



veg
fresh
— farms —



Food Service Report

July 19th, 2019

Tomatoes

Mexico Extremely light supplies of round tomatoes being produced in Mexico and Baja. Large vine ripe tomatoes are in the mid to high teens. Volume on roma tomatoes are limited as well. The market on best quality roma tomatoes is in the high teens.

California All shippers are in full production on round tomatoes. Markets are in the low to mid-teens for best quality repacks. Roma tomatoes remain limited.

Heirloom Tomatoes Volume out of Mexico remains limited but should improve within the next 7-10 days. Production against California is due to begin the first week of August.

Grape Tomatoes Mainland Mexico is gradually improving grape tomato harvest while Baja continues to generate better quality as they move into new fields. The market is firm with expectation for pricing to begin easing off going into next week.

Outlook Tomato supplies could potentially lighten up in California as growers enter a 10-day period where it's been difficult getting plants in the ground due to excessive rain 3 months ago.

Weather Update

California Cool temperatures along with coastal fog and drizzle are expected going into the weekend. High pressure returns early next week with a gradual warming.

Mexico Scattered showers and thunderstorms continue across Central Mexico with seasonably warm temperatures into next week. Isolated showers look to persist in the northern regions under a building high pressure system.

Florida Light isolated showers will continue across Florida going into next week.

Lettuce

Romaine Lettuce Demand is strong as industry supplies are currently down by twenty percent. Harvest crews are doing their best in putting together quality packs but dealing with various quality issues. Cupping, fringe/wind burn, twist and occasional internal burn are present, which is reducing yields at field level.

Iceberg Lettuce Demand exceeds supply and looks to continue going into next week. Escalated pricing is in effect on all value-added lettuce items. Quality is clean though lightweights are being reported. Growers are harvesting prematurely to meet demand

Red/Green Leaf The market is elevated this week. Supplies are tight due to quality issues generated by previous weather occurrences.



Cucumbers

Eastern Supply while there are multiple regional deals there's not a lot of volume available in the East. Michigan is starting to come on with additional fruit and should see shipments increase as soon as next week. So far quality is average, but no serious issues reported.

Western Supply Production in Baja is finally gaining momentum as all growers are harvesting and weather is getting warmer.

Summer Squash

Eastern Supply Production is spread throughout the East with almost every state viable for agriculture at this time of year. Michigan is currently generating the largest amount of volume. Quality is mixed with multiple growers in different phases of planting and various weather patterns.

Western Supply Baja and several California growing districts are currently in production. Availability is better on Italian squash in comparison to yellow squash due to quality and reduced acreage in the ground.

Avocados

California Good demand and excellent quality this week against California avocados. Volume will start tapering off by the end of this month and finish the season by late August.

Mexico The market on Mexican fruit has dropped significantly with the new "Flor Loca" crop available in the pipeline. Suppliers anticipated increased volume going into the weekend. This new crop fruit will take about 10-12 days to ripen. Early season fruit will remain green externally even when ripe. Good supply of Peruvian, California and Columbian fruit available as well.

Bell Peppers

Eastern Supply Georgia remains a part of the pepper scene, though quality and yields have been affected by the hot weather. This region will likely finish up over the next 7-10 days. North Carolina has started, generating good quality crop so far. Current harvest is peaking on jumbo sizes which will likely continue going into next week.

Western Supply Although green bells are still trickling into Nogales, Western production has shifted to California where the Bakersfield area is flushing. Oxnard and Fresno will follow, and supplies look to remain steady. Quality out of California is excellent with good shape and color.



Citrus

Lemons Domestic supplies will continue to remain tight on 140's and smaller for most of the summer. Inventory on large fruit remains readily available. Market prices on small size fruit continue to stay a strong choice and fancy fruit. Quality on domestic supplies continues to improve. Offshore fruit is increasing weekly on both coasts which will help offset domestic supplies.

Limes There is plenty of volume to push out on all sizes. Suppliers have been receiving inbounds consistently and supplies are expected to remain steady for the remainder of July. Excellent quality reported with opportunities available for export & promotional ads.

Onions

California/New Mexico Yellow and white onion markets remain active with red onions steady to slightly lower. The small gap in New Mexico pushed demand into California putting a strain on overall supply and higher markets for yellow onions. As we head into the second half of July, a shift in demand is heading into New Mexico as supplies will improve in that region and promote better quality and size. California and New Mexico are expected to have supplies well into August. New crop Northwest onions are expected to start harvests early to mid-August which will bring relief to these higher markets.