

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



MARKET REPORT

TOMATOES

Tennessee: this tomato growing area is just beginning to get dry weather after 6-7 straight days of rain. Markets in the mid to high teens for best quality.

California: warm weather is bringing on significant volume of both roma and round tomatoes. Markets are in the mid-teens for the best quality.

Outlook:

The month of August is a great month to run tomato promotions week after week!

Organic Heirlooms: Harvest remains steady out of Mexico and California. Forecasting harvest to remain steady through mid-August.

Heirlooms: Harvest against new crop "California grown" continue to improve. Forecasting harvest to remain steady through all of August. Harvest out of Mexico is slightly down.



TOV's: Lighter to fair supplies out of Canada and Mexico. FOB cost mostly in the \$9 - \$10 range. Light to fair demand is keeping costs down for now.

Organic TOVs: Fair to good supplies out of Mexico. We should see better supplies next week. FOB cost is mostly in the \$12.95 - \$14.95 range. Like the conventional demand, light demand is holding cost at current levels.

Beefsteak: Fair to good supplies out of Mexico. Supplies are starting to pick-up out of Mexico. FOB quotes are \$10.00 - \$12.00. Light demand out West. Hearing demand back East is picking up.

Organic Beefsteak: new production is starting up. We will have product arriving over the weekend. Hearing quotes in the low to mid - twenties. We'll see how demand is once we start up.

Organic Roma: Fair to good supplies out of Mexico. FOB cost is mostly in the low twenties. Overall demand is fair to good.

Snacking tomato

- Grape tomatoes still very short in supply and gapping on both the East Coast and Mexico
- Organic grape tomatoes are even shorter than conventional
- Medley tomatoes are relatively steady, not much change
- Cherry tomatoes decent supply

Purple Crush: Now available again! Reach out to your sales rep for more info.

CUCUMBERS

Persian: steady volume continues out of Mexico and Canada on both conventional and organic. Costs are up a bit, but still friendly.

English: better production out of Mexico and Canada. Costs have come down a bit and quality is nice.

Organic Slicer: limited volume out of Mexico. California should start in 30 - 40 days. Price is high.

Slicer: Market remains steady with consistent production. Supplies on plain cucumbers are limited. Growers are seeing higher percentage of # 1 grade cucumbers resulting in fewer #2s. Quality remains excellent.



SQUASH

Organic Hard Squash: Organic acorn, spaghetti, kabocha and delicata now available out of California. Costs will be high for the next few weeks. Acorn is limited.

Organic Soft Squash: California has good supply on zucchini and steady volume on yellow squash. Steady pricing.

Italian Squash: Italian squash market has tightened slightly as growers transition into new fields. Expect supplies to improve as we head into next week.

Yellow Squash: Yellow squash market has tightened slightly as growers transition into new fields. Expect supplies to improve as we head into next week.

FRUIT

Organic Apples: new crop domestic Gala's have started. Imported apples coming in from New Zealand and South America.

Organic Melons: Great quality and supply on all California grown melons. Shipping from Brentwood and Lodi, CA.

Mango: Mangos are in good supply and prices have come down mostly due to lower demand. Ataulfos are available as well. The Mexican mango season will end earlier than in typical years - about 3 to 4 weeks left.

Organic Mango: The Mexican Organic mango market remains the same and the demand is decent due to lower volumes and higher prices. Kents are coming in now. Great eating quality. Overall volumes are down 20-40% versus the typical years. Quality is good. Mexico season should go for 3+ weeks.

Pineapple: The pineapple market is all over the place. Lots of varying quality around right now. Supplies will get tighter August through September. Low volumes on Mexican fruit crossing due to the lower yields at the farms and the market here. Depending how much rain they get this week, many growers could be ending sooner than expected.

Strawberries

- Santa Maria - there has been some light new crop production in this area over the last 2 weeks. More shippers will come online in this area as we move into August.
- Salinas/Watsonville - markets have stabilized in this area after several ranches were pulled from fresh market production and sent to processors. This has put less pressure on the shippers to offer aggressive pricing to keep proper rotation. Quality issues are still being reported that are resulting in softer fruit with limited shelf life. We are expecting more warm weather this week with overnight lows above 55 degrees.

Blueberries: product is coming from the Pacific Northwest: Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. Michigan is also up and running after a slow start to the season due to weather in early July. Shipping points include California, the Pacific Northwest on the West Coast and Michigan, New Jersey and Florida on the East Coast. Peruvian imports will begin arriving in mid-September.

Blackberries: there is new additional volume coming from Central Mexico, Baja and Oregon.

Raspberries: Volumes are increasing for most suppliers coming primarily out of the Baja area. Central Mexico has been contributing as well. Markets are trending lower with the new influx of Baja fruit. Pricing is in the \$14.50 to \$18.50 range with some volume deals being made at lower price levels.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: is somewhat active; will be on watch list for the local region, warmer temps bolting easily and possible low shelf life need to move fast

Green & Black Kale: easy/steady price.

Onion Leeks: Steady supplies and pricing.

Onions: Demand overall is decent. Yellow onions are still high priced. The skins are not setting completely so a lot of bald yellow onions in the bags. New crop high desert California white onions have started. Good quality. Price remains high. Overall pricing is higher than historical pricing. Red onion pricing has come quite a bit.

Italian & Curly Parsley: steady on Italian; a bit of pressure on the curly less resistant to high temperatures

Broccoli Crowns: steady with good numbers available

Jicama: Good supply.

Brussels: Mostly steady/ easy prices here.

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 on both with good supplies of green especially; red is a little higher

Corn: Steady with some better supplies on white. Bi color and yellow remain limited.

Organic Onions: California crop continues, quality has been grower specific. The Northwest is expected to start back up in late July early August. Pricing has been fairly stable and constant for this time of year.

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

Eggplant: Market has eased slightly as supplies continue to improve. We expect market to remain steady.

POTATOES

Russet: Russet cartons again continue to rise on price this week as the pack outs are bad in the storage sheds. 5# and 10# Russet Bags have also moved up in price this past week. New crop are starting up in late August out of Idaho and Washington.

Red & Gold: CA and Texas Reds, yellow and white potatoes have all moved up in price this week. California crop is winding down. Red As and Bs moved up again in price this past week. Red size Cs are extremely short. Texas potatoes have decent quality but are expensive.

White: White potatoes size Cs are extremely short. Pricing moved up a lot higher on both size As and Cs.

Chipping: We have new crop CA Chippers now and the quality is good. Prices are quite a bit higher. We have our 10/5# Fresh Fries” Chipper bag available.

Organic Potatoes: Supply continues to be out of California with quality being good. However, sizing on russets has been very small this season. New crop is expected to start this week into next out of NorCal/Oregon.

Sweet Potatoes: Supply has become limited on both organic and conventional sweet potatoes. Quality remains fair to good. Pricing is elevated on all varieties. New crop is expected in 2-4 weeks depending on the grower and variety. Once new crop is out of the grower there will be flash deals on growers looking to move the last of their old crop.

CITRUS

Lemon: Conventional is available both in domestic and Chilean. Fancy 95s are tight, steady supplies on 115s thru 200s on Chilean. Good supplies on all sizes on choice domestic.

Organic Lemon: Organic supplies remain extremely limited. We have started our fresh Mexico crop. We have 95's through 200's peaking on 140/165's. Argentina is also available.

Grapefruit: Packing conventional Star Rubys. Blush and interior color are excellent. For 40s and smaller: both grades are very limited due to bag programs. Will stay that way until Ruby Reds start in mid-August.

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

Navels: Conventional domestic navels are done for the season.

Organic Navels: Organic crop is done for the season and now packing valencias.

Limes: Lime supply is expected to trend lower compared with the month of July. Pricing could start to stabilize and firm up as growers start to clean up older crop and inventory that has been exposed to weather issues. Mexico production will begin to transition into new crop. Larger fruit limes, 150s and 175s beginning to be more ready available. Still we are seeing some price spread between smaller sizes 200s and 230s and the larger fruit.

Weather of high temperatures and humidity continues. There was a significant amount of rain in the Veracruz. Overall quality is expected to have limited shelf life. Jalisco growing area will be starting sooner with new crop helping the over all quality.

Valencia: Conventional valencia demand is strong on 88s and smaller. Best pricing & promo opportunities are on 72s and larger.

Organic Valencia: Organic fruit shipping steady volume, but demand has increased and tightened up supplies. Please prebook.

BELL PEPPERS



Organic Green: Steady volume with pricing going up out of California.



Organic HH Color: Steady volume out of Mexico and Canada. Price is steady.



Bell Peppers: California has steady volume on green, red and yellow bells. Green price is dropping with red climbing.

HH Bells: good volume out of Mexico and Canada. Price is steady from both regions.

Organic Mini Sweet Peppers: Baja Mexico and Fresno California expecting volume availability to increase as weather improves allowing mini sweet peppers to mature and color up. Expecting prices to continue to ease down.

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 - Limited Supply
Habanero - Good Supply
Pasilla - Good Supply
Thai Chili - Good Supply
Shishito - Good Supply
Tomatillo - Good Supply



Veg-Fresh Farms

1400 West Rincon Street, Corona, CA 92878

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