

MARKET ALERTS

Blackberries: Supplies are currently very limited, but should improve in early September from the Watsonville and Santa Maria regions. Mexican production is expected to increase by mid to late September as temperatures drop.

Cauliflower: Supplies are expected to be limited over the next two weeks due to recent heat advancing harvests. This supply gap will likely lead to higher market prices by the weekend.

Oranges: Markets are strengthening with school demand, but limited Valencia harvests are causing supply issues. Valencias are available in Central Valley and Riverside, with contracts prioritized. Offshore navels are an alternative, or consider apples or grapes. Domestic Navels start mid to late October, with Valencia Brix around 12

Mushrooms: Supplies are limited now but should improve in about three weeks as production increases.

Pineapple: Supply is falling short of demand, with contracted business prioritized. Costa Rican pineapples face issues from drought and port delays, making larger fruit scarce. The new crop is expected between weeks 38-40. Mexican crossings are down, and heavy rains have caused quality issues with lower Brix levels.

AUGUST 21, 2024

CROP UPDATES

Crop assessments show quality issues in East coast commodities like beans, cucumber, eggplant, squash, tomato, and bell pepper due to Tropical Storm Debbie. Expect lesser yields and lingering problems as growers harvest remaining acreage. New crop squash and bell pepper from Georgia and Northern Florida begin late August. Read more

WEATHER

Arizona - The cooling trend continues through Saturday, with cloudiness and scattered monsoon showers in central Arizona. Highs drop to upper 90s, lows range from 70s to mid 80s, and no precipitation expected in Yuma County or southeast California.

<u>California</u> - High pressure will maintain near-average temperatures today, with morning lows ranging from 40s to 50s. Daytime highs will reach 60s to 70s at the coast, 70s to low 90s in coastal valleys, and low to upper 90s south of Soledad. Temperatures will cool to near-normal by Friday.

Florida -Florida is expected to experience warm, humid temperatures through August 20th, with winds gusting between 15 and 22 mph.

<u>Mexico</u> - Isolated showers and thunderstorms are expected through Thursday, with rain totals ranging from 0.05" to 0.25". Seasonally warm temperatures are expected into the weekend.

FREIGHT

Demand for trucks this week is elevated with schools returning across the US. Advanced booking is highly encouraged. Contact us today regarding out LTL and FTL fall programs, as RFP season is upon us.





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Apples

Washington's new crop harvest is ongoing for Galas, Ginger Golds, and Honeycrisps. The market is gradually increasing as storage inventories decline. Fujis and Pinks remain limited until the new crop becomes available.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Hudson, New York (September -June)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



<u>Asparagus</u>

Mexico's asparagus supply continues to lean toward smaller sizes, while Peruvian volumes are improving, though also skewing smaller. Harvesting in Southern Peru is expected to begin by the end of the week. The market remains strong for large, XL, and Jumbo sizes, with good quality reported from both Peru and Mexico.

	Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Caborca (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
	Ciudad Obregon (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
•	Peru (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



<u>Avocados</u>

Markets have risen significantly but are stabilizing as more Flora Loca is harvested. Typically, this crop floods the market, but this year, harvesting is delayed as oil content must reach 24%. Recent rains in Mexico have slowed dry matter development, leading to longer ripening times and limited #2 grade fruit through August and September. The Negra crop is winding down with inconsistent availability. California supplies are dwindling, expected to last through August, while Peruvian volumes are also decreasing. Flexibility on sourcing and sizing is needed, with orders requiring advanced notice for ripening and inventory management.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
California (April - July)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Bell Peppers

Supplies have stabilized with increased production from coastal areas like Hollister, Gilroy, and Oxnard. Eastern volumes remain steady from Michigan and other growing regions, with overall good quality. Red bell prices have slightly eased as cooler temperatures in California have moderated production.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Ohio/NC/MI/NJ (June - September)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good











Berries (Blackberries)

ALERT

Supplies remain very limited, but availability is expected to improve in early September from the Watsonville and Santa Maria regions. Mexican production is anticipated to ramp up by mid to late September as temperatures cool in that area.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Berries (Blueberries)

The Pacific Northwest is winding down as their season comes to an end. New Jersey and Michigan are nearly finished as well. Peruvian imports are expected to arrive in more consistent volumes by late September or early October, with Mexican production ramping up around the same time.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Light	\$ \$\$	Good



Berries (Raspberries)

There are no significant changes from last week's update. Product continues to be available in adequate quantities from California's Central Coast and Baja regions.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Berries (Strawberries)

Salinas and Watsonville are still producing berries, but volumes will steadily decline over the next few weeks as we approach October.

Meanwhile, Santa Maria has started its new crop harvest this week, with numbers expected to gradually increase in the coming weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Steady	\$ \$\$	Fair





<u>Broccoli</u>

Broccoli supplies remain mostly steady across all growing regions, with quality ranging from fair to good. The market is expected to hold steady through the weekend.

С	commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
	Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
	Salinas (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair



Brussel Sprouts

Overall volume is expected to improve, with industry-wide supplies increasing and the open market softening. Extra capacity is anticipated in both processed and bulk pack categories, presenting a great opportunity for promotions.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (December-August)	Steady	\$ \$\$	Good
Oxnard, CA (May - July)	Steady	\$ \$\$	Good



Carrots

The Cuyama/Santa Maria area, the primary growing region, will continue through November. Jumbos and Cellos are tight with higher markets, but regular business is being met. There is ample availability of baby and snack packs, which aligns well with the return of schools.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Imperial Valley (February - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent
Kern County (October - Feb)	Steady	\$ \$\$	Excellent
Various Northwest Regions (July - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



<u>Cauliflower</u>

ALERT

Cauliflower supplies are expected to be limited this week and next due to recent heat advancing field harvests. This has created a supply gap, so anticipate an increase in market prices as we head into the weekend.

C	Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality	
	Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair	
	Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair	
	Salinas, California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair	



<u>Celery</u>

The market started the week steady, with all sizes available and suppliers ready to accommodate demand, so take advantage of promotional opportunities. Supplies are strong from the Oxnard/Santa Maria region, while Salinas is seeing moderate production. Quality remains above average, with only minor seeder issues. Expect stable markets throughout the week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard, California	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good















Citrus (Lemons)

Fruit is currently peaking at 115ct and larger sizes, with 165ct and smaller sizes remaining very tight through summer until District 3 starts in mid/late September. The market for 140ct and smaller sizes will stay strong. With District 1 (San Joaquin Valley) finished, District 2 (Oxnard/Ventura County) is now the primary growing region, focusing on larger fruit. Offshore lemons from the West Coast are starting to provide some relief to the domestic market.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard/Ventura (October - February)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
San Joaquin Valley (October - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Citrus (Limes)

The market is in the low \$30s due to tight crossings from Texas, with fruit peaking at 110/150ct. The new crop has begun, but yields are lower, and while old crop fruit is still crossing, its quality is fair. Quality varies between old and new crops. Offshore fruit from Miami is providing some relief and preventing further market escalation. Expect an active market through mid-September.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Veracruz (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Citrus (Oranges)



Markets are strengthening with the return of school demand, while harvests remain limited as we try to extend the short Valencia season. Valencias are available in the Central Valley (peaking on 56ct and larger) and Riverside (peaking on 88ct). Contracts are a priority, with some shippers already allocating supplies due to reductions. Offshore navels are available on both coasts as an alternative to Valencias; if not suitable, consider switching to other commodities like apples or grapes. The Domestic Navel crop is expected to start mid to late October, with Valencia Brix around 12.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



<u>Cucumber</u>

Supply is strong overall, with Baja and Michigan as the primary growing regions this time of year.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Georgia (May - June)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Baja California (Mav - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



<u>Eggplant</u>

Supply from the East is strong. In California, numbers are still light, but the addition of new growers next week should improve availability.

Commodity	Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (May - Oc		Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Georgia (May - Jun	e)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Garlic

The new crop harvest in California has begun, with good quality and expected strong supplies going forward.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
East Coast (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Bakersfield, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Gilroy, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Grapes (Green)

The market for greens remains soft, with shippers offering a range of varieties and variable quality. Expect this trend to continue for another week to 10 days.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (May - June)	Steady	\$ \$\$	Excellent



Grapes (Red)

The market for reds remains steady at higher prices, with most shippers having finished with flames. Strong demand is expected to keep prices up.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (May - June)	High	\$ \$\$	Good



Green Onions

Green onions remain very limited this week due to high temperatures affecting supplies in Mexico. Expect the market to stay steady through the weekend.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



<u>Kale</u>

Kale supplies are expected to be plentiful and of good quality this week and next. The market is likely to remain steady.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Salinas, CA (May - OCT)	High	\$\$ \$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High













Lettuce Iceberg

The market for this commodity is active with the return of schools. As more schools open across the U.S. each week, expect the market to strengthen. Quality remains above average, with some shippers offering jumbo-sized heads averaging 40-45 pounds. While there may be slight discoloration and misshapen heads, a market gap of up to \$5 should be noted. All value-added items are priced normally.

С	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
,	Santa Maria, California (March-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Salinas, California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Lettuce Leaf

Red leaf and romaine supplies remain good, while green leaf is somewhat tighter. Overall, the market is steady. Some leaf items show slight fringe and tip burn, along with irregular shapes and brown butts upon arrival. As production slows and school demand rises, expect a more active market next week.

С	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
-	Salinas, California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair



Lettuce Tender Leaf

Supplies of cilantro and parsley are steady this week with fair quality. Expect these markets to remain stable into next week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Salinas, California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair



Melon (Cantaloupe)

The cantaloupe market is heating up with rising demand as regional programs wrap up and bloom drop affects yields. Retailers are seeking load volume deals to close out the summer crop strongly. The California heat wave has led to a peak in Jumbo 9s and 9s, with smaller fruit commanding a premium. Brix levels are in the 14-17 range. The heat's impact is evident, and smaller fruit remains at a premium.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent













Melon (Honeydew)

The honeydew market is facing challenges due to lower yields and increased demand, especially for smaller fruit (6/8ct). Shippers are prioritizing honeydew contracts, and any market orders for honeydew may be fulfilled with cantaloupe to manage inventory. Fewer melons per plant due to higher early-season yields are expected to affect the market through the holiday season.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona (June-July)	Light	\$\$ \$	Excellent

(October-November)



Melon (Watermelon)

Regional watermelon deals are available with a focus on larger sizes. Demand remains steady as retailers promote summer fruit, with product available in CA, IL, WA, NC, and KY.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona (June-July)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
(October-November)			



Mushroom

ALERT

Supplies are currently limited across the industry, but expect improvement in about three weeks as production ramps up.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Nationwide	Light	\$\$ \$	Good



Onions

Idaho and Washington are the primary growing regions, with all colors available. Yellow prices are steady or lower, while red and white prices remain elevated.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality	
Eastern Orgeon/Parma, ID (August - April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent	
San Joaquin Valley (May - August)	Light	\$ \$\$	Good	
Tri-Cities, Washington (July - April)	High	\$\$\$	Good	



Pears

California pears are in good supply, with Red Pears, Bartletts, and Bosc available through September. Washington has begun harvesting Bartletts, though volumes are light this week and will increase next week. Due to frost during the bloom period, this year's crop in the Wenatchee district is smaller than last year's. Expect the market to remain steady with higher prices.

Commod	lity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	d River, Oregon ust-July)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
	na, Washington ust-July)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

JC Watson







<u>Pineapples</u>

ALERT

Supply is falling short, with priority given to contracted business. Costa Rican pineapples face challenges from drought and port delays, impacting loading and availability of larger fruit. The new Costa Rican crop is expected in weeks 38-40. Mexican crossings are down, and heavy rains have led to quality issues and lower Brix levels.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Costa Rica (Year round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Potatoes

Limited Burbank 80-120 CT and #2s are still in storage. The new crop Norkotah harvest is ramping up, with pricing for Norkotahs, especially #2s, being higher than for Burbanks. Expect limited availability of #2s until October.

	Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Ī	Idaho Falls, Idaho (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
	Pasco, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent



<u>Squash</u>

The market is steady to slightly higher. Supplies are lighter due to field transitions and a skip in Santa Maria, but quality remains good. Nogales squash is expected to start in a light volume by mid-September.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (November - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
California (May - Oct)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Ohio/MI/OH/NJ/NC (June - September)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Stone Fruit

Peaches, plums, and nectarines remain in lighter supply due to the unusually hot summer temperatures. Shippers are having difficulty fulfilling commitments as pack outs are lower than usual because of heat-related defects. Both peach and nectarine seasons are expected to end in September rather than October. Plums are also impacted, but late-season varieties may extend their availability into November. Early pomegranates have started, and the kiwi market is active due to slow packing of controlled atmosphere fruit. Expect this market to remain high for the next few weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (May-October)	High	\$\$ \$	Excellent



Tomatoes

Markets are steady to slightly lower as supplies improve with better weather on both coasts. Tennessee production of romas and rounds is increasing, and California is transitioning to new fields that weren't affected by summer heat, leading to more consistent production. Northern Baja is also ramping up production, and volumes are expected to improve out of San Diego.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Florida (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Baja California (Spring/Summer - NOV) Light	\$\$\$	Good
California (July - OCT)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High













CALIFORNIA

Temperatures will be near or slightly above average today as high pressure remains over the region. Morning lows will range from the mid 40s to mid 50s, with daytime highs reaching the mid 60s to mid 70s at the coast, mid 70s to low 90s in the coastal valleys, and low to upper 90s south of Soledad. A cut-off low will move down the coast on Thursday, deepening the marine layer and cooling temperatures to near or below normal by Friday, with highs in the low to mid 60s at the coast, low to upper 70s in the coastal valleys, and low 80s south of King City. Temperatures will start to warm again on Saturday as the low moves out.



MEXICO

Isolated showers and thunderstorms are expected through Thursday, with rain totals ranging from 0.05" to 0.25" in most areas, and possibly higher with some storms. On Friday, showers will become isolated to scattered, and will be more isolated again by Saturday. Overall, this pattern will not be overly wet. Temperatures should remain seasonably warm into the weekend.



FLORIDA

A cold front will approach Florida early next week and stall, bringing unsettled weather into the latter part of the week. Temperatures will remain warm and humid, with winds gusting between 15 and 22 mph across most of Southern Florida through August 20th.



ARIZONA

A cooling trend will continue through Saturday with increasing cloudiness and scattered monsoon showers across central Arizona today and Thursday. Highs will drop from the 102-107 range on Wednesday and Thursday to the upper 90s to 102 by Saturday afternoon. Morning lows will range from the upper 70s to mid 80s today, cooling to the mid 60s to 70s by Saturday. No precipitation is expected over Yuma County or the southeast California valleys.

Demand for trucks this week is elevated with schools returning across the US. Advanced booking is highly encouraged. Contact us today regarding out LTL and FTL fall programs, as RFP season is upon us.



J.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices*(dollars per gallon)			full history 🖺 XL		
				Change from	
	08/05/24	08/12/24	08/19/24	week ago	year ago
U.S.	3.755	3.704	3.688	♦ -0.016	♦ -0.701
East Coast (PADD1)	3.830	3.778	3,757	♦ -0.021	♦ -0.665
New England (PADD1A)	4.073	4.058	4.019	♦ -0.039	♦ -0.395
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	3.991	3.961	3.935	♦ -0.026	* -0.618
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	3.742	3.681	3.664	♦ -0.017	♦ -0.710
Midwest (PADD2)	3.729	3,681	3.674	♦ -0.007	+ -0.628
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	3.436	3.371	3.355	♦ -0.016	♦ -0.740
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	3.702	3.697	3.650	* -0.047	♦ -0.850
West Coast (PADD5)	4.356	4.309	4.294	♦ -0.015	♦ -0.846
West Coast less California	3.951	3.913	3.905	♦ -0.008	♦ -0.889
California	4.821	4.763	4.739	♦ -0.024	♦ -0.796
orices include all taxes					

For more information: https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/

G Prop Undate

Crop assessments continue to trickle in following Tropical Storm Debbie in early August. Many commodities along the East coast are showing signs of quality issues as production declines seasonally in many of these local regions. Beans, cucumber, eggplant and squash seem to have been hit hardest with tomato and bell pepper production also impacted. We expect to see lesser yields and lingering quality problems as growers harvest remaining acreage. New crop squash and bell pepper from Georgia and Northern Florida is set to begin late August to early September however this region received heavy precipitation and strong winds as Debbie rolled through.

Cooler temperatures in California are helping slow growth and improve quality in the coastal and interior valleys of Central California.

In the San Joaquin Valley previous hot temperatures have caused extensive bloom drops in the melon, tomato and bell pepper fields impacting current yields. Cooler temperatures will help with overall quality of these supplies. The long-term effects of this will likely continue to show up into Fall harvests with lower yields and overall smaller sizing in the crops.

In the Salinas Valley cooler temperatures in August, closer to seasonal norms, look to continue into next week helping overall quality in the region. There are some reports of disease pressure (Sclerotinia, Fusarium) showing up in the lettuce fields with growers having to bypass some acreage altogether. Insect pressure remains problematic throughout the valley with increased reports of flies, aphids and especially larval worms in the fields. These larvae can be a serious pest especially in Cole crops (broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower) as they are well camouflaged and can easily hide in these crops. Green Onion supplies from the Mexicali region of Northern Mexico will remain light likely through the month due to heat and rain impacting yields and quality from this region.

The tropics are heating up especially in the Eastern Pacific with 3 storms currently in the region. These systems are moving away from Mexico with little impact. Forecasters anticipate an active season as we move into the Fall and peak hurricane season. As always upcoming weather patterns will play a crucial role in supplies and quality from the various growing regions across the U.S. and Mexico as we look towards Fall production.

TIM LYNCH
QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER





