

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



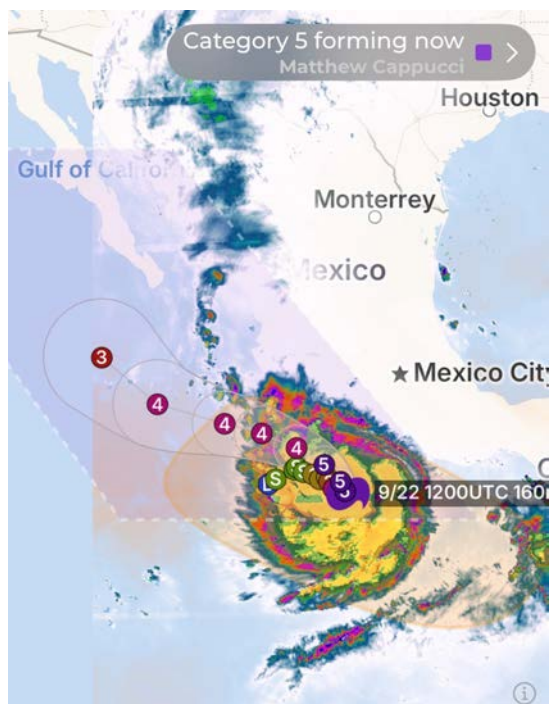
MARKET REPORT

TOMATOES

Tennessee: this area will be beginning a seasonal decline in harvest over the next 2 to 3 weeks as Eastern receivers look forward to the North Florida tomato season beginning in October.

California: weather permitting - California will continue harvesting tomatoes into early November.

Outlook: Hurricane Polo is churning just below Baja California at 150 MPH. It could dissipate before land or bring wind and rain into the Baja Peninsula and the coast of Mexico which are both key tomato growing regions. October, November and December is the time frame where weather has everything to do with fresh tomato supply outlook.



Heirloom Tomatoes

- **Organic Heirlooms:** Harvest out of Mexico remains mostly crop transition gap. Very limited pallet volume. Markets continue very strong. California crops mostly non-existent due to extreme heat. Limited harvest against California crops is marginal due to extreme heat.
- **Heirlooms:** Harvest against "California grown" remains on crop gap. Extreme heat has created a 3 week gap. Origin of Mexico new crops remain on crop transition gap until approximately week of October 12th.



TOV's: good supplies coming out of Mexico. FOB pricing is lower. Mostly in the \$8.00 - \$9.00 range. Demand has slowed quite a bit causing the drop in pricing.

Organic TOVs: we are seeing improved supplies out of Mexico. FOB cost is mostly in the \$12.95 range. Demand has been steady.

Beefsteak: good supplies out of Mexico. FOB quotes are lower this week, mostly in the \$10.00 - \$11.00 range. Light to fair demand on beefs and vine ripers.

Organic Beefsteak: good supplies continue out of Mexico. FOB market is holding in the \$14.95 - \$16.95 range. Demand has been light.

Organic Roma: light supplies out of Mexico. Baja is still 10 days away. FOB cost is up. Mostly in the high \$20s to low \$30s. Good demand on fair supplies.

Snacking tomato

- grape tomatoes have become very short both on the organic and the conventional side
- organic medley tomatoes are short but good supply on conventional

Purple Crush: will start soon. Reach out to your sales rep for more info.

CUCUMBERS

Persian: cucumbers remain short and very expensive. Canada is very short and pulling a lot of product out of Mexico. Volume will be light for several more weeks.

English: light supplies on both conventional and organic euro cucumbers. Costs continue to rise. Volume will be light through October.

Organic Slicer: steady volume out of Mexico. Price is steady.

Slicer: cucumbers out of Baja have become more plentiful. Increased availability has helped bring the market back to normal levels. Jalisco is also starting up on Super Selects, with product beginning to cross through Nogales.

SQUASH

Organic Hard Squash: good volume and quality on all organic squash out of Central California.

Organic Soft Squash: California has steady supply for a couple more weeks on zucchini and yellow squash. Starting to see product coming out of Mexico. Pricing in the high twenties.

Italian Squash: Italian squash has become extremely limited across all sizes in both Santa Maria and Fresno. Weather has impacted field production, with the season starting off hot, followed by rain and now cooler temperatures. Rain is anticipated again, which could further affect availability. The market is expected to remain elevated for the next couple of weeks.

Yellow Squash: good quality yellow squash remains extremely limited out of Santa Maria and Fresno, keeping the market elevated. Supplies expected to remain tight for the next couple of weeks.

FRUIT

Organic Apples: good supplies of organic apples coming from the Northwest. Nice quality fruit.

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

Mango: Brazilian tommy mangos are available now through week 42 or 43. Mostly size 10/12ct available. Ecuador will start up in November.

Organic Mango: We have Organic California Keitt mangos for another 3 weeks or so out of the desert. All large sizes 6-12 ct. Prices are higher but the eating quality is excellent! Ecuador crop will start in November the crop looks to be down this year.

Pineapple: Mexican pineapple supplies are staying down south. Costa Rica pineapples are very short and prices are high in the mid \$20s. Volumes will stay low through October this year.

Strawberries

Salinas/Watsonville

- many growers are transitioning out of these areas over the next several days as we reach the tail end of the season. The shippers that remain are hoping to reach as far into October as they can. Mixed berry transfers from Mexico will begin sending more fruit into the new crop Santa Maria and Oxnard locations for distribution. Labor may become a concern for some ranches as growers begin to focus more resources on field preparations for next year's crop.

Santa Maria

- this area is beginning to ramp up. Growing conditions have been ideal with moderate daytime temperatures followed by cooler overnight highs. Quality has been very good.

Central Mexico/Baja

- production has begun in both regions. Full production is not expected until the end of September. Product is coming in through McAllen, Texas and Otay Mesa, California.

Oxnard

- volumes are expected to increase gradually week over week as we move into October adding more product to the supply chain. Ideal conditions in this area are producing nice quality

Blueberries: Central Mexico and Peruvian imports are now the main source of product. We are loading in California, New Jersey, Texas and Florida.

Blackberries: supplies remain limited and are expected to stay tight until October, when Mexican production begins to increase. The current supply gap is easing up.

Raspberries: supplies are adequate. Mexican production is expected to increase steadily week over week as we move into October.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: steady price on cilantro

Onions: prices remain high due to very high freight rates out of Idaho and Washington.

Green & Black Kale: green kale is steady

Onion Leeks: higher prices with shortages out of Mexico these past 2 weeks.

Italian & Curly Parsley: still seeing higher prices on both

Broccoli Crowns: higher and active in several areas right now including California and Texas. Have heard of some limited supplies out East as well.

Jicama: Good supply.

Brussels: steady at the elevated levels here, some shippers in better shape than others.

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.

White onions are still very tight and higher priced as many loads are being exported to Mexico. Freight won't be going lower any time soon, so expect high prices all season.

Green & Red Cabbage: higher on both green and red with green cabbage being especially short right now out West.

Corn: higher and limited on all three out of California.

Eggplant: California production has become more plentiful, improving overall availability. Market has come down and pricing has softened.

POTATOES

Russet: potatoes remain very high. The 5 lb and 10 lb russet bags have stayed the same for this week. Historic water shortages in growing areas are going to keep things like this for 2026/2027. All large-size russet cartons potatoes are high priced. Catons 80s-100s are lower.

Red & Gold: CA and Texas Reds, yellow potatoes have come down slightly lower as new crop Idaho/WA starts up. Red size C's are still short.

White: all white potatoes are extremely short - especially A's and C's.

Chipping: new crop Washington and Idaho is going now so quality is improving.

CITRUS

Lemon: domestic availability is increasing with fresh district 3 harvest underway. Peaking on fancy 140s.

Organic Lemon: we are packing fresh Mexico crop lemons in our bags along with domestic fancy in bulk cartons. Quality is excellent on both.

Grapefruit: good availability on 36s and larger. Small fruit limited.

Organic Grapefruit: next week harvest will increase and supply will get better

Navels: fresh California navels should start shipping the week of October 5th. Sugar is there, just need more color. May have to push out a week.

Valencia: good volume on 88's and larger. Packing out heavier to choice grade.

Organic Valencia: Organic fruit we will have good supplies through September. Smaller fruit tight and mid sizes are firming up.

Limes: pricing is rising very quickly for this week and into next. Mexican supply is expected to remain below the July production peak. The past two months limes have experienced significant quality issues. The amount of fruit available in the fields has not represented the amount of US quality specification; these conditions have required heavier grading. Limes remain in transition period between the old and new crop.

Old crop availability will be increasingly limited, while newer production becomes a larger part of the available supply. New crops 230s/200s/175s quality and shelf life are better than the old crop 150s/110s, although quality and shelf life remain a concern. 150s through 250s are readily available while 110s remain limited. Weather will continue to be the variable risk through September and early October. The persistent rainfall has already accelerated fruit growth in some growing areas, rainfall and high humidity in Veracruz will continue to increase the risk of oil spotting, style-end issues, light color, discoloration and breakdown has reduced shelf life.

BELL PEPPERS



Organic Green: steady volume for the next month out of California. Steady pricing.

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



Bell Peppers: California has good volume on green, red and yellow bells. Green price is starting to go up on the larger sizes.

HH Bells: good volume out of Mexico. Price is steady.



Organic Mini Sweet Peppers: Baja Mexico supplies limited and Oxnard, California started with limited supplies

CHILI PEPPERS

Current growing regions:

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

Moderate supply on all chili peppers.

Jalapeño - Good Supply
Serrano - light Supply
Anaheim - moderate Supply
Caribe - Good Supply
Red Fresno - Good Supply
Habanero - Good Supply
Pasilla - light Supply
Thai Chili - light Supply
Shishito - light Supply
Tomatillo - light Supply



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