

Commodities at a Glance



FOODSERVICE
DISTRIBUTOR

APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is higher	CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is lower	CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is steady	CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	MUSHROOM	Quality is good, pricing is higher
BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is steady
BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is steady	PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	GREEN ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is steady
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is lower	KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	STONE FRUIT	Quality is good, pricing is steady
CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher
CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		
CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is steady		

Produce News

December 30, 2022



Market Alerts

Apples – Apple inventories continue to be low. Overall, supplies are limited and prices remain elevated.

Asparagus – West coast struggling to cover contracts, due to light supplies in all sizes. Supply is good and prices are higher due to the east coast picking up the slack.

Avocados – There is a good supply of all sizes. Overall, the quality is good and pricing is steady. Suppliers are dealing with volume.

Bell Peppers – Markets are fairly steady with light demand. Supplies have lightened up due to cold temperatures in all growing areas but we should expect normal production next week on greens. Red bells are slow to come out of Nogales, improved supply is expected by mid-January.

Berries (Blackberries) – Steady but lighter supplies on this item may cause some transfer delays to the West Coast loading areas of Santa Maria and Oxnard. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is higher.

Berries (Blueberries) – Adequate supplies are coming in from Central Mexico and Chile. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Berries (Raspberries) – This commodity took a mild jump in pricing reflecting lighter crossings than in previous weeks.

Berries (Strawberries) – Rain on the West coast, a freeze in Florida, and typical Holiday weather out of Mexico have caused supplies to be very tight coming into the New Year.

Broccoli – Supplies continue to be very limited in Yuma and Mexico due to the recent cold weather. Quality issues such as pin rot have been causing lower yields. Look for supplies (including florets) to continue to be limited as we approach the weekend.

Brussels Sprouts – As we approach the weekend, supplies are improving and the market is coming off. Overall quality is improving as a result of better supplies.

Continued

Carrots – Carrot supplies are ample. Organic rainbow and conventional jumbo carrots are in a better spot as well. Lake Park Georgia carrots are now available for loading.

Cauliflower – Cauliflower supplies continue to be limited in Salinas, Santa Maria, Mexico and Yuma. The recent cold weather has stunted the growing process. Look for supplies (including florets) to remain on the tighter side going into next week.

Celery – Demand exceeds supply with this commodity. This will continue throughout the week. The rain in Southern California along with Mexico has production limited. All value-added items are escalated. The quality continues to be above average.

Citrus (Lemons) – California Desert/Arizona Region and San Joaquin Region are the main growing regions for this commodity. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Citrus (Limes) – Lime markets continue to rise as old crop supplies dwindle and the distribution of new crop begins in the coming weeks. Good retail demand and less fruit out of Mexico will create tighter market conditions with 175/200ct expected to be the tightest sizes. Lower availability of #1-grade fruit, in general, is likely with some quality defects also expected until the upcoming Mexico crop comes online mid-to-late January. Holidays will also affect labor, leading to rising markets this week.

Citrus (Oranges) - Domestic navels are now the main variety. 72ct and larger will get better as the season progressed. Current gas times are 48-72 hrs; Brix is currently 11-12. Cooler nights are upon us which will help color up the fruit naturally.

Cucumbers – The market is steady. Adequate domestic supply out of Florida with the Honduran import supply increasing. Quality is good on imports and there is a good supply and quality out of Nogales as well.

Eggplant – There is a normal supply and steady markets in all regions. Overall, the quality is good.

Continued

Garlic – The garlic supply is good. The California crop for 2022 is helping supply. Overall, the quality is good and the price is steady.

Grapes (Green) – Domestic green grapes are nearing the end with only a week or two left in the season. Imports are going on the East coast at higher pricing. If you are East of Denver you should consider switching to the imports.

Grapes (Red) – The domestic red grape market is slightly higher as the season starts to wind down. There will be domestic reds available until after Christmas. However, inventories are declining quickly and quality from here on out is suspect. Imported reds are already going on the East Coast at higher than domestic pricing. If you are East of Denver you should consider switching to imports.

Green Onions – The green onion supply is starting to tighten back up. The cooler weather has slowed the growth process and many crew members are taking this week off. The green onion supply will continue to be on the tighter side going into the weekend.

Kale – Supplies are moderate due to the recent cold weather in Yuma. Look for this market to steadily increase going into the weekend with the warmer afternoon weather. Overall, the quality is good and the price is steady.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – The market has softened. There are pricing gaps in the industry. Weather conditions in Yuma are expected to be good this week, and suppliers expect to have better availability next week. All value-added items continue to be escalated. It has been reported that this week's weights and quality have been better than in previous weeks.

Produce News

December 30, 2022



Market Alerts

Lettuce Leaf –For most shippers, this market is soft on romaine and red and green leaf lettuce. Better weather and the fact that schools are off have allowed suppliers to build up inventories. The quality is much better than in previous weeks. Romaine hearts will be limited throughout the week but will be available if needed. Romaine and green leaf value-added products are not being increased. Better quality and weight can be expected from multiple shippers.

Lettuce Tender Leaf – All spring mix, parsleys, spinach and arugula continue to be limited due to the recent cold overnight lows. Expect shortages going through the weekend. The recent cooler weather in Yuma and Mexico is causing slow growth and causing fields to be behind. Overall, quality is fair and pricing is higher.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – A good supply of all sizes, and volume deals on 12s. Next week's supplies will run big in size. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Melons (Honeydew) –There is a good demand as Mexico's production has slowed down due to weather. The holiday pricing on the West coast offshored has increased to 4 dollars compared to the East coast. In the East, there is a good supply of big fruit no 6's or 8's until Thursday/Friday.

Melons (Watermelon) – There is a good supply of offshore product and there will be more by the end of the week for Mexico. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Mushrooms –Mushroom supply is good and prices are steady.

Onions – The cold weather has disrupted inbound transportation. The market is steady and the quality is good.

Pears –The market is higher on light inventories. Most shippers are done with Bartletts.

Continued

Pineapples –Steady open market volume. Overall, the quality is good and the pricing is steady.

Potatoes – Cold weather has disrupted inbound transportation. Market remains elevated and supplies are limited.

Squash –During this weekend's freezing temperatures, Florida was really hit hard. Markets, however, remain steady due to ample supply and light demand. Quality is better in South Florida versus Central Florida. Mexican supply is a bit lighter this week due to a cold front and labor from the holidays. Better supply is expected next week.

Stone Fruit –The California kiwi is peaking on smaller sizes. Pomegranates are starting to wind down in the Central Valley and persimmons are nearly done. Imported peaches and nectarines should start the week after Christmas.

Tomatoes – Markets firmed up due to freezing temperatures this past weekend reaching as far as Central Florida. Demand shifted west causing prices to increase. With South Florida coming online and better weather in the forecast, this should be short-lived. Western supply is transitioning from Baja and Eastern Mexico to Sinaloa. The grape supply is improving and more round and Roma shippers will be coming online over the next few weeks. Supply is expected to normalize by the third week of January.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Weather

California –Scattered showers across many growing regions will impact citrus supplies next week.

Mexico – Temperatures are expected to remain steady. We can expect scattered showers of rain and light ice.

Florida – The cold front has passed. The temperature is increasing into the mid-80s with scattered showers.

Arizona – Yuma will experience warmer temperatures and a slight chance of rain. In the afternoon, gusty winds are forecasted.

Freight

Trucks are tighter than normal in California this week. Trucks remain tight in the northwest and Idaho. The national average remained steady and is currently at 4.537 per gallon. California's price is also steady and is now at 5.415 per gallon.