

Weather Report:



A strong high-pressure ridge forms out west with above-average temperatures throughout the entire region with inland valleys reaching triple-digit temperatures into the weekend.

This fairly brief heat wave will begin a slow cooling trend late this weekend into next week.

Central Mexico will continue with scattered showers and thunderstorms each day becoming more isolated into next week. Areas to the north will be under the high-pressure ridge with warm temperatures this week moderating to seasonal norms into next week. A tropical system possibly forming off the Central American coast looks to drift out to sea away for mainland Mexico. Florida will see a typical isolated to scattered showers and thunderstorms into mid next week.

Apples:



Washington late C.A. storage Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, Pink Lady's, Gala's and Fuji's will be slowly winding down over the next two months. Pack outs are to WAXF #1's and Premiums. Sizing overall are peaking on 88/100/113/125. Red

Delicious has gone from an enormous crop to a "demand exceeds supply" situation. This has been brought on by a smaller storage crop from the last few years and high export demand that started about a month and a half ago. Domestic demand has lightened slightly due to school being out for summer. Look for supplies of reds to get very limited as we get into late August. Just in time for schools to start back up. Golden Delicious have good supplies and demand. Pricing will be steady at higher levels. Granny Smiths are in a "supply exceeds demand" situation keeping this market low. This is a drastic change from last year's record high pricing. Galas and Fujis are in good shape with moderate demand and steady market. Quality has been very good with very few reports of issue.

Avocado:



California:

California production good and steady this month with a peak toward the end of June for the 4th of July celebrations. Expecting good production into August. Export demand remains strong. Currently peaking on 48s & 60s. Strong demand on 48s and 60s keeping supplies tight.

Mexican:

Mexico's harvest volumes are rapidly declining and they near the seasonal end of their normal crop. We are still waiting for the Flor Loca crop the gain maturity. This summer crop is difficult to predict, but light volumes are expected. Demand remains good, and we are still seeing tighter supply situation on 48s and very limited supplies on 60s and 70s# one fruit. To add to this, we have rains this week in the growing area, and very little fruit is being harvested. This will bring a very short supply situation beginning this weekend and through next week.

Pears/Pineapples:



Pears:

Washington pear supplies are in only a few hands & are all being repacked due to quality. Sizing is 70/80/90's with only handfuls of smaller sizes. Demand on pears is good. There are few Packham and Bosc which are mostly in the 100 and larger. Expect small pears to be much tighter than they have been. The only relief is California Bartlett pears, but it's too early to tell the sizing.

Pineapples:

Pineapple volume coming from the tropics remains good, but we are soon to see a small seasonal decline during the summer. This is planned production drop as summer time a period of good availability of other fruit types which compete with pineapples. Size peaking on 6s/7s.

Berries:



Blackberries:

Blackberry supplies are very limited this week. Shippers have come to an unexpected supply gap due to weather. Mexico has experienced some hot weather over the last two weeks which has affected a large portion of the remaining fruit and lowered yields drastically. Domestic harvest in California is barely scratching the surface and is not expected to ramp up for another week, and Georgia is being delayed by rain. This has left the industry in a short-term supply shortage. Market prices are higher. We expect supplies to remain limited until California harvest improves by mid-June.

Blueberries:

Blueberry supplies have been good on both coasts, but quality may become an issue. California's central valley production continues to be consistent. Overall the quality has been good, but with the hot weather expected to continue all this week, we may begin to see some soft fruit. Ride temperatures are vital to the longevity of the product. Market prices have been steady, but we may see a small incline if the weather slows harvest. North Carolina and Georgia continue with consistent harvest, but again, I have seen reports of inconsistent sizing and soft berries. Market prices are lower on the east coast with aggressive deals available on volume orders. New Jersey has started to scratch the surface this week with light harvest. Supplies to improve in New Jersey over the next 2 weeks. Pacific Northwest expected to start in 2 weeks.

Raspberries:

No major changes on Raspberries this week. Supplies remain limited. Mexico's season has come to an end, & California is slowly ramping up. General feedback from all shippers is that availability will continue to be light until Salinas / Watsonville increase production. The transition will be slow, but we expect improvements week over week for the next 2-3 weeks. Quality is strong, and market prices are higher.

Strawberries:

Strawberry supplies have not changed. Fruit is readily available industry-wide. The majority of the fruit is being harvested in Salinas and Watsonville with a few shippers continuing production in Santa Maria. Quality has been good, but with the weather warming up this week, we may encounter some quality issues. We may see some softer berries with occasional discoloration and bruising as we get toward the weekend. Market prices have been steady and low. Anticipate same availability & low market prices for 3-4 weeks.



Green:

The green grape market has certainly spiked, as we come to a demand exceeds supply situation. Grapes have been very slow to cross the border from Mexico. This lack of Mexican fruit has put pressure on the domestic product out of Coachella, which is now also in a demand exceeds supply situation. Caborca should be starting soon but may not offer much relief to the situation. Quality is reported as good, but the lack of overall numbers have created a tough grape market that may not see much relief until July.

Red:

Red grape prices have come off slightly as the expected storm in the Caborca region did not cause the damage that was initially expected. Heat in the area is causing some discoloration but has not affected the quality or taste profile. Prices will continue to fall as Arvin starts up over the weekend, and will take us into the California season for the remainder of the year starting after the 4th of July. This year's California crop is being reported as one of the strongest in recent years.

Citrus:



Lemons:

The Central Valley crop has finished. The Ventura/Oxnard is now the growing area to get through the summer and early fall and is 80% completed on harvest and peaking on larger sizes choice and standard grade. Demand is strong, especially on the medium and smaller sizes of 140s/162s/200s and we are now seeing the demand exceed the supplies for these sizes. Some small relief will come as we see Chilean lemons enter the market over the next few weeks.

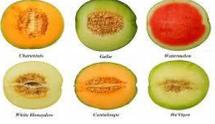
Limes:

Lime supplies continue to be steady. However, the fruit sizing seems to be irregular. I have had a few reports of small size limes being packed into the large size box. Due to the higher demand on large fruit, supplies are becoming more limited on sizes between 150-110ct. The weather has been good in the growing regions, but the sizes are running small. Shippers expect better sizing as we get into July.

Oranges:

California Valencia harvest is moving at a steady pace. Fruit quality and color are good, with size currently peaking 88s/72s/113s. Demand remains strong. Small size fruit 113s/138s will be limited through to entire Valencia season.

Melons:



Cantaloupe:

July 4th we will be transitioning from Arizona to California. As far as Arizona fruit there is a steady supply of 6 count and 9 count cantaloupes. Smaller fruit has been harder to find.

There are very few 12 count melons out there. On the 15 count and 18 count, they are pretty much nonexistent. Quality remains good with Brix/sugar levels at 12-14.

Honeydew:

The honeydew market is very active due to short supply. Arizona is finishing up, and shippers are struggling to cover orders. Demand has outpaced the harvest, so we are having to make multiple pickups and sub sizes to cover orders. We have a few weeks left in Arizona before the San Joaquin Valley comes into play the first week of July. Quality overall has been good with brix (sugar) levels in the range of 10-12.

Watermelons:

Seedless watermelon production from Mexico is still mostly from the northern state of Sonora. In Nogales, mostly smaller sized fruit being produced, and volume is very low. Light supplies will be available in Nogales through June, as some Shippers will bring watermelons from growing areas in Central Mexico. Coachella has had lower volume than originally projected, and high heat has also affected production. Demand continues to be high, and light supplies are expected through June. Pricing is higher. Bakersfield is scheduled to begin watermelon production in the next two weeks, with increased production in mid-July throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

Vegetable:



Asparagus:

Central Mexico is still experiencing rain and is expected to see rain for the next seven days. Production has slowed down due to the weather. Volume in Gonzales, CA continues to decrease due to seasonality, production in this region should be wrapped up in the next two weeks. Michigan is starting to wind down due to seasonality. Weather in both regions in Peru (Trujillo/ICA) is starting to become cooler due to winter starting in the region. Volume has decreased due to the cooler weather. Markets on both coasts are up due to the weather in Central Mexico, Peru, and California production winding down.

Bell Peppers:

Green Bell Peppers, Few supplies still available in Nogales, from Mexico. Quality in Nogales is fair at best, and the peppers have a limited shelf life. Pricing is lower in this area. Coachella is producing a high-quality pepper, although extremely high heat for the last week has slowed production, and may affect the quality of the fruit. The heat will also shorten the season in the Coachella Valley. There will be more supplies being harvested in the Arvin / Bakersfield area daily. The volume will continue to increase throughout June. Pricing is expected to be higher with limited supplies. Shipping areas will include Fresno, Gilroy, and Oxnard, as well as Bakersfield. Red Bell Peppers, There are still very few supplies in Nogales. Quality is mostly fair in Nogales. Coachella has lower volume of red bells to offer, due to extremely high temperatures recently. The quality of the fruit in Coachella may suffer from the high heat. Lighter supplies also available to load out of San Diego, with hothouse peppers being grown in Baja California.

Yellow Bell Peppers, Coachella has very limited volume of yellow bell pepper to offer. Many growers harvested immature yellow bells at a green color stage to take advantage of a very strong green bell pepper market in May. Consequently, very light supplies will be available until Bakersfield gets started in the next 7-10 days, some growers will begin to harvest in early July. Very light supplies of hothouse peppers are also available to load in San Diego, from Baja California. Quality from Baja has been fair.

Broccoli:

Broccoli supplies are improving with some suppliers. The market is trying to adjust, although it isn't for all suppliers. There are better supplies of broccoli crowns versus bunched broccoli. Quality remains nice from all regions with decent crown size, nice green color, and minimal yellowing. We will see this market trend lower into next week.

Brussels Sprouts :

The brussels sprout market is still active. The limited supplies from Mexico and Oxnard have caused the market to trend much higher. The quality is fair at best with insect presence and damage from the insects as well. We are also seeing the black spotting/decay of the brussels sprouts.

Cauliflower :

Cauliflower supplies are plentiful. But look for that to change in about two weeks as we go through the typical up and down planting cycle. The market is steady at aggressive prices. Quality is really nice with minimal brown spotting/bruising, and weights in the 27 to 30-pound level.

Celery:

Large sizing continues to be the theme with most shippers. This pack is where you see suppliers flexing the most. Small sizing, thirty-six counts, in particular, are demanding a higher price. The availability will be limited on small sizing for the week. Oxnard is still scheduled to be finished in harvesting product by mid-July. Production in Salinas and Santa Maria will be available thru August at a minimum. Please keep in mind on Oxnard transfers. If the value-added product is being produced in Oxnard, shippers will load in Salinas, but an additional fee will be incurred for the transportation costs of the product.

Cilantro:

Cilantro supplies are abundant from all growing regions. The market is competitive. The quality is really nice with full bunches, little yellow to brown leaves, and minimal dehydration

Cucumbers:

Cucumber supplies are almost finished in Nogales. Quality continues to be mostly fair, with condition problems affecting shelf life. Higher quality cucumbers are available to load in San Diego or Los Angeles. Pricing is lower in Nogales. The San Diego (Baja California) crop will produce through the summer. High volume is expected out of Baja; however, supplies are currently down, & demand has remained consistent. Pricing remains higher for retail packs. There is concern that a hurricane or tropical storm could seriously affect production. Updates will be available next week

Eggplant:

Eggplant supply in Coachella is light, due to fewer acreage planted. There is increased demand for the eggplant, pricing is higher and may continue to rise. Quality in Coachella remains very good. Additional supply will be available from the Arvin / Bakersfield area, and also Fresno, in late June / early July.

Lettuce:



Iceberg:

This market is active with all suppliers. A few shippers started the week sold out and only interested in covering contract business. The gap in production of this commodity will continue throughout this. Look for pricing to be active throughout the week in both northern and southern California. The weights are reported on palletized to be 42-47 pounds. Good overall quality continues with slight mechanical and misshapen heads.

Leaf:

Romaine, as well as all leaf items, are flat in the marketplace. Expect steady supplies throughout the week both north and south. The absence of school business has really put a stoppage of demand in the market place. Romaine hearts continue to be plentiful strong supplies will continue all week with this commodity. Some defects that have been reported include minimal mildew and slight insect damage. Quality is good.

Tender Leaf:

Even with the heat, we have experienced here in the Salinas Valley, supplies have been abundant for all tender leaf items. The market is steady with all suppliers as well. The quality has been really nice with minimal bruising, excessive wetness, slimy decay, or yellowing.

Onions:



Green Onions:

We have plenty of supplies of green onions crossing from Mexico. The market remains competitive. Quality is good although we have seen some thrip damage which you will see brown spotting on the green tops

Onions:

Onion market is unchanged from last week. Supplies will start to transition from Southern California to Central over the next week and a half. New Mexico has started with light supplies of all colors. Quality is reported as good out of these new growing areas. Quality out of Central California, Uvalde, Texas & New Mexico are being reported as good. Red onion supplies out of Texas and New Mexico are light giving a little life to the market. This will be short lived as supplies will improve by the middle of next week. Demand overall is light but will build as we get closer to the 4th of July holiday.

Potatoes:



Potatoes:

Idaho, Demand is Moderate with a steady market on most size cartons and retail bales. Storage supplies are mainly peaking on 80ct and smaller with an occasional larger profile. Look for this trend to continue into next month. Quality overall is very nice. Occasional internal bruise, light hollow heart, and air checking/shatter bruise can be found. New Crop is coming along good and should start the front part of August. Washington, Demand is good with supplies in fewer hands. The Market is firm on most sizes and packs. Quality overall is good with the occasional lot with Silver Scurf, light bruising, and air-checking. New crop should start at the end of July. Colorado/Wisconsin - Demand is good with supplies in fewer hands. Supplies are peaking on 80 count and smaller with 70 count and larger getting a premium. Quality is good.

Color Potato's:

Red market is steady with moderate demand and good supplies. White and Gold markets are good with lighter supplies mainly coming off the west coast. Florida supplies are winding down quickly with only reds available. Missouri should start in a light way beginning of next week with reds followed by North Carolina with red, whites and golds. California has good supplies of Reds, Golds, and Whites. Supplies will transition north to Stockton the first or second week of July.

Squash:



Zucchini and Yellow S/N, Good supplies are available from Santa Maria, CA. Quality is mostly fair. Production in Santa Maria is expected to remain consistent. There is also squash available from Fresno. The squash market remains steady. Holiday promotions expected to increase demand in the coming weeks.

Tomatoes:



Supply from Mexico remains steady while operations transition south of our border and California breaks ground this week. Since California won't have anything ripe until next week, imports have come off the price floor by a couple of dollars while the east also experiences less supply through transition. Although western farms in the California valley have begun picking this week, we are still a couple of weeks away from experiencing typical summer prices below USDA anti-dumping minimums. Sinaloa on the mainland is wrapping up their season while Baja undergoes a slow start keeping the market firm. Roma tomatoes are steady with excellent quality from all regions, but markets are getting pressure to move higher with eastern buyers strengthening demand. Grape tomatoes are easing off in price as supplies continue to increase out of Baja in tandem with new operations in the eastern U.S. helping to alleviate the climb in pricing that has occurred over the past two weeks. Similarly, cherry tomatoes are steady out of Baja as mainland Mexico finishes up where quality has been par at best recently. Markets are stabilizing with relief just weeks away to start the month of July.