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



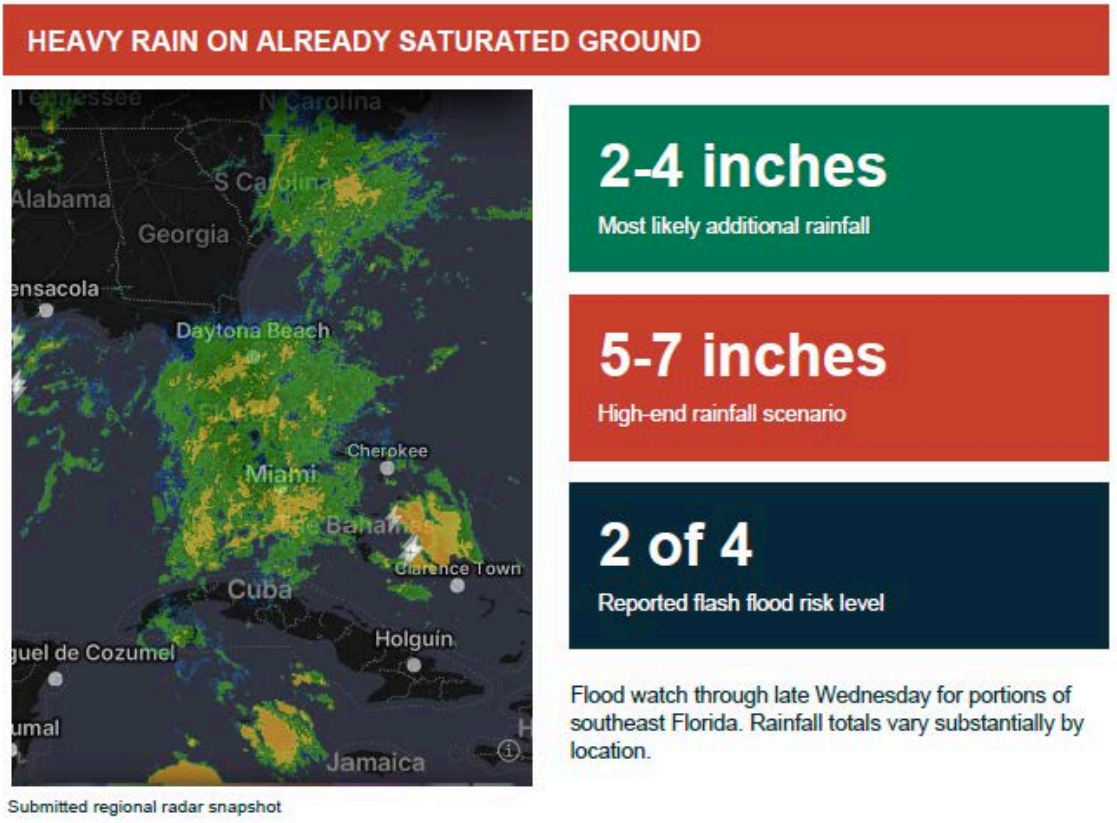
TOMATOES

FLORIDA: A critical national supply region
South Florida is the primary domestic fresh-market tomato supply region at this point in the season, serving both foodservice and retail. With limited alternative supply, repeated storms can severely constrain the volume of usable product entering distribution networks.

Repeated rainfall threatens field access, crop health and marketable yields across Immokalee, Naples and Ruskin. Regional radar shows widespread rain; specific rainfall totals and crop losses for each growing district have not been established.

Market Implications
Expect constrained availability, elevated pricing pressure, variable sizing and quality, and potential order shortfalls across foodservice and retail. Previous market estimates indicate a 65-75% reduction in normal Florida volume; additional storm losses remain undetermined.

Tomato supplies are expected to remain severely impacted throughout December, until Mexico enters its main production period in January.



Submitted regional radar snapshot

Heirlooms

- **Organic Heirlooms:** Harvest out of Mexico continues limited due to ongoing weather patterns and cooler temperatures in growing region. Markets remain strong. Forecasting crop to remain limited through Thanksgiving week.
- **Heirlooms:** steady harvest against “California grown” fall plantings. Origin of Mexico new crops remain delayed due to cooler temperatures in growing region. Markets remain strong.

Snacking Tomatoes

- **Grape** tomatoes have shot right back up to little to no supply due to weather! Market is currently 70 to 80 on bulk.
- **Cherry** tomatoes are currently gapping for 2 to 3 more weeks.
- Organic **Medley** tomatoes are also gapping for 2 to 3 more weeks.
- Conventional **Medley** tomatoes are the only snacking tomato that is in good supply right now.



TOV's: fair to good supplies out of Mexico. FOB cost is $16.00 - $18.00. We could see lower costs after Thanksgiving for a few weeks. We are expecting higher costs in a couple of

weeks. Holiday demand and lighter production is forecasted. Demand has been very good. We should see lighter demand on most items after Thanksgiving.

Organic TOVs: good supplies on organic TOVs out of Mexico. FOB cost mostly in the high teens. Demand is good this week but we'll see how things continue into next week.

Beefsteak: fair to good supplies. Cloudy weather in Mexico is slowing production down. FOB cost is in the mid to high twenties. We could see pricing increase due to lack of vine ripe tomatoes. Demand has been steady.

Organic Beefsteak: fair to good supplies continue out of Mexico. Same as conventional beefsteaks. Cloudy skies could slow production. FOB quotes are in the high twenties to low thirties. Fair to good demand.

Organic Roma: light supplies continue out of Baja and Mexico. We are still not anticipating improvement any time soon. FOB costs is mostly in the $50.95 to $54.95 range. We've heard there are lower quotes but haven't seen it. Good movement due to short supplies.

CUCUMBERS



Persian: steady volume on persian cucumbers out of Mexico and Canada. Costs are stable. Better volume on conventional, but organic supplies are also improving.

English: plenty of volume on both conventional and organic English cucumbers. Costs are low and it's a great time to promote.

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

Slicer: cucumbers are steady out of Nogales, with quality improving and darker color being reported. Baja is wrapping up its season with production expected to finish by next week.

SQUASH

Organic Hard Squash: most shippers are done with organic squash out of California. There is still quite a bit of organic butternut and a little bit of spaghetti. Everything else is coming out of Mexico. Mexico varieties include organic butternut, acorn, spaghetti, kabocha and delicata.

Organic Soft Squash: Mexico has good quality squash. Pricing is steady on zucchini and yellow is slowly coming down.

Italian & Yellow Squash: plenty of volume out of Nogales. Good time to promote

FRUIT

Organic Apples: steady volume on organic apples coming from Northwest. Costs are stable and quality is good.

Mango: supplies are picking up but they are still expensive. Mostly larger sizes available as the Kents typically run larger.

Organic Mango: Peruvian Kent organic mangos are now available. Mostly 7/9ct and some 10s. Prices are high and the demand is decent.

Pineapple: demand is just fair. Good supplies on Costa Rican size 6/7ct. Market is down some this week. Some Mexican pineapples being offered at lower prices FOB McAllen.

Strawberries

- California production volumes remain below normal across all growing regions as fields continue to recover from recent rain events.
- Oxnard is producing primarily smaller-sized fruit, further limiting harvest volumes following significant field stripping over the past several weeks.
- Fill rates are expected to remain challenged, and order cuts will likely continue through the end of the week.
- To maximize transportation efficiency and offset lost truck space, suppliers are encouraged to pre-arrange fill-in items with other row crop commodities.
- Florida is expected to begin shipping meaningful production volumes during the final week of November.
- Market prices remain elevated at **$38.00-$42.00**, with supplies extremely tight as shippers prioritize contract obligations and existing commitments.

Blueberries

- Product remains available from Central Mexico, Peru, and Argentina, with loading points in New Jersey, Florida, Texas, and California.
- Supplies from Peru are tightening as the region moves beyond its peak production period.
- Argentina continues to face weather-related challenges that are impacting both harvest volumes and quality.
- Mexican production remains light but steady, with shipments loading primarily through Texas.
- Markets remain firm, with some growers anticipating a short production gap over the next two weeks

Blackberries

- Central Mexico production continues crossing steadily for loading in both Texas and California.
- Baja volumes are also moving consistently through San Diego.

Raspberries

- Central Mexico production continues crossing steadily for loading in both Texas and California.
- Baja volumes remain steady through San Diego loading points.

VEGGIES

Cilantro: steady supplies with availability in the desert and on the coast

Green & Black Kale: steady prices and supplies on kale this week

Onion Leeks: steady pricing

Italian & Curly Parsley: steady supplies on curly parsley. Italian parsley is higher.

Broccoli Crowns: steady/easier with most shippers into good availability

Brussels: steady/slightly easier with most shippers back into some supply

Green & Red Cabbage: green cabbage remains active and red is steady

Corn: higher with some shippers coming to an end in Coachella this week. Supplies have been hit or miss lately.

Organic Eggplant: Mexico has started with limited supply.

Eggplant: we are seeing more shippers starting up on eggplant out of Nogales. Supply is expected to increase as we move into November.

POTATOES & ONIONS

Russet: all carton russets are short and very expensive. Large sized 40-70s are jumping up in price as the Thanksgiving pulls start up. The 5 lb and 10 lb russet bags moved up again this week. Demand on all potatoes will pick up for the holidays and as the temps cool off.

Red & Gold: good supplies on red and yellow potatoes. Good quality and supplies on size A's and B's out of the Northwest. Size C's remain in short supplies and are higher priced.

White: size C's are very short. Good quality available on Bs and As though.

Chipping: new crop Washington and Idaho are available every day.

Onions: good supplies and quality on all red and yellow onions. Demand is up but the market has stayed the same. Limited supplies on good quality white onions out of California, Nevada and the Pacific Northwest. Freight rates are higher as we approach the holidays and Christmas tree season.

CITRUS

Lemon: good availability on all sizes and grades in D1 and D3. Market is soft, we can work with you on pricing.

Organic Lemon: we will continue to have Mexico fruit until Jan /Feb 2027 to pack in bags. Good to push, we also have fresh D3 and D1 fruit for cartones (95s - 140s) and packing in Brawley, California and Kingsburg, California.

Grapefruit: stars are done and starting grapefruit rubies. Good volume on 32's and smaller.

Organic Grapefruit: packing fresh district 3 Star Rubies weekly. Fruit peaking on 32s and smaller

Navels: excellent volume on 88s through 138s on both grades. We have great promotion opportunities.

Organic Navels: steady volume peaking on 88/72/113s.

Limes: peaking on 150 ct. Heavy rain is forecasted in Martinez de la Torre, Veracruz, starting mid-day today and continuing into tomorrow. That will slow harvesting and packing, so total volume will stay tight. The new crop is not projected to begin harvesting until mid-December. While the continued rainfall is benefiting fruit development, much of the fruit remains too small to harvest. We anticipate limited availability until the new crop begins entering the market.



BELL PEPPERS

Organic Green: gapping. Coachella is producing mostly small sizing and choice. Mexico should start in 1-2 weeks.

Organic HH Color: limited volume this week from Mexico with pricing going up.

Bell Peppers: Coachella has limited volume on green bells. No volume on reds; extremely high prices. Very limited on yellow bells until Coachella starts in a week or two.

HH Bells: very limited volume out of Mexico. Price is going up quickly.

Mini Sweet Peppers: mini sweet peppers are still very short and expensive; but there is a little more volume available. Supplies should increase in December and costs should drop.

CHILI PEPPERS

Current growing regions:

- Chihuahua, Mexico
- Baja, Mexico
- Sonora, Mexico

Extremely limited supply on all chili peppers. Mixed markets due to quality and size.

Jalapeño - limited supply
Serrano - extremely limited supply
Anaheim - good supply
Caribe - extremely limited supply
Red Fresno - gapping until December
Habanero - limited supply
Pasilla - extremely limited supply
Thai Chili - extremely limited supply
Shishito - extremely limited supply
Tomatillo husk & peeled - extremely limited supply
Jicama - limited supply



Veg-Fresh Farms
1400 West Rincon Street, Corona, CA 92878

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