

{{ 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. Harvest is down out of Mexico. Steady against California grown.

Heirlooms: Harvest against new crop "California grown" is good. Forecasting harvest to remain steady through all of August and into September. Harvest out of Mexico is down.



TOV's: fair to good supplies out of Canada and Mexico. FOB cost is higher, mostly in the \$10.00 - \$12.00 range. Better demand. Eastern Canada production is down.

Organic TOVs: better supplies out of Mexico. New crop production starting up. FOB cost mostly \$12.95 - \$14.95. Deals on volume. Demand is steady to good.

Beefsteak: Fair to good supplies out of Mexico. Lighter supplies out of Canada. FOB quotes are mostly in the \$12.95 - \$14.95 range. Better demand. Vine Ripes are tightening up and Canadian production is down.

Organic Beefsteak: new Mexican production has started. Supplies should increase in a week or so. FOB quotes are in the \$22.00 to \$24.00 range. Good demand on light production.

Organic Roma: 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: production has slowed a bit in Mexico but increased from Canada. Overall volume is good. Costs are stable and quality is good.

English: good volume out of Mexico but still slow in Canada. Costs are stable.

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

Slicer: supplies are beginning to tighten as extreme heat has pushed fields out earlier than expected. A few growers have also experienced crop damage due to the high temperatures, resulting in a projected 7-10 day production gap.



SQUASH

Organic Hard Squash: Organic acorn, spaghetti, kabocha, butternut and delicata now available out of California. Costs are still high and will be elevated for a couple more weeks. Acorn is very 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 winding down out of Mexico. The season should last another 3 weeks and then California Keitt mangos will start up out of the desert.

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

- new crop fruit has just begun for most shippers in this area producing small initial yields
- Overall production should steadily increase over the next few weeks as more growers come online

Salinas/Watsonville

- growers are seeing much lighter yields after sending large amounts of fruit to processors last week
- we are seeing a drop in sizing to the 22 to 26 count per clamshell range with some lots even higher at 28 which is further reducing yields
- cooler weather has served to slow down the ripening process
- open market availability is expected to be very limited as shippers focus on contracts and previous commitments
- quality has been just fair in some standard varieties while some newer varieties are showing problems adjusting from the July heat

Blueberries: there is still good volume coming from Oregon, Washington and Michigan. Peruvian imports are beginning to arrive in the USA. Quality has been very good out of all areas. We will see domestic fruit begin to taper off in 2 to 3 more weeks for the school business.

Blackberries: we are seeing a steady supply of fruit coming from California and Central Mexico. Oregon fruit is beginning to ramp up.

Raspberries: Volumes are increasing. Additional fruit is becoming available from Baja and Central Mexico.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: a few higher prices around on cilantro

Green & Black Kale: kale is steady, however, keep an eye on quality this week

Onions: Yellow onions have remained steady. Quality is good. Demand is decent. New crop onions just starting up in the Pacific Northwest growing regions. We have new crop California whites with good quality.

Onion Leeks: steady supplies and pricing.

Italian & Curly Parsley: steady prices with more flat than curly available

Broccoli Crowns: higher here with some lighter supplies in Salinas and Santa Maria this week

Jicama: Good supply.

Brussels: good numbers here with steady prices

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

Corn: easier on white corn; bi and yellow are more limited out of California

Prices on the whites have moved up again. Red onion pricing has come quite a bit. Deals available on reds as the Pacific Northwest is going now.

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 remain tight and high priced as the pack outs are low in the storage sheds. 5 and 10lb russet bags have also moved up in price this past week again. New crop potatoes are starting up in late August out of Idaho and Washington. Historic water shortages are going to tighten things up for 26/27. Prices will be a lot higher than this year.

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

White: White potatoes size Cs are extremely short. Not many available at all.

Chipping: are extremely short! Prices again moving higher. New crop starts in a month.

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. Chilean fruit good supplies on fancy 115s through 200s. Domestic fruit good supplies on all choice sizes, fancy grade limited.

Organic Lemon: Organic domestic supplies remain extremely limited. We have started our fresh Mexico crop so we can cover all bag orders. Large bulk fancy is very limited.

Grapefruit: Packing conventional Star Rubys for a few more weeks. Blush and interior color are excellent. Small fruit is limited. Fresh crop Ruby Red start end of month or early September.

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. We do have the Chilean fruit 56s through 113s.

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

Limes: prices could start to firm up with lower volume as the current production cycle nears its end. The next crop cycle is expected to be smaller volume. 150s through 250s are ready and available. 110s remain limited. High temperatures and humidity continues. There was a significant amount of rain in the Veracruz region. Overall quality is expected to remain to have limited shelf life. Jalisco growing area will be starting sooner with new crop helping the overall quality.

Valencia: Conventional valencia good supplies on all sizes. With back to school demand 113/138 pricing will start to climb.

Organic Valencia: Organic fruit we have good supplies and quality is good. Excessive heat may shorten the season.



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 good volume on green, red and yellow bells. Green price is dropping with red steady.

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. Expecting prices to continue to ease to the downside.

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



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