



Published : August 12, 2021

MARKET CORNER

Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

Labor is still constrained across the industry, but supply is improving on many items. Wings are currently becoming more available, but demand is expected to pick up as football season approaches. Tenders are at premium pricing and are difficult to find. The breast market is trending upward on good demand..



Pork

Bone in butts saw a slight push late last week due to demand in retail and should begin to trade sideways. Loins are also showing a trend of trading sideways. Spareribs are making their way back up as demand picked up with price concessions from the last few weeks. Bellies looked to have peaked and may begin to trend downwards, but supply for fresh bellies is still tight.



Grains / Oil

Very hot and dry Canadian weather will cause damage to this years' Canola crop. Corn too will experience some losses in the US. The situation for soybeans has improved, but soybean oil stocks have fallen; however, soybean oil was down a little last week. Palm oil, also, was down following soybean oil.



Dairy

The natural cheese and mozzarella markets were flat week over week while the processed cheese markets decreased. The butter markets were flat week over week. Extra large and large eggs have increased \$0.02-\$0.03/dz and mediums are up \$0.01/dz this week.



Seafood

The brown shrimp and white shrimp supply have improved with the new season. Certain sizes of whites, browns and peeled shrimp are still unavailable. The North Atlantic Lobster big tails (5-6oz and larger) are on allocation until the opening of the Nova Scotia season in December. Pasteurized crab meat remains extremely short in supply.

Beef

Prices continue to climb higher and availability lower. The rib is now a matter of finding product, pricing is a secondary concern. The loin complex benefited from overall market strength, with tenders and loin thin meats quick re-bound upwards due to less availability. Chucks & rounds are hard to find and priced higher, with a mix of retail and export demand driving it.

Hot News

Seafood

The US ports continue to experience delays due to the lack of workers to unload the containers from vessels, causing massive imported seafood shortages. Some regions in China are under restriction and are shut down due to Covid-19 breaking out again, look for issues in the supply of imported items from China such as calamari, tilapia, cod, haddock, pollock, and salmon.

Produce

Challenges remain with lack of labor, freight and operational challenges in all segments of the business, making for challenges in the executions of the supply chain flow from harvest to shipping to receiving.

To learn more contact your local marketing associate. Market Corner Produce information reflects both US and Canadian markets. All other commodity information is based on US market data only.



MARKET CORNER

Ingredients for your Success

Asparagus

Market is steady but look to inch up in the coming weeks as we transition to new regions in Mexico. Quality is fair to good with seeder in some lots.

Avocados-Alert

Volumes out of Mexico continue to be limed with very active markets as a result. There is no big fruit being harvested – 40s and larger are non-existent. #2s have dropped to less than 2% of the harvest, with extremely limited availability on 48#2s and larger.

Cauliflower and Broccoli

Markets are steady this week as supplies on both have improved out of CA. MX continues to be challenged on both items.

Brussel Sprouts-Alert

Market remains in a demand exceeds supply situation. Sizing is still a challenge thus reducing overall yields. Very limited supplies and active market conditions to remain for the next 2 weeks.

Bell Peppers-Alert

Red and yellow bells are extremely short supply for both the east and west coasts. Green bells are available with better supplies reported.

Chili Peppers-Alert

Hot pepper supply very light and markets are active. Inconsistent supplies out of California due to labor and moderate supplies out of Mexico will keep this market strong and limited on availability.

Cilantro-Alert

Market is extremely active with limited supplies. Unprecedented cool, spring-like conditions in late July/early August have driven a combination of leaf spotting, yellowing, and seeder throughout each production block during the last handful of weeks. Good quality has been a challenge to come by. Expect conditions to last another 2-3 weeks.

Grapes

Green grapes mostly steady on good volume. Red grapes are in short supply as we transition out of flames into new varieties. Heat and labor issues pushing good red volume out another two weeks.

Lemons, Oranges, and Limes-Alert

Limes: market is very active and large size fruit is very hard to come by. Lemons: Supplies are very light from CA especially #1 fancy grade. Quality is also an issue due to heavy wind scar. Oranges-113ct and 138ct are light in supply with active markets.

Leaf and Lettuce

Yields continue to drop across the industry. Markets are expected to start to see increasing signs of market activity over the next 2-4 weeks. Quality has moved from good to fair as weather conditions start to change.

Mushrooms-Alert

The mushroom category remains challenged on supply and labor issues. Several varieties are impacted. Challenges are expected to last for several months. Shiitake and oyster mushrooms remain in a demand exceed supply situation. Other varieties such as white buttons and portabellas also are seeing supply challenges as well.

Mixed Berries-Blueberry Alert

Raspberries and Blackberries- Good supplies on both to meet all demand needs. Quality is being reported as fair to good. Blueberries- Market is more active this week as supplies start to slow down with the reduced production out of the Pacific Northwest. New fruit coming in from Peru is expected in the next few weeks. Quality is being reported as fair.

Potatoes

Market active, the transition to new crop has started in a light way, size profile is smaller, and yields are lower. The next 4-6 weeks will be very challenging in particular 40 – 70 ct. Quality reported currently as fair at this time.

Strawberries

Market is firmer this week. Strong demand continues as yields continue to drop in the Salinas/Watsonville regions. More reports of labor challenges are on the arise as well from suppliers. More quality issues are being seen as well as warmer weather is causing bruising and shelf life is starting to decline.

Squash-Alert

Zucchini and yellow squash remain EXTREMELY short supply, demand is strong, and quality is good on the few being harvested in the east. West Coast, yellow and zucchini in short, limited supplies on yellow and zucchini to lesser extent.

Top Produce Items

Below are additional items on Alerts

Labor and Freight

Continuing into this week are loading issues due to lack of consistent labor. Driver shortages coupled with higher freight rates continue to be ongoing topics of concern across the produce industry as well as others.

Shallots

Market remains very active and limited in supplies on fresh shallots. Relief not expected till September.

Hot House

Long English cucumbers are very short in supply. Campari, Beefsteak and medley tomatoes extremely limited supplies.