



Published: December 2, 2021

MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

Bird growing conditions are great across the country and are allowing for bigger birds that make it easier to make weight on cases.

- ▶ Wings are more available in all sizes.
- ▶ The random breast market is increasing as holiday scheduling may be constraining some supply.

Tenders are hitting the open market and price has steadied.



Pork

- ▶ Seasonally there is limited expectation of gains, as retailers focus on other protein types. Loins continue to decline with demand slowing.

- ▶ Ham prices slowly moved higher for the week again.

- ▶ Bellies again have dropped significantly this week due processors not having the necessary smokehouse capacity or labor needed.



Beef

The market is quiet overall with limited activity due to the holiday week. Availability remains on most cuts, adding pressure to a softer tone for this week.

- ▶ Strips and PSMO prices remain steady, while the rib complex continues to under perform.

- ▶ Briskets are the star for end cuts, while chucks are steady overall



Dairy

- ▶ The natural, mozzarella and processed cheese markets are up for the week, as demand is mixed.

- ▶ The butter market is higher with tighter cream supplies

- ▶ egg markets are higher with increased demand.



Seafood

- ▶ Closures of seafood plants in China (Covid-19) will delay shipments of groundfish to the US. Most of the tilapia being harvested are small and with Covid-19 farmers are not letting the fish stay in the water longer than necessary.

- ▶ The Alaska snow crab quota has been cut by 88%. This is due to all of the major crab stocks being down substantially, the Alaskan red King crab fishery has been shut down, which has not happened in 25 years.

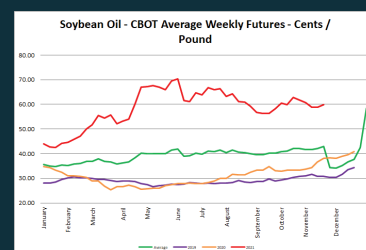


Grains / Oil

- ▶ The soybean oil market trended higher last week before falling off Friday following news reports on the Omicron COVID variant. The market was higher than average throughout the week.

- ▶ Both Palm and Canola ended the week with little change.

Market Headlines



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

Beef

The supply of feeder cattle & calves on January 1 will be down 400,000 head from year-ago levels and the smallest since 2015.

Produce

Mushrooms are in a dire state. Limited availability and high prices continue to plague the industry. Strawberries remain very short and limited in supply.



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Asparagus

- ▶ Market expected to get active as Mexico volume will start to decline, Peru should be able to offset next week. Quality is good.

Avocado - Alert

- ▶ Mexico's supply is slightly increasing. Larger fruit has become more abundant (36-48). Smaller fruit tightening up and with active market conditions. For #2 fruit, there has been a slight increase percentage but not enough to bring prices drastically down.

Broccoli

- ▶ Broccoli remains unsettled out both Mexico and CA but is slowly starting to show some signs of relief.

Bell Peppers -Alert

- ▶ Lighter supplies and strong markets remain on both the east and west coasts for the next 2-3 weeks.

Brussels Sprouts - Alert

- ▶ Active market conditions due to shorter overall supplies being available. Strong markets expected through the month of December.

Carrots - Alert

- ▶ Demand continues to outpace supply/ capacity of school-sized packs, and larger bulk size supply remains challenged. Stronger and more active markets continue.

Celery Value-Added - Alert

- ▶ Value Added celery(diced, sticks) is under and demand exceed supply situation due to capacity constraints. Commodity celery is now active as less overall supply is available.

Corn - Alert

- ▶ Supplies out of Florida remain very tight due to lack of growth for the corn expected this week. The market remains firm with limited supplies.

Cantaloupes & Honeydews - Alert

- ▶ Cantaloupes: Supplies are gradually increasing from Central America with most product coming into Florida and Los Angeles. Mexican cantaloupes are starting to wind down. Quality and sugar is good.
- ▶ Honeydews: Supplies are limited from Central America with Mexico being the primary source. Quality is good.

Green Beans

- ▶ Florida supply lighter post-holiday, cooler weather, and market conditions. Quality has been very nice. Market has been low, and demand has remained good. Market could increase mid-week. California and Baja finished. Mainland Mexico crossing thru Nogales supplies and quality good.

Citrus

- ▶ Lemons: The market is steady with good volume from California and Arizona
- ▶ Oranges: Oranges-Supplies are improving as the navel harvest progresses. Sizing is peaking on 88's and smaller with 56's and larger being fairly limited. Sugar and color is improving weekly.
- ▶ Lime: Heavier volume in mid to large sizes, specifically in 1.5 grade. Short supply on Mexican key limes and high prices is causing higher demand for Persian limes in Mexico. Higher prices and shorter supply into next week

Garlic - Alert

- ▶ There has been some adjustments in the market as more product has been released into the US. It is unknown how long our how much will continue to be available. As a result, the market is predicted to remain unsettled through the rest of the year.

Mushrooms - Alert

- ▶ Demand is outpacing available supply on all mushrooms. We are now seeing different items be discontinued as suppliers can simply not produce. Pricing is at historical highs. Reported challenges relate to labor, freight costs, lack of drivers, peat moss shortages and spawn issues that have caused green mold issues that have crippled yields. All suppliers are having supply issues on multiple types of mushrooms. Specialty mushrooms continue to be very limited and scarce, but now this is being felt across all varieties, browns, whites, and creminis. The industry does not see the conditions changing for the foreseeable future beyond this year and well into the next year.

Mixed Berries

- ▶ Good supply on both raspberries and blackberries as Mexico continues to ramp up their production. Blueberries for some, remain challenged as port congestion and offloading continues to be an issue.

Strawberries - Alert

- ▶ Strawberries remain short and limited in supply. Market is active and overall quality is very poor. Santa Maria and Oxnard CA are in limited production. Fruit is small, not coloring up and of fair quality. Mexico and Florida continue to try to ramp up but still not enough to meet all demand needs.

Tomatoes

- ▶ Market continues to improve on all varieties due to increasing availability out of FL & MX.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Processed Onions - **ALERT!**

Capacity issues on both demand outpacing available supply and production availability impacting diced, sliced and whole peeled packs.

Iceberg, Romaine, and Leaf Lettuces

Markets are starting to stabilize on iceberg, romaine and leaf items as more supply is coming into play out of the desert growing regions