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# MARKET WATCH



*Ingredients for your Success*



## Poultry

► Wing season is here but there are plenty of wings available at favorable prices. Tenders availability is increasing and product is readily available. Breast prices are seasonally low but slower production forecasts through the end of the year will tighten supplies. Boneless thigh meat is readily available.



## Beef

► With Thanksgiving on everyone's mind, demand for box beef is paying the price with weak demand, leading to softer pricing. A few bright spots, ribs and tenderloins continue strong, with limited availability and seasonal demand. Strips are showing softness; although, premium grade boxes continue to be tighter in supply while choice and select continue to flood the market.



## Grains / Oil

► The soybean oil market ran higher, though stocks were reported as building. We are awaiting the EPA's announcement about allowing Canola to be used to for biodiesel. This may help relieve the price of soybean oil but will likely push Canola higher. Palm was higher on increased Chinese demand.



## Pork

► Butts are still trending down but remained relatively flat this week. Ribs are still coming down but not as rapidly as we saw last week. The decrease is due to supplies cleaning out inventories. Loins also continue to trend down as November is a slow month for pork. Bellies were slightly up compared to previous weeks. The bacon market is steady with soft demand.



## Dairy

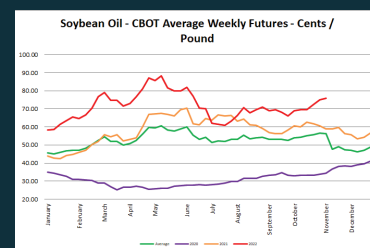
► Butter markets are increasing due to continued holiday demand. Shell eggs markets continue to increase, except in California, where markets are soft. Cheese markets rebounding as demand increases.



## Seafood

► Gulf Oyster season started November 1st. There are multiple bay closures to protect and restore oyster reefs. It is unclear how long Texas Parks and Wildlife will keep the few harvesting areas open but will have Portico Imperial Oysters available in January 2023.

## Market Headlines



## Seafood

Landings of head-on shrimp for peeling have slowed greatly in Texas and Louisiana. Headless Whites 10/15, 16/20, and 21/25 are still being landed but have slowed.

## Seafood

The Mahi-mahi market is dropping in anticipation of the new 2022/23 season. Some importers are unloading inventories at reduced costs.

## Avian Influenza

A commercial egg laying farm in Iowa tested positive for AI. It is reported that this farm housed 1.1 million birds. This latest outbreak is troubling especially given the farm's proximity to many more egg producers.



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## Asparagus

- ▶ Market is unsettled, supplies remain tight in Mexico. Peru market is mostly steady but will be leaned on to cover shortcomings in the West. Supplies expected to be tight into January.

## Avocado

- ▶ Mexico continues with a strong harvest. Crop peaking on 48s and larger with a softer market. 60 ct and smaller the market is steady. Percentage of category 2 fruit increasing, currently 12-15%.

## Broccoli

- ▶ Supplies remain short and market is still firm to higher.

## Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Supplies slightly lighter and demand slightly higher driving that market up.

## Cauliflower - Alert

- ▶ Supplies drastically short, continued cold weather will keep more product from coming on, market extremely high.

## Cilantro

- ▶ Market mostly steady on good supplies.

## Cucumbers- Alert

- ▶ East – Cucumber supply better, market lower.  
West – Volume increasing from Mexico as the Baja region wraps up. Demand is steady. Market may adjust with Thanksgiving demand but anticipated to weaken post-holiday.

## Eggplant - Alert

- ▶ East – Eggplant in better supply, quality good, and demand is lighter. Market declining due to pressure from out west and Mexico supplies increasing. West – Supplies improving as production has started out of the Coachella Valley and Mexico.

## Potatoes

- ▶ Pricing is Firm and still active. Fryers and processors continue looking to purchase product from the fresh market, pricing will remain higher than previous years.

## Citrus - Alert

- ▶ Lemons – Market mostly steady with good supplies out of the desert.
- ▶ Oranges – CA Navels in full swing and market is adjusting. Prices are decreasing on 88's and smaller and steady on larger sizes.
- ▶ Limes- Market steady with good supplies of 110 – 175 ct. Smaller sizes 230 – 250 ct seeing a little less volume.

## Mushrooms

- ▶ Supply is improving but still very short, but cautiously optimistic they will start meet the demand. Market mostly steady.

## Peppers- Alert

- ▶ East – Green bell supply steady, Red and Yellow extremely short, market high.  
West – Increasing availability from California and Mexico is causing this market to slightly adjust. Red and Yellow extremely short, market high.

## Onions

- ▶ Market is mostly steady. Larger Yellow onion sizes continue to be somewhat scarce. Reds and Whites continue to show good supplies.

## Pineapple

- ▶ Good availability on all sizes and prices are mostly steady.

## Squash

- ▶ East Coast – Market increasing with cooler weather slowing production. Yellow squash short supply. West Coast – Colder weather in Mexico is slowing production down. Expect market to rise. Yellow squash will be light for the rest of the month until Central Mexico starts.

## Tomatoes - Alert

- ▶ Markets are active, with rounds higher. Roma, Cherry and Grapes the market looks like it stabilizing, but remains high. Flexibility in specification, varieties, and sizing is the best way to mitigate the impacts of this supply challenge.

## Strawberries - Alert

- ▶ Market higher as heavy rains and frost in the California growing regions are preventing harvest creating a demand exceeds supply situation.

## PRODUCE MARKET Updates

### Leaf, Iceberg, & Romaine

Leaf, lettuce, Romaine holding at current high levels as they move to the Yuma growing region. Market looks to hold on to extremely high prices due to continued very light supplies with heavy demand.

### Spring Mix/Spinach

Product remains very short as suppliers continue with the move Yuma region. Expect shortages until we fully transition South to the desert in a few weeks.

### Green Beans

East - Market high with short supply due to hurricanes. West – Volume still light and market remains demand exceeds supplies. Market should improve in December when more supply comes online