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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. Tender 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.



Pork

- Butts as expected moved up due to features in retail ads. Loin is still trending down as demand has slowed. Ribs are flat for next week as suppliers begin to take bookings this market could move up. Bellies are also trending down as suppliers clear out frozen inventories.



Beef

- Overall, the supply is ample, and buyers appear to be in no hurry to buy more than the few weeks ahead for the holidays. Ribs and tenderloins due to holiday demand continue strong. Strips did firm up above levels from weeks prior, as the need for a lower price point middle meat offering arose. The chuck and round continue to trade lower, as supply continues to outpace demand.



Dairy

- Shell eggs markets remain high as supplies tighten while demand holds firm. Cheese markets are decreasing but demand remains firm. Butter markets are starting to soften. Cream and Culture pricing decreasing for December as butter markets fall in last 30 days.



Seafood

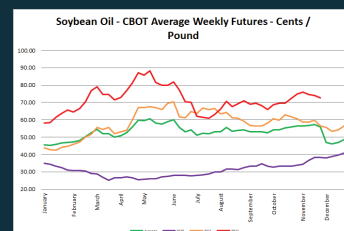
- Gulf Oyster season started November 1st but has several bay closures for reef restoration subject to Texas Parks and Wildlife discretion. Cod harvests in the North Atlantic will be reduced by 20% and in Iceland by 6%. Use Farm Raised Atlantic Cod as an alternative.



Grains / Oil

- EPA released its long-awaited biofuel mandates which encouraged speculators to sell off their long positions, forcing the soybean oil market lower. Palm was slightly higher with bad weather in Malaysia, and Canola moved higher with EPA approving its use for biodiesel.

Market Headlines



Beef

Beef production is expected to drop by 3% in 2024 and between 2% and 5% in 2025 and 2026. That could equate to a drop of as much as 500,000 metric tons of beef produced yearly.

Veg Oil

EPA announced its approval for Canola to be used for biodiesel. The soybean oil market moved much lower this past week.

Avian Influenza

No new outbreaks from last week, we continue to monitor this fluid situation and will advise of any new updates.



MARKET WATCH

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Asparagus

- ▶ Market remains active with the East seeing better supplies. Mexico more active market and leaning to smaller sizes. Shipping larger Peruvian sizes to the West may be needed for some growers.

Avocado

- ▶ Market remains mostly steady with plenty of fruit out of Mexico, leaning heavier to larger sizes.

Broccoli

- ▶ Market remains firm on ok supplies. Production expected to tighten up and could pressure the market higher.

Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Market steady, however some growers are getting into lighter weight product due to recent weather issues.

Cauliflower

- ▶ Market steady and remains firm. Cold weather continues to impede the growth keeping production numbers down.

Celery

- ▶ Market firm. Oxnard fields are yielding much lower than expected. Mexico is starting in 2-3 weeks to help the short in Oxnard, but supplies expected to be tight the next 6-8 weeks.

Cilantro

- ▶ Market active, cold weather has affected yields and supplies have become a bit tighter.

Citrus

- ▶ Lemons – Supplies are good coming from Central California and the Southern desert areas. Pricing is decreasing.
- ▶ Oranges - Supplies are good on navels. Sugar and color are increasing weekly. Market is steady to slightly lower.
- ▶ Limes- Market steady. Crop yielding heavier to 110 to 150 counts, with less volume on 175 to 250 counts.

Cucumbers

- ▶ East – Cucumber supply lighter, with demand strong. Market expected to increase. West – Moderate production this week with cooler temps, no significant volume until late next week. Market stronger.

Eggplant

- ▶ East – Eggplant supply steady, with moderate demand. Market remains mostly steady.
- West – Heavy supplies and light demand, this market at the bottom and can only go up at this time.

Mushrooms

- ▶ Supplies continue to improve, and the market remains steady.

Peppers- **Alert**

- ▶ Green bell supplies improving, market firm. Red and Yellow bells are extremely short supply and higher markets.

Pineapple

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

Potatoes

- ▶ Supplies are light this season. Packers are already limiting packing times to stretch the season out to the end. Volume is very limited on 40 70 ct.

Onions

- ▶ Market is mostly steady. Supplies are steady and keeping pace with demand.

Squash

- ▶ East – Zucchini supply better, but mostly on fancy. Mediums sell out each day, Market a little lower but seems to be firming back up. Yellow squash supply is light as demand exceeds supply. West – Zucchini squash prices are steady, with moderate demand. Yellow squash- Availability is increasing, and demand has slowed down causing market to adjust downward a bit.

Strawberries - **Alert**

- ▶ We continue to be in a demand exceeds supplies situation. You can expect more shortages this week and going into the next week. Continued unfavorable weather from all growing regions continues to hamper supplies.

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.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Leaf, Iceberg, & Romaine

Lettuce holding at current high levels. Leaf supplies improving but market remains high. Romaine showing signs of coming down.

Spring Mix/Spinach

The market continues to be in an extreme demand exceeds supplies on Spring Mix and Spinach. Arugula extremely short with some growers completely out for several days.