

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



MARKET REPORT

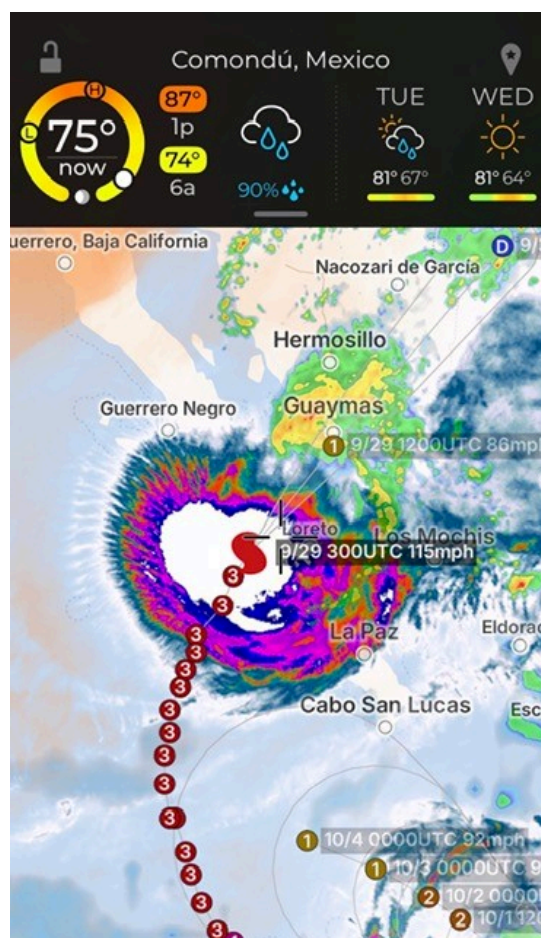
TOMATOES

Tennessee: this major tomato growing area is coming to a close. Along with that, it is continuing to rain which has affected yield, quality and pricing. No relief until Central Florida comes online in mid November.

California: tomato crop has another 4 to 5 weeks to completion, barring any unforeseen weather. Mid summer heat has taken a toll on the plants and yields are off substantially with crops winding down back East and the hurricane in Baja, California there is great demand for whatever tomatoes are left to be harvested in Central California.

Mexico: Hurricane Polo just cut a swath through Baja California. Growers are currently assessing to what extent damage was incurred by the wind and rain on their shade-house operations.

Outlook: anticipate both round and roma tomato markets to remain elevated throughtout October and November. Early indications are Sinaloa and Culiacan will be a later start than normal due to heavy rainfall continuing throughout the planting cycle they are in currently.



Heirloom Tomatoes

- **Organic Heirlooms:** Harvest out of Mexico remains limited. Very limited harvest out of California crops due to extreme heat. Markets remain strong.
- **Heirlooms:** Harvest against "California grown" remains on crop gap until the week of October 12th. Extreme heat created a 3-week gap. Origin of Mexico new crops remain on crop transition gap until approximately end of October.



TOV's: good supplies coming out of Mexico and Canada. FOB pricing is mostly in the \$8.00 range. Hearing some higher quotes. Demand has picked up a little due to higher cost on Roma tomatoes.

Organic TOVs: good supplies out of Mexico and should continue all of October. FOB cost ranging from \$12.95 to \$14.95. Demand has been steady.

Beefsteak: good supplies out of Mexico. FOB quotes are lower this week, mostly in the \$10.00 - \$11.00 range. Fair demand. Movement has been light.

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

Organic Roma: very short supplies on organic roma tomatoes. Not sure when things will improve. FOB cost is \$32.95 to \$34.95 and will probably be higher next week. Demand exceeds supplies.

Snacking tomato

- grape tomatoes are short and will be considered AOG soon. Hurricane Polo has caused a massive gap in supplies out of Baja and pricing has elevated.

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

CUCUMBERS

Persian: cucumbers are still short with light volume out of Mexico. Quality is only fair and costs remain high. Volume should improve in mid-October.

English: very light supplies out of Mexico and costs are high. Only a small amount coming from Canada and the sizing is small.

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

SQUASH

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

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

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 volume and quality on organic apples coming from Northwest.

Organic Melons: we are in full production on organic cantaloupes, organic honeydews and organic mini watermelons out of Brentwood, California.

Mango: all Brazilian tommy mangos are very tight right now. Ecuador will start up in November.

Organic Mango: We have Organic California Keitt mangos for another week or so. All large sizes 6-12 ct. We will gap after the California season ends for about a month. Ecuador crop will start up in November, the crop looks to be down this year.

Pineapple: more Costa Rican fruit available this week out West. Not a lot of Mexican pineapples available overall. The heavy rains and hurricane could put a damper on the entire season out of Mexico.

Strawberries

Salinas/Watsonville

- the remaining shippers in the region are expected to conclude their seasons within the next two weeks.
- most mixed berry transfers from Mexico are being directed into the new-crop regions of Santa Maria and Oxnard for distribution.
- several shippers are diverting late-season fruit to processorts, where pricing has reached record highs.

Santa Maria

- production has ramped up significantly over the past two weeks, supported by ideal growing conditions.
- full mixed berry availability is expected next week as shippers continue transitioning operations from Northern California due to region.

Central Mexico/Baja

- production has started in both regions and is expected to continue building through October. Peak production is anticipated in late October.
- fruit is currently entering the USA through McAllen, Texas and Otay Mesa, California.

Oxnard

- volumes are expected to increase steadily throughout October, adding additional supply to the market. Favorable weather conditions are supporting strong quality and good production yields.

Blueberries: Central Mexico and Peruvian imports are now the main source of supply. Product is currently being loaded in California, New Jersey, Texas and Florida. Organic blueberry supplies remain extremely limited with demand continuing to exceed available supply.

Blackberries: supplies remain limited but are showing gradual improvement. Supplies are expected to remain tight until mid-October, when increased Mexican production begins to reach the market. The current supply gap is easing slightly across most shipper programs.

Raspberries: supplies are currently adequate to meet demand. Mexican production is expected to increase steadily week over week as the industry moves further into October. Availability is expected to improve as additional volume enters the market.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: price is active

Green & Black Kale: green kale is steady

Onion Leeks: higher prices still out of Mexico

Italian & Curly Parsley: higher prices on both

Broccoli Crowns: higher price here with not a lot of load volume open in California. Better numbers available in Texas coming out of Mexico.

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.

Onions: red and yellow onion prices have come down slightly this week. White onions still remain very tight and high priced as many loads are being exported to Mexico. Freight rates won't be going down any time soon, so look for higher prices all season long.

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

Corn: higher and limited on all three out of California. Fall desert corn should get going soon in October.

POTATOES

Russet: large sized carton russet potatoes remain very high. The 5 and 10# russet bags moved up slightly on price this week. Historic water shortages in the growing areas are going to keep things for 2026/2027. Russet 100s are cheaper.

Red & Gold: red C's and yellow C's are still very short. Demand is good.

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 75s through 115s.

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

Grapefruit: good availability on all sizes and grades. Heavier to fancy grade and mid to large sizes.

Organic Grapefruit: packing fresh district 3 Star Rubies late this week.

Navels: we plan on harvesting late next week and to start shipping week of October 12th. Sugar is good just need more color break. Call for lid pricing.

Organic Navels: target to start shipping third week of October.

Valencia: good volume on 88's and larger, will continue to ship into October.

Organic Valencia: we will continue to have fruit into mid-October, possibly later. Smaller fruit tight, mid sizes firming up.

Limes: market should stay the same for this week. Growers have now transitioned to 100% new crop production. The good news we do not anticipate any significant quality concerns over the next several months as the new crop continue to develop. Supply remains very limited and currently unable to keep pace with the demand. New crop harvesting 250s, 230s, 200s and 175s sizing. Weather will continue to be the variable risk if rainfall and high humidity in Veracruz should continue and increase the possibility of oil spotting, stylar -end issues, light color, discoloration, and breakdown will continue to be a concern.

BELL PEPPERS



Organic Green: limited volume for the two weeks out of Central California. Coachella will start in 2-3 weeks.



Organic HH Color: Steady volume out of Mexico. Price is starting to go up.



Bell Peppers: California has steady volume on green bells. Good volume on red and yellow bells. Green price is starting to go up on all sizes.

HH Bells: good volume out of Mexico. Price is starting to go up.

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

Jalapeño - Good Supply
Serrano - light Supply
Anaheim - moderate Supply
Caribe - Good Supply
Red Fresno - Good Supply

Moderate supply on all chili peppers.

Habanero - Good Supply

Pasilla - light Supply

Thai Chili - light Supply

Shishito - light Supply

Tomatillo - light Supply



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