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MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

▶ Seasonal wing demand is here. Tenders availability is increasing and prices are dropping fast. The random breast market is dropping. Portion control breast have availability. Boneless thigh meat prices were down again this week. Boneless leg meat is more available than it's dark meat counterpart. Whole birds are down.



Pork

▶ Butts are seeing a dip in the market but with butts being a value a retailers expect the market to trade sideways. Ribs are down slightly with demand slowing for this time of the year and high cold storage inventories. Loins are also down slightly from last week. Bellies will continue on their decline as demand is down and bellies move into cold storage rotation.



Beef

▶ PRIME, CAB PRIME, and CAB are costing significantly more than CH and SEL across the board. Ribs continue steady at best, with light weight ribs garnering a price premium. Strips continue softer; although, CAB and higher product remains limited. Chucks and round cuts continue steady, as packers hope for cooler weather soon to drive demand. Grind pricing has dipped.



Dairy

▶ Shell eggs markets continue to rise due to AI concerns and tightening supply. Butter markets slip, but still remain high due to tight supply heading into holiday season. Cheese markets remain steady as tight milk production continues to put upward pressure on markets.



Grains / Oil

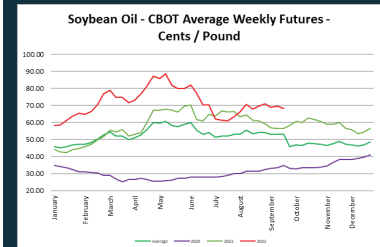
▶ Many market events pushed soybean oil lower: Weak exports, falling equity markets, better US dollar, weaker palm markets, and good harvest activity. Canola harvest is more than 50% done, but EPA allowing Canola for biofuel is one step closer to reality, pushing Canola higher. Palm is lower with higher stocks.



Seafood

▶ Record low harvest for Gulf Oysters due to mortality rate and several fishing areas being shut down, they will remain in tight supply until November. Lakefish remains elusive as bad weather hampers the fishing conditions.

Market Headlines



Beef

PRIME, CAB PRIME, CAB graded products continue to be very difficult to find; this is driving a "mixed" price tone. As Select and No Roll grade percentages are experiencing downward pricing pressure.

Eggs

Current impact of the fall outbreak of Avian Influenza continues to keep markets on edge. Egg supply remains tight. We continue to see significant increases in markets resulting in higher costs for shell eggs.



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Asparagus

- ▶ Market softer with Mexico coming on with increased volume. East market steady Peru arrivals are steady but expect delays with arrivals in the East due to the storm.

Avocado

- ▶ Market expected to firm up on 48 count and larger fruit as Peruvian arrivals start to drop.

Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Red market flat, Green firmer. US supplies Red steady, Green remains tight likely for a few more weeks.

Cauliflower - Alert

- ▶ Market jumped very quickly last week and continues this week, due to very short supply, and challenges on sizing.

Cilantro - Alert

- ▶ Market higher, supplies remain very light driven by the recent weather patterns that plagued the area.

Cucumbers- Alert

- ▶ Market remains high in the West with limited supplies arriving from Baja, MX. In the East supplies are ok but market could firm up as the storm passes through.

Eggplant - Alert

- ▶ Western supplies are limited. Volume will decrease in Central CA but expect crossings into Nogales from Mexico in the next 2 weeks. Eastern supply is strong, and demand is low.

Green Beans - Alert

- ▶ Market is active and weather continues to create production gaps limiting supplies in current growing regions, market expected to firm up with the impending storm out East.

Potatoes

- ▶ The market is starting to come off. The 60-70 ct is starting to adjust down. The 40ct and 50ct are still limited and dropping at a slower rate. Washington market softer, with good supply.

Citrus - Alert

- ▶ Lemons: Markets are higher as supplies are lighter due to growing area transition and high temps.
- ▶ Oranges: Markets are strong with limited supplies of 88/138cts. CA Valencia crop is waning. New crop Navel are roughly a month away leaving a potential for a gap in availability.
- ▶ Lime: Weather issues remain with frequent rain however; availability is improving as we inch into the new crop. Mostly 175ct and smaller available with some 110/150ct.

Mushrooms

- ▶ Previous weather conditions continues to put pressure on farms as some are struggling to keep up with demand and filling orders.

Strawberries - Alert

- ▶ Continuing inclement weather in the primary growing regions has created a demand exceeds supply situation expect very limited supplies throughout the week and going into next week. Markets are increasing.

Peppers - Red & Yellow - Alert

- ▶ Eastern green bell pepper supplies are shorter with stronger markets. Red and yellow bells nonexistent in the East and very light in the West. Expect markets to remain high until Mexico production starts.

Onions - Alert

- ▶ Markets are mostly steady with a weak undertone. The harvest will continue another month; however, the sizing profile continues to remain heavy to smaller onions.

Squash

- ▶ East-Zucchini and Yellow squash in good supply, but weather could impact growing regions, and pressure the market higher. West-supplies are light but should see improvement as product from Mexico increases.

Tomatoes - Alert

- ▶ The round tomato market is active due to past wet weather events. Grape, cherry, and Roma markets are active and expected to firm up. Expecting the storm hitting Florida will have a long-term impact to availability.

Pineapple

- ▶ Supplies are starting to improve; however, demand remains high, keeping market higher than normal.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Leaf, Iceberg, & Romaine

Markets remain high as less acres are available to pack, and sizing is a challenge as many fields are harvesting early, leading to smaller sizes/lower weights.

Green Onions

Market remains firm and supplies are still very light but improving, however production volume is still not enough to meet all the demand.

Cantaloupe & Honeydews

Both melons are in a demand exceeds supplies situation with honeydews slighter better in supply.