



FRESNO DOMESTIC AVOCADOS

California harvest continues with good quality, harvesting aggressively for 60ct and larger size fruit. Quality and flavor are very good. 50% of the crop has shipped and 90% will be shipped by early August. The market is moving up daily and will continue to do so but stronger in July/ August. Shortages will be felt hard on 32/36 and 84's from here out. California's 2012 crop will not begin until December, but it looks as though it will be a considerably larger crop than this season.

California Lambs are starting and will be on the large side 36/40 and occasionally 48's. This variety should offer a very slight relief to the market.

Pressure on prices: US demand is outpacing supply. California will not have enough fruit to supply entire country's needs. We will continue with these shortages through the summer and prices will remain very volatile. Prices are subject to change at any time in this active market.

Late Summer/Import Outlook: Chile and Peru are due early August. Mexico's off blooms and new crop will begin shortly afterwards. They will try to capture the high priced market and will come with early maturity fruit.

CARROTS

The Carrot market has come off slightly and supplies are improving on Jumbo & conventional packs. Processed Baby's are steady with good supplies.

ORANGES

Valencias are going with firm, hard fruit, good color and they eat nicely. Sizing is peaking 88/72/113 with a good portion of the fruit going to export. The market is priced to move with good supplies for both domestic & export use.

Navel supplies are essentially done for the year.

LEMONS

Lemon supplies are fair, with most of the fruit from District 2 (Ventrura). Sizes are peaking a larger 115/95/140's. Demand is up on 140/165/200 fruit. The overall market up slightly. Supplies are starting to struggle on smaller fruit. Quality is still looking very good with the fruit being very firm. Chilean fruit is expected to start arriving on the west coast mid to late May.

SEASONAL CITRUS

Grapefruit supplies are out of AZ & desert with Ruby & Rio's. The fruit looks nice with light exterior blush and interior color of med-pink. Consolidation in the Fresno area is available.

LIMES

Mexican limes are loading in Texas as well as available for consolidation in California. The market is back up due to European markets coming in for more product. The fruit in general is sizing small fruit, 200-250. Demand continues to be very good. Supplies in general are fair to good and various packs are available.

CALIFORNIA RUSSETS

California new crop russets are being packed. All sizes are available. Prices remain high as demand exceeds supply on small cartons and consumers. Quality is outstanding.

CALIFORNIA TREEFRUIT

Apricots are finishing up quickly. The fruit is very tender and volume is down slightly due to spring weather. The market remains steady with fruit size running from 70-96's packing mostly 2 layer trays. - Peaches are going with supplies packing both 2 layer & volume fill both Yellow & White flesh fruit. Fruit is peaking 60-70's. Market is off slightly with large fruit in higher demand but short supplies; but price to move on 70's & smaller. Conditioned fruit is not available in 1 & 2 layer packs.

The Nectarine market in general is strong at this time, volume is still limited. Sizing here is similar to Peaches, peaking 60 VF, with mostly yellow flesh packing at this time. Conditioned fruit is not available in 1 & 2 layer packs.

Plums have started mostly on the small side 90-60's all volume filled red & black varieties. Supplies are starting to increase and conditioned fruit will be available this week.

Pluots/Apriums specialty varieties are not going in tray packs. These are short lived varieties that last 7-10 day each: ie., Blue Velvets, Flavorosa, ect. Call for the flavor of the week and availability. These are great treats!

COLORED POTATOES

Supplies are light on all colored potatoes. Bakersfield is now going on new crop reds, whites & yellows. Skin set & size looks very nice.

CANTALOUPE

Desert Cantaloupe has a full range of sizes, mostly jumbo 12's. Color is light straw-light green, fruit is firm, full slips and are eating well. Shippers have a good box of fruit with nice netting, good brix, with the occasional loose pack, checker board and green cast with a nice cavity. Weather is above the century mark daily now and should help with color and sugar. Market is up going into the July 4th holiday. Blythe & Yuma are going strong but will start cleaning up. Central AZ is starting to increase volume. Large sizes are starting to tighten up with 12/15's becoming more readily available. Quality is nice mixed between areas. Desert is expected to clean up the early part of July making July 4th ad supplies dicey.

Bakersfield is currently expected to start between July 1-6, essentially missing holiday business. This area should have good supplies by mid month.

HONEYDEW

Honeydew melons are looking good with overall good quality. The market is steady and supplies are good. Sizing 5/6/8's mostly. Color is white to light green. New crop Mexican is going and the desert should have product this week. Desert is expected to clean up the early part of July making July 4th ad supplies dicey. Shippers have a good box of fruit with nice clean skin, good brix, occasional loose pack, mostly cream to light green with a nice cavity. Weather is above the century mark daily now and should help with color and sugar. Imperial Valley shippers should start slowing down by the end of next week. Blythe & Yuma are going strong. Central Arizona will be increasing volume this week.

WATERMELON

Watermelon quality continues to be good from the desert and starting to go into the Bakersfield area. Quality is looking good on both seeded & seedless. The market is expected to increase as demand increases going into the

holiday. This market is expected to stay up till mid July. Mini watermelon supplies are tight as this time with the market up.

GREEN GRAPES

New crop desert/ Mexico weather has been very good for sugar, but not so good for finish/color. While this is good for Sugraones on sugar, the red and black grapes still need the cooler nights for them to finish out with good color. Sugraones have good size ranging mostly 12 and larger with good condition. Sugar levels are much better now with the heat that we are getting. Volume is good but the overall crop could have a good chance to pack out much shorter than expected. Thompson and a few Princess will start maybe next week and the crop looks good. The market has increased due to decreasing supplies and demand for July 4th ads. Consolidation is available to Los Angeles and central California with notice for your trucks.

Central Calif/Bakersfield is expected to get started (with decent weather) sometime around the middle of July. Keep your fingers crossed. The Central Valley temperatures are finally warmer with temperatures in the upper 90's but cooling down to the mid 80's. This will speed up maturity in the Central Valley districts slightly.

RED GRAPES

New crop Desert/ Mexico weather has been very good for sugar, but not so good for finish/color. While this is good for green grapes, the red and black grapes still need the cooler nights for them to finish out with good color. Market is starting to increase due to decreasing supplies and demand for July 4th ads. Consolidation is available to Los Angeles and central California with notice for your trucks. Central Calif/Bakersfield is expected to get started (with decent weather) after the holiday pulls of July. Right now flame harvest is slowing down in both districts, but still maintaining very good quality, good color and condition with sizing ranging from 11-13/16ths. Volume in Coachella could last a little longer but Mexico is coming to a close quickly.

Black grapes are mostly summer royals with condition, very good and size mostly 12's and larger. Organic grapes are very much in line with the conventional with regards to size and condition, but only volume being much lighter.

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GEORGIA - FLORIDA CORN

Northern Florida and Georgia is in full swing. Quality is terrific. Shipping July 4th Ad promo's now thru next weekend, supplies to tighten.

CUCUMBER

Georgia cucumbers are about finished due to the heat. Pricing is higher. Quality is fair.

EGGPLANT

Market is steady. Supplies are as good.

BEANS

North Carolina and Tennessee next week. We are seeing tight supplies and increased pricing on the beans. It's HOT and harvesting labor is limited....two deadly combinations. Be careful with getting lid pricing.

CABBAGE

Georgia cabbage will be over soon. Supplies are down. Some Red and Savoy Supplies are available.

GREEN BELL PEPPERS

Green bells have been very active. The California desert is still the main player on green bells. TX does not have much to offer.

YELLOW SQUASH

South Georgia supplies are finishing up quick. The heat is taking its toll on the squash. NC has started and supplies will be better in the next week.

ZUCCHINI SQUASH

South Georgia supplies are finishing up quick. The heat is taking its toll on the squash. NC has started and supplies will be better in the next week.

ATHENA MELONS

Domestic Athena melons have started. GA is going strong and will see increased supplies in the next few days.

TRANSPORTATION

Trucks are readily available and rates are being quoted about what they were last year.

IMPORTS

MEXICAN AVOCADO

Import Outlook, Chile and Peru are due early August, volume will be minimal. Mexico's off blooms and new crop will begin shortly afterwards. They will try to capture the high priced market and will come with early maturity fruit. At this point Chile doesn't have mature fruit available to harvest. Maturity will improve over the next couple of weeks. From harvest to arrival in US Ports is 20 days; we're still a ways off from seeing this fruit.

KIWI

Kiwi is available on both coasts and is packed in all styles: 1 layer, volume filled & tri-layer. The fruit looks nice with good sizing. The Chilean fruit is firm and will require some time to condition for eating. The market has firmed slightly.

NORTHWEST

ONIONS

New crop overwinter yellow onions have started with strong FOB's. There will be 3 or 4 sheds running these onions for a few weeks. Supplies may not hold out until direct seed begins the first week of August. There are a few Storage reds still remaining in WA/OR. Walla Walla Sweets onions will begin June 28th.

NORTHWEST RUSSET POTATOES

Demand exceeds supply on russets in general. This is due in large to the upcoming holiday pull however, plan for this to continue until new crop begins in the first week of August. Idaho shippers are buying in force to cover their short supplies. Demand is steadily increasing from other parts of the nation that have run short of their normal supplies. Price is rising with the heavy demand. Plan ahead when you can as many shippers are booked out for the week already. 10oz #2 are in high demand as #1 price rises even higher. Quality remains good with some pressure bruising and silver scurf reported.

COLORED POTATOES

The Mt. Vernon district is finished for the season. This district is at least four weeks delayed due to excessive rain this spring. Look for harvest to be around first or second week of September. California is shipping all colors as is Florida. The market is steady. Eastern WA will have colored potatoes and Fingerlings starting mid-July.

IDAHO RUSSET POTATOES

Almost every shed in Idaho is running an abbreviated schedule to stretch out supplies into late July which is putting further pressure on the market. Most are pricing day of sale. Many Idaho shippers are trying to buy from WA and OR to cover orders. Are you getting Idaho potatoes when you order Idaho potatoes? New crop will be late this season - the second week of August. National stocks on hand have set a new record low for this time of the year. There will be an overwhelming demand on the storage crop in July and early August.

ASPARAGUS

Asparagus is finished in this district.

APPLES

Things are winding down with the apple market in the Northwest. Large Braeburns are still available through July and some Cameo's available through the end of June and early July. Gala apples are almost done with some sheds finished by the middle of June and a few available through mid-July. The apples to continue through the summer until new crop will be the Red's, Golden's and Grannies. Smaller sizes in these apples are getting tight, and watch to see the prices moving upwards, as the season winds down. The weather continues to be cooler, so anticipate the new crop to be a week or two behind normal schedule.

PEARS

Pears are winding down to a good finish. Some sheds still have some Red Anjou's available, and continue to see the larger Green Anjou's available through the next few weeks and then finished for the year.

SALINAS BROCCOLI

Last week's "warm" weather along the coast helped bring on better supplies of broccoli in both Salinas and Santa Maria. Excellent quality bunched and crowns are both in good supply this week and with the high freight rates, we should see prices remain reasonable and promotable for the near term. As July creeps closer, we'll start to see most shippers begin their lighter summer plantings...the answer to the start of the local home-grown broccoli deals around the country.

CAULIFLOWER

Quality has been very nice, but there have been reports of knucly heads. Supplies are increasing due to the warmer weather. We expect the market to be lower through the week with many shippers limiting production for the summer months.

STRAWBERRIES

Strawberries are in good supply. Quality is pretty nice as well. Most demand for fruit is focused on the tree fruit so the berry action slows a bit at this time of year. We will be in good supply of straws and bush berries for quite some time now. Shippers are looking for help so there may be some good ad opportunities out here.

ICEBERG LETTUCE

We are starting to get into the Summer mode which means lighter plantings in general. The market will not do much this week unless other areas of the country experience issues with their local crops. You can pretty much bet on a steady market for the next few weeks. Quality is good.

CELERY

Salinas and Santa Maria are now the main regions for celery. Cool Salinas weather has celery production heavier to the smaller sizes, few shippers are reporting minimal seeders. Expect this trend to continue thru next week. Good quality w/good supplies

ROMAINE

The market on romaine this week is better and demand seems to be a little better. Quality is still pretty good.

GREEN LEAF

The leaf market on green leaf is soft. Quality is decent and demand is flat. Markets look to remain the same. No change.

RED LEAF

The market on red leaf is soft like green leaf and romaine. Quality is pretty good. Demand is down. We don't really see much of a change here.

TEXAS/NOGALES ROMA TOMATOES

This week the Roma market remained fairly steady. The last two days the Mexican national market got very active so crossings will decrease over the weekend and most likely create an increase in demand early next week.

TOMATOES ON THE VINE

TOV's got a little more active these past weeks. Higher markets have been quoted which is good for a commodity that has been on the floor for so long.

GREEN PEPPERS

Green bells have been very active. The California desert is still the main player on green bells.

RED PEPPERS

California desert is the main producer at the moment with quality. The market seems depressed on red bells not much movement compared to the green market.

CUCUMBERS

The cucumber market became very active this past week. Higher markets are being quoted in California. Orders in advance are recommended to fulfill orders.

GRAPE TOMATOES

Really nice greenhouse grape tomatoes crossing through TX. In Nogales, new field grape tomatoes started crossing. Promotions are recommended and availability is excellent.

TRANSPORTATION

The truck supply in AZ and TX loosened up a little this week and rates decreased slightly.

