

{{ time_now|date:"January 2, 2006" }}



TOMATOES

Tennessee/South Carolina: Tomato supplies in the south east are scheduled to ramp up this week although there is 5 straight days of rain on the horizon that could interrupt normal harvesting at the end of this week.

Mexico: fair to good volume of vine ripe and roma tomatoes are crossing from Mexico into the USA in Nogales and San Diego.

California: All tomato shippers are in production with excellent quality and volume. Great time to promote.



Organic Heirlooms: Harvest remains steady out of Mexico and Baja. Forecasting harvest to remain steady for balance of June and into July. California crops will begin early-July.

Heirlooms: Harvest is improving out of Mexico. Crops out of Canada remain steady. Markets are stronger against origin of Canada. New crop out of California will begin mid-July.



TOV's: Lighter supplies available as we head into the 4th of July weekend. Mexico has been hampered by weather. Cloudy/rainy days in many of the growing areas has slowed production. Canadian production is steady. FOB quotes of Mexico is \$7.00-\$8.00. Canada quotes are up, mostly \$10.00-\$12.00 delivered. Fair to good.

Organic TOVs: Good supplies out of Mexico, Baja, and Canada. FOB cost is mostly in the \$14.95 range on Mexican product. Canada \$16.00-\$17.00 delivered. Movement has been fair to steady for demand.

Beefsteak: Lighter supplies out of Canada. We will see Mexican production starting up a bit next week. Quotes in the low – mid teens out of Canada. Mexico FOB quotes mostly in the \$10.00 - \$11.00 range. Demand picked up for the 4th of July holiday.

Organic Beefsteak: Still waiting for new production out of Mexico to start up. Light supplies starting the week of July 15th. Quotes in the high teens on smaller sized product. Good demand, but nothing available.

Organic Roma: Fair to good supplies out of Mexico. Rainy/Cloudy weather has slowed production. FOB cost mostly in the high teens. Good demand.

Snacking tomato

- grape tomatoes supply is easing off a little but the markets still remain elevated and high priced
- organic grape tomatoes are the same but prices a bit higher
- medley tomatoes are still supply exceeds demand

Purple Crush: now available again! Reach out to your sales rep for more info. Currently hitting good volume and peaking in supply.

CUCUMBERS

Persian: Heavy volume continues on conventional and organic mini cucumbers. Volume will be heavy through July out of Mexico. Costs are low and great quality! Excellent time to promote!

English: All English cucumbers are short and costs are high. Production in Mexico has also slowed down due to rain and cloudy conditions. Canada is gapping. Market will be short for several weeks.

Organic Slicer: good volume out of all locations. Steady price.

Slicer: Market has eased up and prices have adjusted back to more normal levels. Baja growers began harvesting this week, which has increased overall availability.



SQUASH

Organic Hard Squash: Acorn and Spaghetti are starting up out of California next week. Costs are very high. Butternut will start about a week or so later out of California.

Organic Soft Squash: California is in full swing this week with good supply. Steady pricing.

Italian Squash: Santa Maria, Selma and Baja are in full production, while Nogales continues to wind down. Availability remains plentiful. Great time to promote.

Yellow Squash: Prices have come down from elevated levels seen in previous weeks. Santa Maria and Selma are now in full production, providing improved availability and helping to stabilize the market.

FRUIT

Organic Apples: limited supplies on storage apples out of the Northwest. Imported apples coming in from New Zealand. Costs are high on all apples.

Organic Melons: We are getting ready to kick off our melon season in Brentwood, CA. Organic cantaloupes and honeydews should have good volume next week with light supply on organic mini watermelons and full size seedless bins. Volume will be heavy on all items for the week of 7/13.

Mango: supplies are decreasing from Michoacan area. Demand is very good and prices are steady this week. Kents will start up next week and fruit will be large to start out.

Organic Mango: the Mexican Organic mango market and demand is decent. Nayarit is starting overall volumes are down 20-40% versus the typical years. Kents will start next week and the peak sizes will be 6ct and 7ct, very few smaller ones.

Pineapple: The pineapple market is steady as we start getting into the natural floration period. Supplies will get very limited near the end of July. Transportation is higher which is keeping the prices higher. Very limited Mexican fruit crossing due to the lower prices in the US and high freight cost.

Strawberries

- Santa Maria - Recent updates indicate new crop fruit for the late summer/fall plantings are expected to yield in as little as 2 to 3 more weeks.
- Salinas/Watsonville - Cooler days and nights are in this week's forecast. This is allowing the plants to recover and let the fruit firm up, but it is keeping production levels low. Most shippers are reporting that they are currently harvesting to their numbers and sold out moving into the weekend. Holiday demand will taper off as of

today. Some open market fruit may become more available as we move into the weekend.

Blueberries: Central Mexico is finished. The Pacific Northwest has begun with light production. Weather is causing some harvest disruptions due to recent rain. This area is expected to increase slowly week over week. Michigan has started already. They are battling with high heat advisories in the growing regions. Some growers are reporting very light initial offerings.

Blackberries: Central Mexico production is lower. California production is coming on very slowly due to cool weather. The Pacific Northwest will start in mid to late July. Markets are elevated due to the current light supplies. Pricing is \$30.00+ range for the (12/6 oz) Demand exceeds supply.

Raspberries: Markets firming as Mexican supply is declining faster than expected while California production slowly ramps up over the next few weeks. Baja production will begin to increase in July. Pricing is \$28.00-\$34.00 (12/6oz). Demand exceeds supply.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: good volume quantity with steady prices

Green & Black Kale: steady price

Onion Leeks: A few higher prices but overall market is steady.

Italian & Curly Parsley: steady volume and price on both Italian and Curly.

Broccoli Crowns: higher pricing out West with most shippers seeing lighter numbers the past 7 days.

Jicama: Good supply

Brussels: slightly higher with shippers slowly starting to firm their prices up

Organic Brussels: Mexicali – limited volume. Guaymas brussels sprouts ranch is burning out early this year. Continued high heat and lack of winter has caused increased quality issues with aphids and whitefly. Grower had transition back to Mexicali for next week and then transition to new fields in Rayon.

Green & Red Cabbage: steady price on the green and red is slightly higher still.

Corn: Higher prices with 4th of July around the corner; should see more corn opening up

Onions: The market is higher on all onions as the July 4th holiday is approaching. CA White onions are in just a few grower's hands and they are very expensive right now. Few Mexican Whites crossing. Yellow onions have moved up in price as well. Stockton is going now but the volume is limited this week.

Organic Onions: Market has been fairly steady. Production has been out of El Centro, Texas, and now new crop out of Central California. Quality has been hit or miss depending on the region, which is common this time of year.

Organic Eggplant: Product will finish up in a week or two out of Mexico.

Eggplant: Coachella and Thermal continue with light volume. The market remains extremely limited on #1s. Availability remains day to day as supplies stay tight.

as we get into post 4th numbers.

POTATOES

Russet: Russet cartons continue to rise on price this week as the pack outs are not great in the storage sheds. 5 and 10# Russet Bags remain the same. New crop starting.

Red & Gold: New crop CA and Florida, Reds, Yellow and White potatoes now available. The Yukon pricing has moved up as most PNW growers are done and there are only CA potatoes now. California crop will go for another 2 months. Quality is very good. Red A's and B's moved up in price this past week. Size C's are very short

White: White potatoes size C's are very short. Very good quality. Demand and pricing stayed the same.

Chipping: Veg Fresh is shipping chipper potatoes daily! We have a 10/5# "Fresh Fries" Chipper bag available.

Organic Potatoes: Production out of the Desert and central California continues. More volume on gold potatoes than red potatoes this year.

Sweet Potatoes: Supply continues to dwindle due to the end of the year. Quality has remained fair, although pricing will continue to creep up till new crop starts at the end of July.

CITRUS

Lemon: Conventional is primarily out of D2 now. The fruit looks to be heavier to choice grade and peaking on medium to small sizing. Market is very tight. Chilean fruit arriving late this week.

Organic Lemon: Organic supplies remain very limited, anticipate demand exceeded supply for most of summer. Mexican crop starts mid-August following by California D3 in September.

Grapefruit: Packing conventional Star Rubys. Blush and interior color are excellent. Have good volume all sizes and peaking on fancy grade.

Organic Grapefruit: Organic volume is steady, and quality is good, but exterior blush is light this time of year. Supplies will tighten up around the end of July.

Navels: Conventional navels shipping late varieties. Crop expected to run through July.

Limes: Larger fruit limes 175s beginning to be more ready available. However, 150s and 110s remain limited and at the higher end of the price range. Still we are seeing some price spread between smaller sizes 200s, 230s, 250s and the larger fruit. Lime growing regions in Mexico still experiencing rainfall. Rain should benefit fruit sizing and production hopefully helping the current weather of high temperatures and humidity contributing to reduced pack out yield on US #1 grade fruit.

Smaller sizes are experiencing the greatest pricing pressure and larger fruit continues to command higher pricing.

Valencia: Conventional Valencia's demand has picked up as navels quality (dryness) deteriorates.

Organic Valencia: Organic fruit shipping steady volume on all sizes and can pack 4# and 3# bags.

Organic Navels: We are done for the season with organic crop and are now packing Valencias.

BELL PEPPERS



Organic Green: still limited volume and high prices out of California



Organic HH Color: Good volume for a couple more weeks out of Central Mexico. Pricing is coming down.



Bell Peppers: California has very good quality and good supply on reds and yellows. Green is limited with higher prices.

HH Bells: Mexico and Canada are seeing lower pricing with higher volume.

Organic Mini Sweet Peppers: Baja Mexico and Fresno California started with limited volume. Expecting volume to increase as weather improves allowing mini sweet peppers to mature and color up after 4th of July holidays.

CHILI PEPPERS

Current growing regions:

- Chihuahua, Mexico
- Baja, Mexico
- Coachella, USA

Stable supply on most chili peppers.

Jalapeño - Good Supply
Serrano - Good Supply
Anaheim - good Supply
Caribe - Good Supply
Red Fresno - Domestic Crop Begins
Habanero - Limited Supply
Pasilla - Good Supply
Thai Chili - Good Supply
Shishito - Limited Supply
Tomatillo - Good Supply



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