Leaf – Romaine as well as hearts are steady, overall in the marketplace. Green and red leaf as well as butter will have good availability all week. Demand is light and like lettuce, a few shippers are flexing on volume type orders. The quality aside from light fringe burn has been good overall. Expect steady supplies throughout this week in the desert. Southern California will have some production as well if needed to fill trucks.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – Quality is battling light mechanical damage 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. Domestic melon supplies are finished. 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 6 week averages.

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.

Pineapples – Steady volume on the pineapple front, but not a ton available on the open market due to retail contracts pulling heavy for ads this time of the year. Fruit quality is really good right now with no issues forecasted for the near future.

Potatoes – Shippers are limiting the number of days per week they are running. Place orders further in advanced and have trucks call for appointments 24 hours in advanced.

Squash – Heavy supply on both coasts; especially on zucchini. Markets remain depressed. Promotable volume available. Great quality. Expect steady pricing for the remainder of the week.

Stone Fruit – Imported stone fruit will start late January.

Continued

Tomatoes – Supplies remain moderate on both coasts. Light demand keeping prices steady. Overall quality is good. Expect markets to be fairly steady as newer regions slowly pick up over the next several weeks. Better supply in January.

Weather

California – After a dry day today, a low pressure system moves through the area with light to moderate showers. Rain totals are expected to be around a tenth to a quarter inch. A cold mass moves in this weekend with lows in the mid 30s and highs in the mid 50s to mid 60s.

Mexico – Temps should remain steady through Friday and then slightly cooler temps over the weekend as dry northerly winds set up over central Mexico. Dry weather will continue through December 12th but look for temps to produce spotty frost.

Florida – Weak system lingers over central Georgia today with scattered rain showers and light thunderstorms from the panhandle through northern Florida, with high pressure setting in for Thursday, as southerly flow continues over the peninsula. Expect warming temps over the weekend with intermittent rain showers through Sunday morning.

Arizona – Chance for rain tomorrow through Friday due to a low pressure system that will cool temps. Widespread lettuce ice Saturday/Sunday morning with afternoon highs shy of normal.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

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

Freight

Trucks remain tight in the Northwest and Idaho. Trucks are steady in CA and AZ. The national average dropped for the first time in a few months and is currently at 3.674 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 lower	 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 lower	 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 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 fair, 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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