



## Weekly update for May 22, 2024

# TOMATOES

### Grape Tomatoes

Grape tomatoes both organic as well as conventional are very much in good supply right now.

### Organic Sweet King Tomatoes

Organic vine-ripe and hot house tomatoes are in the same boat with pricing soaring into the 30+ range.

### Round, Roma and Vine-Ripe Tomatoes

#### Florida

Spring tomato volume has yet to reach its peak and yields continue to be 40% off of normal. Markets are maintaining \$25.00-\$26.00 on round tomatoes and \$16.95-\$18.95 on roma tomatoes.

Summer tomato crops in South Carolina and Georgia set to begin harvest in early June. Tennessee, Arkansas, Virginia and Alabama in July.

#### Mexico

Round tomatoes will continue with light volume for another 4 to 6 weeks.

The markets on vine ripe tomatoes continue in the mid to high \$20.00's.

Roma tomato harvest ended early in Sinaloa and Culiacan due to governmental agencies discontinuing of water supplies.

New roma harvest areas in Sonora and Hermosillo have not been able to offset the discontinued roma harvest in Sinaloa and Culiacan.

Continuing to see demand exceeding available supplies day to day. Markets elevated in the \$18.95 to \$21.00 range.

#### Baja, California

This area has begun to harvest very light volume of roma and round tomatoes.

Market on roma tomatoes \$18.95 FOB

Large vine ripe tomatoes \$24.00-\$26.95

#### Indio, California

Indio will begin tomato harvest next week with Central California kicking off the summer tomato harvest in mid-June.

## ONIONS

The Imperial Valley onion deal will go for another 3 weeks or more. The central California onion crop started up some with some early red onions. Markets on reds remains tight and very high as all the storage crop red from the PNW is done. The white onion market came way down on price with a lot more volume in now from Mexico. A few more reds now available out of Mexico as well. Quality is decent; skins still flaky.

## AVOCADO

With Cinco de Mayo behind us, the demand in the USA is starting to ease. We anticipate higher levels of fruit to come off the trees in California and markets to slip, then stabilize later this month. Quality is great on product and will remain so moving forward.

## LETTUCE

### Iceberg

Pricing still remains high. Small to medium heads are being packed due to cooler weather and lettuce not growing as quickly in the fields. Quality overall is good. Warmer weather will help get more product out of the fields and help lower pricing.

### Green

#### Leaf

Overall quality is looking nice. Market is still slightly up.

### Romaine

Product overall is looking good. Pricing has elevated due to less product and higher demand.

### Cabbage

Green and napa cabbage is available. Red is as well, but higher pricing will be found.

## POTATOES

### Chipper Potatoes

Veg-Fresh is shipping chipper potatoes daily! Call your sales representative for pricing and information.

### Russet Potatoes

**Conventional** - Russet potatoes are steady, we will be shipping through the summer. Demand is moderate.

**Organic** - Organic russet storage crop will be shipping into the summer. Market will strengthen moving towards June. Veg-Fresh is shipping 3# and 5# bags, paper and poly. Organic carton russets too!

### Sweet Potatoes

### Red and Gold Potatoes

**Conventional** - California has started on colored potatoes. Quality is good! Potatoes are locally grown in Kern County. Red and yellow are available in cartons and bags.

**Organic** - Veg-Fresh offers these organic potatoes packed in paper or poly bags! We are shipping new crop organic colored potatoes out of California. Quality is good!

### Fingerling Potatoes

**Conventional** - Russian banana fingerlings are available, along with French and additional varieties.

**Organic** - Russian Banana and mixed varieties, 20# or 50# cartons.

### **Organic and conventional sweet**

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

### **White Potatoes**

White potatoes are available out of Kern county, quality is very nice! Available in cartons or bags.

### **Organic Creamer Potatoes**

Red and gold creamers available, 50# cartons or packed in 16/1.5lb bags. Get single varieties or mixed.

## **CITRUS**

### **Grapefruit**

#### *Conventional*

D2 stars are in good steady supply. Peak sizes 36s/32s/40s/48s/56s/27s.

### **Valencia**

#### *Conventional*

Good supplies for both D1 and D2. D1 peak sizes are 72s/56s/48s/88s and limited on 113s/138s. D2 peak sizes are 113s/138s/88s/72s and limited on 56s and larger.

### **Lemons**

#### *Conventional*

D2 is peaking on 115s/95s/140s/165s and some 200s.

### **Limes**

The market is getting better and steady day by day due to improved weather.

## **BERRIES**

### **Blueberries**

Blueberries are steady and have good volume out of Central Mexico. Florida, Georgia and North Carolina are all in full production. California volume is much higher than expected daily. Market continues to be extremely sluggish as imports and domestic volumes are at record levels. Quality is good to excellent from all districts. Market will remain on the lower side until end of May on both coasts. Excellent time to promote all pack sizes.

### **Strawberries**

Overall strawberry quality is excellent out of all areas and volume will continue to increase throughout May. Demand varies by district due to overall production, quality and condition. Santa Maria is in peak production for the next 2-3 weeks.

**Santa Maria:** Supply exceeds demand. We will see peak production for the next 2-3 weeks. Size is XL and brix on these strawberries are amazing. Quality has improved dramatically with current favorable weather. Monterey variety currently in production.

**Watsonville/Salinas:** Supply exceeds demand. Production is ramping up quickly in this area due to optimum growing conditions and excellent plant health. We will see peak production in the next 2-3 weeks. Size is XL and brix on these strawberries are amazing. Monterey variety currently in production.

## **VEGGIES**

### **Green Bell Peppers**

### ***Conventional***

Steady volume from Nogales, AZ. Coachella, CA will be starting soon.

## **Colored Bell Peppers**

### ***Conventional***

Steady volume on all colored bell peppers.

## **Chilie Peppers**

Right now we can expect high prices and short supplies for the next 4-6 weeks until Baja and Northern California starts. Sinaloa, Mexico is finishing up and we are currently gapping.

## **Brussels Sprouts**

### ***Conventional***

Conventional brussel sprouts available out of California and Mexico.

## **Cucumbers**

Steady volume out of Nogales, AZ for another 4 weeks. Then we will see Baja starting in the middle of June; we will have a small gapping window.



## **Veg-Fresh Farms**

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