



September 13, 2023

## TOMATOES

### Beefsteak

#### *Conventional*

**Supplies** - Good supplies out of Mexico and should continue through September and heading into October.

**Pricing** - FOBs are mostly in the \$8.00 range.

**Demand** - Light demand. Local vine-ripe tomatoes have slowed beef movement.

#### *Organic*

**Supplies** - Good supplies are starting up out of Mexico. We should see this continue into October.

**Pricing** - FOBs are mostly in the low teens.

**Demand** - Steady demand. We can offer out ads moving forward.

### Tomato on the Vine

#### *Conventional*

**Supplies** - Mexican production should start to pick up soon. Canadian production will be winding down. California has also slowed in production.

**Pricing** - FOB market is starting to pick up. hearing \$9.00 quotes now with fair availability at this time. Canadian product is \$10.00 - \$11.00 delivered.

**Demand** - Demand is starting to pick up.

#### *Organic*

**Supplies** - Good availability out of Mexico.

**Pricing** - Things could start moving upwards on cost with the conventional market getting better.

**Demand** - Demand has been fair still.



### Organic Roma

**Supplies** - Supplies have been steady out of Mexico.

**Pricing** - Expecting cost to go up. The conventional market is in the \$18.95 - \$20.95 range. If Organics do not match or go a little higher than the conventional market, they will pack as conventional.

**Demand** - Demand has been fair to good.

## Grape

Organic and conventional grape tomatoes have seen a boost in production.

## Heirlooms

### *Conventional*

Harvest is abruptly down due to the most recent rain. Existing summer baja Organic Heirloom harvest remains down. Markets against both have elevated due to less volume. New plantings will not begin until end of September - early October.

### *Organic*

Existing summer Baja Organic heirloom harvest is down. Harvest remains limited until end of September. California harvest is down as well. Markets remain elevated.



## Medley

Medley tomatoes are in good supply/steady and stable markets on both conventional and organic.

## Cherry

Cherry tomatoes remain very tight with only one or two growers in Mexico harvesting right now.

## Organic Sweet King

Organic Sweet King are steady in supplies with Mexico leading charge.

## Organic Purple Crush

Organic Purple Crush is about 2 weeks away!

## Round, Roma and Vine-Ripe

### Southeastern Tomato Supplies

Tennessee, North Carolina and Alabama continue to harvest ample supplies of mature green, vine-ripe and roma tomatoes. Crop continues to run to very big sizes. 6x6 and 6x7 size tomatoes are in the \$20.00s for ready to use best quality. Big sizes in the mid-teens. Roma tomatoes in the high teens.

### California

California tomato shippers are experiencing very mild weather in Gilroy and Hollister. Tomatoes are running mostly 90% extra large sizes. 6x6s and 6x7s are extremely short. Smaller sized tomatoes are running in the high teens and bigger sizes in the low to mid-teens. Barring wet weather, we should have 8 more weeks of great quality coming from California on fresh tomatoes.

## ONIONS

Most of the California growers are winding down on yellow and red onions in the next week. Whites onions are fairly short out of California but more are coming out of the Pacific Northwest. Washington area is going strong on all 3 colors. Market coming up on yellow and reds as California winds down, mostly due to higher freight out of the Pacific Northwest area.

## POTATOES



## Russet

Conventional russet potatoes -

## Red and Gold

currently we have new crop russets and storage crop. The storage crop quality is still good, moving out the remaining of the storage potatoes to make room for new crop. The yields, quality and size profiles are looking very nice on new crop russets. Shaping up to be a good season.

**Organic russet potatoes** - Washington has started and Veg-Fresh is shipping 3# and 5# bags - paper and poly. Organic carton russet volume is picking up.

## Sweet Potatoes

**Organic and conventional sweet potatoes** - currently we have new crop and storage crop in some varieties. The storage crop quality is still good, moving out the remaining of the storage to make room for new crop.

## White

White potatoes are available out of Stockton. Nice quality but with limited volume. Prices are strong.

**Conventional red and gold potatoes** are shipping out of Stockton. Good supplies and nice quality. The Pacific Northwest will be starting in mid-September. With the excellent growing conditions we are anticipating a nice crop.

**Organic red and gold potatoes** - the crop out of Washington is very nice, market and demand are strong. Mid-September we will see the market ease as all growing areas will be shipping.

## Specialty & Fingerlings

**Organic Creamer Potatoes** - we have purple, red and gold creamers available packed 16/1.5lb. Get single varieties or mixed.

**Conventional** Russian banana fingerlings are available. French, ruby crescent and additional varieties are available.

**Organic fingerlings** - Shipping all varieties, Russian Banana, French, Amarosa and Purple 16/1.5# bags or 20# cartons. Want them all mixed together, we can do that too!

# CITRUS

## Grapefruit

### *Organic*

Next available grapefruit will be new crop out of D3. Expected harvest start date by the end of September/early October. Sizes will be on the smaller side 56s/64/48s some 40s.

### *Conventional*

California Marsh ruby is at its peak season. Expect supplies to start winding down by end of September. Peak sizes 40s/48s/36/32s and some 56s.

## Limes

Due to the rain, market got tight since limes couldn't be picked. We should see an improvement within a week or two.

## Valencia Oranges

### *Organic*

Good color and good brix at 12+. Peak sizes at 88s/72s/113s/138s/56s Expecting supplies to take us through the end of September.

### *Conventional*

Supplies available out of the Central Valley and South California. Peak sizes 88s/113s/138s/72s/56s. **113s/138s continue to be in high demand. Supplies are limited on these two sizes.**

## Lemons

### *Conventional*

D2 harvest has finished, expect storage inventories to clean up this week. Chilean lemons are still available and will remain available all through September. D3 lemons are now being harvested. Light volumes this week and will increase through September.

### *Organic*

**Mexico** import supplies are steady. Quality is leaning more towards choice. Larger sizes 115s and 95s are limited. Peak sizes 165s/200s/140s some 115s/95s.

**California** D3 has started harvesting. Early fields show some 95s/115s but for the most part will be limited. Peak sizes 165s/140s - some 95s/115s.

Expect D3 to start shipping early next week as fruit being harvested this week will be gassing.



## BERRIES



### Blueberries

Blueberry market is extremely short at this time due to transition from the Pacific Northwest to offshore product. Peruvian fruit is now arriving here in the West Coast and PNC product is still being packed out of California storage. Pricing will remain high through September. Promotional volume should be available by October.

### Blackberries

The blackberry market is steady due to sufficient supplies out of Central Mexico. FOB should start to drop in 10 days, as Mexican production increases. Quality is good and should remain so until October.

### Strawberries

Demand is light for old crop and good for new crop. It looks like old crop makes up roughly 65% of daily California production. New crop is increasing at an increasing rate. Quality and condition is excellent on new crop. We expect the new crop to increase as the old crop decreases in a bigger way by the end of September/early October.

#### *Santa Maria*

Demand is very light for old crop, good for new crop. **New crop fruit is excellent, with size, shape and overall quality and condition.** We should start to see more significant volume of new crop within a couple of weeks.

#### *Salinas/Watsonville*

Demand is very light for old crop fruit with few/some being sold with price to be established later. Sal/Wat will decline slowly as new crop increases in Santa Maria and Oxnard.

Call your Veg-Fresh representative to talk about pricing and volume commitments.

### Raspberries

Raspberry market continues to be in a demand exceeds position. Quality is good out of both Baja and California. Baja is about to end their deal by the end of this month and Central Mexico has started crossing in small volume however, will increase by the end of September. Market looks to stay in the same position until mid-September. Promotional volume should be available by late September.

## BELL PEPPERS

### Green Bells

#### *Conventional*

Steady volume out of Northern California and still some product coming out of Mexico.

#### *Organic*

Organic Green bells are currently available out of California and Oregon.

### Colored Bells

#### *Conventional*

Open filled red bells are coming out of Northern California but are very short due to weather.

All product out of Mexico is pretty much done, low volume coming out of Canada.

#### *Organic*

Organic Red Bells, Organic Yellow and Organic Orange bell peppers are still gapping.

## ORGANIC APPLES

Lots of new crop apples out of Washington now available. There will be much more volume this year vs last year with better costs and promotional opportunities. Still good supplies on Organic Cripp pinks out of New Zealand.

## ORGANIC MINI SWEET PEPPERS

Organic Mini Sweet Peppers are currently out of Mexico with a short 2-day notice.

## CUCUMBERS

## Organic Hot House

Currently limited out of Baja with quality issues. Started new fields.

## Cucumbers

Steady volume out of Baja.



## CHILIES

Steady volume out of Baja and very little out of Northern California.

## Organic Slicer

Baja Mexico good volume.

## Persian

Supplies are tight on both conventional and organic persian cucumbers. Costs will be elevated for the next couple of weeks.

## BRUSSELS SPROUTS

### *Conventional*

Limited availability out of California. Prices are high.

### *Organic*

Organic Brussels sprouts out of Mexico are now gapping due to weather.

## ORGANIC GREEN BEANS

Limited volume on organic green beans. Seeing quality issues due to weather.

## TROPICALS

## Mango

### *Conventional*

Mangos are winding down out of Mexico in the next week or so. Brazilian fruit mostly staying out East right now. Market is climbing rapidly though. California mangos are starting up but are really large sizes on Keitts and are very expensive.

### *Organic*

The mexican organic mango season will be done next week. Sizes are peaking on 6/7s and larger. No smaller fruit available. We are expecting a gap on Organic mangos until November when Ecuador starts up. The California Keitt season will start up in a few weeks out of the Salton Sea area. Those are very expensive though.

## Pineapples

### *Conventional*

Market is still pretty tight but getting a little better this week. A little more Costa Rican pineapple volume came in last week but volume is still way off normal shipping volumes. Some Mexican fruit starting up, so it should help with the heavy demand.

### *Organic*

Very tight supply still. Prices are in the low 30's. Mexican Organic pineapples volume has picked up a little but not too many suppliers around. Very little product coming out of Costa Rica for the next month or so.

## ORGANIC SNAP PEAS

We are seeing quality issues at the moment on Organic Snap Peas.

## ORGANIC EGGPLANT

California has started with limited volume.

## SQUASH

## Soft Squash

Limited volume on Organic Soft Squash out of Baja and California.

## Hard Squash

Good supplies and great quality on all organic squashes out of California.

### MELONS

Contact us for availability on Organic Mini Watermelons, Organic Cantaloupe and Organic Honeydews.



#### Veg-Fresh Farms

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