

Market Report

6/20/22 - 6/25/22

ARUGULA -- Supplies and quality are good this week.

ASPARAGUS -- Peruvian fresh asparagus continues to enjoy a prominent place in the U.S. market. In 2021, U.S. imports from Peru increased 9% over the previous year, according to USDA statistics, to 224,871,286 pounds. Peru ranked as a principal source country for fresh asparagus. Movement of Mexican asparagus crossing through Arizona, California and Texas expected to increase. Trading was active at higher prices, with most orders being booked at previously committed prices and very few spot market sales.

AVOCADO -- Mexican avocado crossings through Texas are expected to increase slightly. Trading was fairly slow at lower prices. Cinco de Mayo demand is over, and shippers are well supplied for the most part, with demand and prices decreasing day by day throughout the week. Avocado movement from Southern California expected to decrease slightly. Trading was moderate with prices on conventional lower, organic higher. Demand slowing throughout the week same as the Mexican market, but shippers report steady movement on most sizes.

BOK CHOY -- Production is steady. Overall quality is good as well as appearance.

BROCOLLI -- Supplies are good this week. Crop showing good quality and color overall.

BRUSSEL SPROUTS -- Sprout category will still be light supplied for the coming week. Demand remains strong and open market prices are high. The 25lb bulk pack will be in relatively better volume compared to the VA SKUs. Production transition on the value added group is transitioning to San Juan Bautista this week and availability and fill rates will be well below expected.

CARROTS -- Supply is good on every size except Jumbo carrots. Shortage on jumbo is industrywide and due to the cooler weather, that put the Imperial crop behind. Expecting the jumbos to improve in May. Stick production is expecting to pick up in the next week.

CABBAGE -- The USDA mostly market prices took a significant jump on California green cabbage in the past several days. Extreme supply shortages have been driven by both adverse weather and crop gaps caused by growing transitions. With that said, the major processors have taken an increase in diced cabbage.

CAULIFLOWER -- Supply is back on budget. Quality, sizing & texture look good.

CELERY -- Slightly better supplies for us this week. Quality is also better. The market is higher in Oxnard.

CABBAGE -- The USDA mostly market prices took a significant jump on California green cabbage in the past several days. Extreme supply shortages have been driven by both adverse weather and crop gaps caused by growing transitions. With that said, the major processors have taken an increase in diced cabbage.

CILANTRO -- Supplies are expected to be very good this week.

GREEN BEANS -- Prices are up. Previous cold weather is delaying the harvesting transition and resulting in low plant yields.

GREEN ONIONS -- Supplies are light and quality is fair.

KALE -- Supplies are expected to be very good this week.

LETTUCE -- Supplies continue to be right on budget. The cool weather has made it possible to push and pull fields as needed. Quality has been very good. The markets are active with higher-than-normal demand. Wide range in prices are present.

LEAF & ROMAINE -- Production in Salinas is steady, on Green Leaf. Overall quality in the desert is good with some signs of bacteria and light fringe burn. Markets are slightly stronger with good demand. Romaine supplies are at budget. Quality is good and plants that are healthy are exhibiting dark green color. Light windburn from wind may be noticeable. Overall demand is good.

NAPPA -- We are now back with two growers and can handle larger volumes for the next several weeks.

SPINACH -- Supplies are good this week.

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Market Report Continued

SPRING MIX -- Same as spinach

PEPPERS/CUCUMBERS/ /SQUASH --

Green Peppers: Green bell volume will be light this week from Coachella, Demand has also increased which has raised FOBs into the double digits. Red and gold bells will remain short this week, but we should see better supplies the following week

Cucumbers: volume will be light this week as Baja volume has dropped due to cool weather we have experienced in the last couple of weeks

Squash/Zucchini: Excellent supply and quality available out of Florida and Crossing through Nogales. Roasting vegetables is a simple and easy side dish or entrée for any lunch or dinner

SWEET POTATOES- Availability continues to be good out of North Carolina on jumbos, #1's and #2's. Volume has picked up the past few weeks in anticipation of the Easter holiday. The market has been relatively flat all season, but we should expect to see prices gradually start to climb as we enter the summer months.

POTATOES -- We have finished our Norkotah crop, and we will conclude our season with Burbank variety. It appears to be a bit of a mixed profile depending on the different growers around the state. Some are in a larger size profile, whereas some are heavier to smaller potatoes. Overall, the market continues to remain relatively 'flat' in terms of pricing this month. However, we are beginning to see the market tighten on large size count cartons throughout the state. We are seeing smaller size profiles on potatoes than we previously had, which is helping to lower the FOBs on those items. Non-size A potatoes, and #2s are more plentiful than they have been in recent months as well.

PARSLEY -- Supplies are expected to be off again this week

ONIONS -- Harvest is in full force in California and Texas with all three colors, and demand is good. There are some areas going out, and there are some areas just getting started. So, we'll see what it does to the market. LTL Onion trucks out of California, mission impossible, while Texas Onions are showing a lot of skin.

APPLES-- The apple market has leveled out and the prices are fairly stable on most items. Prices to remain steady through April, then possibly start to push upward in May as inventory levels drop. The overall crop is down this year, making this the second crop in a row that is smaller than normal. This year crop is at least 3 million cases shorter than the crop last season. The quality of the fruit has been good but will see how the fruit holds up in storage. Pricing overall is higher due to the shorter crop and overall inflation in the growing chain, including labor, picking, packing, and transporting of apples.

TOMATOES --

Rounds: The tomato markets are on fire. The winter crop in Mexico is all but done for the season. What is left is not making it past inspections at the border. Quality is poor. Some of the newer fields are opening up, but there just isn't any volume at this time. With that said, the entire nation is buying from Florida. The re-packers out West are paying high freight rates to source product. Demand is very high on the purchasing end due to this and so are the prices. California is about a month away from production. For now, we are not expecting any relief until California's season gets going. At least for now, quality from Florida is very good.

Grape: The supply is extremely short in the southeast/Florida. It should remain that way for a couple of weeks. Florida will finish before newer crops in Georgia or South Carolina begin so we are looking at very short supplies and high markets on grape tomatoes. Mainland Mexico crossings are down this week as well. A lot of growers are finishing up for the season. Baja, Mexico is picking up in volume but there is not enough to take the pressure off of the market

Cherry: The cherry tomato market is trending up. Supplies are short just like the grapes and Roma's, but demand is not as strong, so prices are not going up at the same rate. Florida is dropping in volume. A lot of growers in mainland Mexico that were crossing in Nogales are done for the season. Baja is crossing high quality cherries.

Roma: Older growing areas in Mexico are coming to an end. Newer ones have not come into any volume yet. The Mexican national market is firm, and they are sending less to the border. On top of that, quality is an issue from mainland, Mexico. Markets for the topquality labels are higher than the older poor-quality Roma's. Baja, Mexico has started production. Their markets are high, but what little volume they have is for Los Angeles and San Diego. Florida has Roma's but they are following Mexico's lead on the market with higher pricing.

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Market Report Continued

BLACKBERRIES -- Clearly we are in transition as we are attempting to move from Mexico back to California and North Carolina. USA regions will be on the uptrend. Quality is good. Berries and summer are synonymous. And right on cue, the sweet, juicy little orbs are making their way across North America as temperatures warm and consumers head outdoors. Strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and blackberries are being harvested throughout the U.S.

BLUEBERRIES -- While Central Mexico is good volume, the San Joaquin valley is also under way.

CITRUS –

Lemons: Supplies of lemons are steady with good quality fruit coming from California.

Limes: Prices are rising due to tight supplies and quality issues caused by poor weather conditions in Mexico. Continual rain in the growing region of Veracruz, Mexico is reducing availability of high-quality fruit. 25-35% of the crop yield is being culled on arrival into South Texas. We have seen, Styler, oil spots, and scarring caused by wet weather and wind have reduced yields.

Oranges: The California navel season is nearing its end with growers expecting to ship through the end of May. Valencia's have started and this is where we will get the 113/138.

GRAPES-- Still good supplies of red and green seedless on both coasts. Pricing is all over the place depending on quality and condition. Mexico and Coachella will start this week and we will have good volume by May 23rd. We will be bringing grapes to Parlier for your ease of loading.

KIWI FRUIT -- California and Imported kiwi are available. California sizes mostly 36 and smaller, larger sizes are limited. Fruit is firm with some soft in box.

MELONS --

CANTALOUPE: supplies are starting to tighten up here on the West coast, as offshore melons are finishing up and Mexican / Nogales are short this week. Even though domestic cantaloupes have started, cool weather has delayed any volume. Honeydew supplies are still very good out of Mexico, with domestic dews starting next week. Quality on cantaloupes is good to excellent, and quality on dews is all excellent

HONEYDEW: Production is even shorter than the cantaloupe. Growers are harvesting mostly 5cts and larger leaving the 6/8cts in an extremely limited position. With lower overall production, the significant shift in sizing to larger fruit truly magnifies the shortage of the smaller sizes. Fortunately, incoming fruit has been very good quality with good brix levels.

WATERMELONS -- Supplies on seedless are starting to pick up while minis are still tight. Supplies will continue to pick up and there will be good volume in May. Our Yucatan, Mexico crop is still going in the East for another 1-2 weeks. Florida is going and Arcadia, Florida is starting as well. North Florida is 3 to 4 weeks away. Out West, Northern Mexico is picking up in volume with good quality. May will be a good month to promote seedless watermelons.

RASPBERRIES - Right now, it is all going our way, good volume almost everywhere.

STRAWBERRIES - California peak strawberry harvest season got off to a strong start and is proceeding as expected, despite less-than-optimal rainfall during the growing season.

Market Reprt Summarized from our Friends at Legacy Foodservice and ProMark

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