

## At the heart of food and service MARKET WATCH

#### Published: October 14, 2021



# Ingredients for your Success



#### Poultry

The chicken market was lower across most complexes as we are approaching the traditionally slower part of the year.

- Jumbo wings were down and we are seeing increased availability. Medium and small wings were steady this week.
- Tenders were down and availability is increasing.



#### Beef

The overall market tone is one of firmer pricing and some limited availability depending on grade.

- CAB & No Roll graded boxes remain tighter in supply vs. Choice & Select grade.
- Strips, tenders, and ribs, again keeping grade in mind, are available from packers but prices are leveling.



#### **Grains / Oil**

Soybean oil moved a bit higher last week with traders adding to their contract positions ahead of this week's USDA report.

- Crude oil continues to be higher putting pressure on soybean oil.
- Chinese demand for palm continues to increase and palm production is weak, moving palm higher.
- Canola continues to trend higher.



#### Pork

Butts got a slight lift going into next week due to retail demand.

- Hams took big concessions for next week, expect them to be short lived.
- Bellies have leveled off and should be close to their peak, expect fresh supplies to increase.
- Loins are relatively flat and trading sideways.

#### Dairy

The natural, mozzarella and processed cheese markets were up for the week with increased demand and labor issues. The butter market was down with adequate supply and steady demand. Egg market was down with ample supply and flat demand.

#### Seafood

- Domestic shrimp is in good supply despite the hurricane disruptions.
- Cod quotas to be announced showing reductions for 2022.
- The Alaska snow crab quota has been cut 88% after a population decline in the Bering Sea in the initial test fishery in the summer.





#### Pasta

US Durum Wheat has been increasing and is up 75% since July 2021. Drought conditions in growing regions are causing increases too as global demand increases on pasta brought on by COVID.

#### Seafood

The Alaskan red king crab fishery has been shut down due to all of the major crab stocks being down substantially- this has not happened in 25 years.

#### Produce

The industry is starting to see more and more issues with capacity constraints on value-added and processed items. Suppliers are being faced with shortages on labor a well as the needed inputs (pallets, film, etc.)



#### Asparagus

Market are adjusting as supplies improve in both Mexico and Peru.

#### Avocado

Markets remain unsettled on avocados. Size curve is peaking on 48ct . Jumbo sizes are still tight, as are #2's.

#### Broccoli, Broccolini and **Cauliflower-Alert**

Broccoli, Broccolini and Cauliflower are both active out of CA and MX. Relief is not expected until mid-November. Weather events, and quality issues have drastically reduced yields out of both areas.

#### **Brussels Sprouts**

Market remains strong with good demand. Insect pressure and sizing concerns remain, but harvest crews are doing a good job in working to minimize the issues being seen at pack out.

#### **Bell Peppers - Alert**

Lighter supplies and strong markets remain on both the East and West coasts. Relief expected in the next 7-10 days, weather permitting.

#### Cabbage - Alert

Very strong markets and good demand continue to be seen off the West coast. Yields are considerably down on both green and red cabbage on the West coast. Other regional growing areas are being looked at to fill in and help with needed product to meet all demand needs.

#### **Carrots - Alert**

Demand continues to outpace supply capacity of school-sized packs, and larger bulk size supply remains challenged.

#### Celery Value-Added - Alert

▶ Value-added celery is under and demand exceed supply situation due to capacity constraints. Commodity celery is in better shape but expected to start see increased market activity in next 3-4 weeks.

#### Corn - Alert

Georgia corn supplies have been tight due to light yields and weather. California corn supplies extremely tight and basically nonexistent. Do not foresee any relief until the desert starts back up in a couple weeks.

#### **Green Beans**

Beans supply a little better in the East with markets adjusting. Less beans planted overall due to wet conditions at time of planting. Unless demand decreases supply could remain short. West, in gap, supplies remain extremely tight out of California for 2-3 more weeks.

#### Citrus

- Lemons- Supplies continue to improve and markets are adjusting.
- Oranges- Supplies of California Valencia's are very limited on 88 and smaller sizes
- Limes- No issues with supply. Sizes are increasing peaking on 175/200/150ct.
- Mandarins- Supplies of mandarins are very limited currently due to a back log of unloading ships at the port. All mandarins are imported during the summer months. Domestic supplies will not be available until November

#### **Garlic** - Alert

Strong markets are being seen now on garlic. For the past month, the garlic market has slowly been getting more active. There is presently a significant void of Chinese garlic, thus putting more demand on product from CA. Expect to see active markets for the foreseeable future.

#### **Mushrooms**

▶ Demand continues to be strong with limited supplies across all varieties, active markets to remain for the foreseeable future.

#### **Mixed Berries**

- Blackberries Still tough to come by as CA season continues to wind down and rain down in Mexico has slowed their start to their season
- Raspberries- Improved for this week as better supplies are being reported and the market is adjusting.
- Blueberries- Still a challenge with those being imported. Some containers getting released and most still out there waiting to get released. Mixed markets as a result.

#### **Strawberries**

The industry out of the Salinas and Watsonville growing regions are expecting a significant decrease in production as more ranches are being removed for the season and Oxnard's production has yet to ramp up.

## **PRODUCE MARKET Updates**

#### Honeydew ALERT

Supplies of Honeydews are very limited as we transition from between growing areas. Some substituting from large to smaller sizes is occurring. This is expected to be an issue for the next couple weeks.

### Snow & Snap Peas ALERT! Short and limited supplies on both coasts for

the next few weeks.

#### **Processed Celery and Onions - ALE**

Capacity issues on both demand outpacing available supply and production availability

#### Iceberg, Romaine, and Leaf Lettuces ALERI

Markets are active on all leaf, romaine and iceberg as the yields continue to decline as we near the end of the season out of the Salinas Valley. Commodity and Value-added packs are both impacted. Product out of Mexico continues to be challenged due to rain events. Markets are expected to see increased market activity for the rest of October.

#### Dry, Warm Vegetable Items ALERT

Items active this week- chili peppers, bell peppers, We are watching Hurricane Pamela as this could bring more changes to this category depending on its severity. More updates to follow next week.