



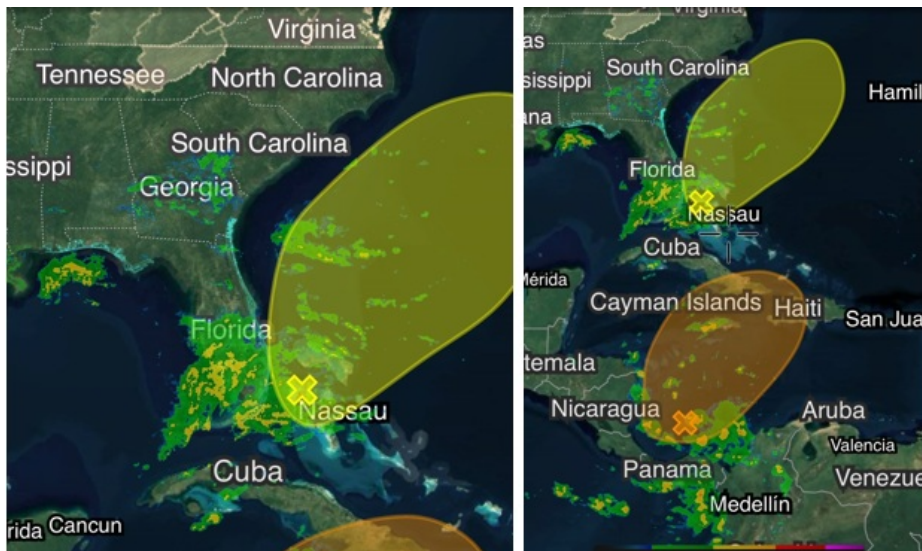
November 15, 2023

WEATHER UPDATE

Weather affecting Tomatoes.

Two significant storms are and will be impacting Florida tomato harvest. Until West Mexico tomato supplies enter the picture in January, Florida is the primary area for national tomato supplies. Baja California was hit with two hurricanes last month and has not had ample supplies due to those two weather events.

Expect tomato supplies to remain short and in the mid to high \$20s going into the holidays.



TOMATOES

Beefsteak

Conventional

Supplies - Same as the TOVs. Cold weather is affecting production as well.

Pricing - FOB costs are up. Mostly in the low to kid teens.

Demand - Demand is picking up. The vine-ripe market is also strong and this is helping the beef market.

Organic

Supplies - Fair supplies. Same as the TOV's. With weather affecting production.

Pricing - FOB's are mostly in the mid-teens with occasional quotes in the higher teens.

Demand - Good demand at this time.

Tomato on the Vine

Conventional

Supplies - Cold weather in Mexico is affecting production and supplies are short. Canadian supplies are also slowing and will be light through November.

Pricing - Market is reacting to short supplies. FOB's are in the \$10.00 - \$12.00 range. There are few shippers trying to quote higher.

Demand - Demand is picking up more due to lack of supplies. Thanksgiving is never really a big tomato holiday.

Organic

Supplies - Good supplies out of Mexico.

Pricing - FOB's are mostly in the \$10.95 - \$12.95 range. It's staying close to the conventional market for now.

Demand - Demand is fair to good. Retail costs are not reflecting the lower cost on Organics.

Organic Roma

Supplies - Still very limited supplies out of Mexico and Baja.

Pricing - FOB costs are now in the mid to high \$20.00s.

Demand - Good demand with limited supplies available at this time.

Grape

Grape tomatoes both organic and conventional are still hitting an all time high as bulk has hit \$50. Markets are extremely short due to the cold snap back East and the multiple hurricanes ripping through Mexico.

Heirlooms

Conventional

Harvest against our California crops remain steady. Cooler nights and shorter days will begin to create less harvest as we get into mid November/December. Crops out of Mexico will not begin until December.

Organic

Harvest out of Baja will be improving going into next week. Central Mexico remains delayed for another 7-10 days. California crops are finished. Forecasting volume to remain limited until late November and into December. Market remains strong.



Medley

Medley tomatoes are also tightening up.

Cherry

Cherry tomatoes remain limited and very high priced.

Organic Sweet King

Organic Sweet King are in GOOD supply right now with good volume.

Organic Purple Crush

Organic Purple Crush tomato is available.

Round, Roma and Vine-Ripe

Florida

Barely starting into the winter crop.

Outlook

Still limited supplies on vine-ripe, rounds and roma's out of Mexico and Baja. Vine-ripe FOB costs are in the high teens with limited supplies.

Expect things to continue this way through November and we could see higher cost in December.

ONIONS

Prices are inching up as the Pacific Northwest freight prices are increasing due to demand for Christmas trees and also Thanksgiving onion demand is picking up. Yellow pricing is rising the fastest. Reds up slightly as well.

POTATOES

Russet Potatoes

Conventional - Plenty of russet potatoes available. Promote with confidence!

Organic - Veg-Fresh is shipping 3# and 5# bags, paper and poly. Organic carton russets - we are seeing nice quality on all sizes.

Sweet Potatoes

Organic and conventional sweet potatoes - shipping all varieties of sweet potatoes, conventional and organic.

White

White potatoes are available. Supplies are good out of the Pacific Northwest and Bakersfield.

Red and Gold

Conventional - Plenty of volume available, market should be stable through December.

Organic - We have very nice quality and are shipping potatoes in paper or poly bags!

Fingerlings

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

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

Organic Creamer

We have purple, red and gold creamers available - packed in 16/1.5lb bags. Get single varieties or mixed.

CITRUS

Grapefruit

Organic

D3 continues to be available. Fruit is firm with good inner red color. Peak sizes 56/64/48/40. Limited on 36/32.

Mexico imports are now available in good supplies. Peak sizes 56/64/48/40 starting to see more 36/32s become available.

Conventional

D3 continues to be limited. Expect availability to slightly increase every week. Peak sizes 40s/48s/56s limited on 36/32.

Mexico grapefruit started last week with good supplies, quality is good with dark red inner color peak sizes 40s/56s/64s and some 36s/32s.

Navel Oranges

Conventional

D1 new crop...gassing fruit for 72 hours. Peak sizes 88/72/113 limited on 56/48.

Organic

California D1 are now available in limited supplies and will become more available this week. Peak sizes 88s/113s/72s limited on 56s/48s. As anticipated, fruit quality is moving towards choice grade.

Lemons

Conventional

D3 harvest is at its peak. Quality is excellent with peak sizes 140/165/200 and some 115/95. Mexico imports continue to be light. Quality mainly choice and fancy being limited. Current peak size 140/165/200 few 115/95s. Expect Mexico to start decreasing its imports in the next couple of weeks.

Organic

Mexico import supplies continue to be light & steady. Quality is more towards choice. Peak sizes 165s/200s/140s some 115s/95s.

California D3 is good strong with good quality. Grade is leaning towards fancy. Peak sizes 165s/140s/200s - starting to see a bit more 115s.

Limes

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

Sweet Limes

D3 crop is now available. Peak sizes large limited limited on jumbo, Quality good silver color with very high juice content.

BERRIES



Blueberries

Blueberry market has found its level and should continue for the next 2 to 4 weeks. Peruvian and Mexican are the majority of product on the market. Chile has begun with their production and we are starting to see imports from that area as well as Argentina. Pricing should remain steady for the next 10 days and now is a great time to promote.

Blackberries

Blackberry market is beginning to ease up as production has increased out of Central Mexico. FOBs are still high, however, as more product is crossing we see the price beginning to drop. Quality is most excellent to good. Seeing some occasional issues with certain varieties.

Strawberries

Rain in a light way so far is spreading up and down the state. Friday will be a bigger event but still looks lighter than originally forecasted.

Depending on rain totals, **Salinas/Watsonville** could see potential end to their season. Volume will continue to decline regardless.

Santa Maria and Oxnard should be steady with good volume. Demand is good with higher FOB pricing. Expect that to continue. The rain does not look significant enough to really have much of an effect on production. If anything, it could keep us out of the fields for a day.

Santa Maria

Demand is good. Wide range in the plant life cycles. Late plantings are loaded up. Early plantings are steady. Fruit quality and condition have been good. Wide variation.

Central Mexico has started in a small way, but most are reporting there will not be significant volume until December. Central Mexico has seen rain and that continues this week.

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

Raspberries

Raspberry market is steady with good quality out of Central Mexico. Volume is sufficient for promotions.

BELL PEPPERS

Green Bells

Conventional

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

Organic

Organic Green bell peppers are currently gapping. Mexico will start in mid November.

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 colored bells have quality issues until the start of new fields in Mexico. Mexico fields should start mid December.

ORGANIC APPLES

Steady volume on Organic Apples out of the Northwest.

ORGANIC MINI SWEET PEPPERS

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

CUCUMBERS

Organic Hot House

Currently out of Baja.

Cucumbers

Steady volume out of Baja.



CHILIES

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

Organic Slicer

Hermosillo, Mexico has now started with good volume.

Persian

Still have good supplies on both organic and conventional persian cucumbers with excellent quality. Costs are still friendly and it's a good item to push for Thanksgiving.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS

Conventional

Conventional brussel sprouts available out of California with average volume.

Organic

Organic Brussels sprouts out of Mexico are currently limited. California has started with limited volume.

ORGANIC GREEN BEANS

Organic Green Beans available out of California and Mexico right now. California will be ending this week. Mexico will be delayed. VERY LIMITED. Looking at 2-3 weeks for starting.

TROPICALS

Mango

Conventional

Supplies on Mangos out West are improving and pricing is coming off a bit. Also, some Ataulfos are available. Prices are in the mid to high teens.

Organic

No Organic mangos available anywhere. Hopefully we will see some fruit in the month of December.

Pineapples

Conventional

Market is climbing as we approach Thanksgiving and pulls. Supplies from Ecuador are helping fill some of the demand but generally the market is pretty short overall.

Organic

Supplies out of Mexico are short and Costa Rica has improved some but no volume for spot business. Pricing still high for this time typically.

ORGANIC EGGPLANT

Hermosillo, Mexico has now started.

SQUASH

Soft Squash

Hermosillo, Mexico has started with good volume.

Hard Squash

Organic hard squash out of Mexico has started and there is still plenty of California grown squash. Great item to push for the cool weather holidays!



Veg-Fresh Farms

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