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# MARKET WATCH



*Ingredients for your Success*



## Poultry

► Jumbo and Medium size breast, tenders and wings move higher as seasonal demand increases. Boneless thigh and leg meat is starting to show stronger demand. Whole birds and cut ups are trending upward due higher labor and grain costs.



## Beef

► The market chatter is one of winter storms and possible impacts on grade and weights going forward. Ribs and tenderloins, are trading lower but not as aggressively as weeks prior. Strips continue to be losing steam as buying appears to be done for the most part. Chucks and rounds continue to trade steady, with supply and demand levels in balance currently.



## Grains / Oil

► Improvements in South American weather helped keep the soybean oil market neutral. Canola seed prices have declined over the past couple of weeks due to Germany possibly moving away from grain-based biofuels. Palm is lower on weak demand.



## Pork

► Pork butts are still soft in the marketplace and continue to show weakness until February. Loins moved up slightly due to features in retail ads for the remainder of the month. Ribs are holding flat still and will probably trade sideways for the near future. Bellies are coming down due to high cold storage levels. As demand for Cushions have slowed down this market continues to drop.



## Dairy

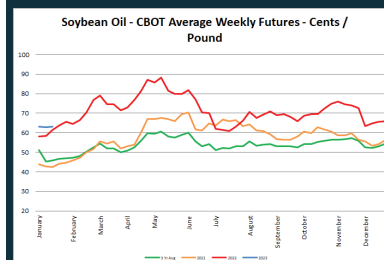
► Shell eggs continue to decrease as markets look for a floor due to fair demand. Cheese and Butter markets fall this week with good supplies and lackluster demand. Cream and Culture pricing is decreasing for February.



## Seafood

► Cod fishing has begun in Alaska and is expected to catch the quota quickly as most crab fishermen moved to target Cod. The imported shrimp market remains unsettled and weak due to excess inventories floating on the U.S. market. The mahi-mahi market is stabilizing as excess inventories are being depleted.

## Market Headlines



## Seafood

Supply for crab is strong and the demand has been quiet. Now is a great time for restaurants to put crab back on the menu.

## Eggs

No new impacts from Avian influenza on the egg markets to report this week or for the past several weeks. We are monitoring the situation closely.

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## Asparagus

- ▶ Cold front in Mexico over the weekend hampered growth but is forecast to rebound later in the week. Light east coast demand, west steady and this market is trending lower.

## Avocado

- ▶ Supply levels remain stable with good volumes, with good availability on 48 ct and larger.

## Broccoli

- ▶ Market mostly steady with fair to good volume and moderate demand. Broccolini volume is improving as rain has stopped and allowing for regular harvesting.

## Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Green market is steady to lower with good supplies. Red market remains elevated but has come off a bit on shorter supplies.

## Cauliflower

- ▶ Market up as excess supplies have been cleaned up and cooler weather delaying harvesting new fields.

## Celery

- ▶ Market continues to soften as Oxnard/Santa Maria begin to dry out and the desert regions come online with more volume.

## Cilantro & Parsley

- ▶ Parsley market remains firm with tight supply and not meeting demand. Cilantro market is mostly steady.

## Citrus

- ▶ Lemons – Market steady. Supplies are good coming from the Southern desert areas, and Central California region will have some drier days to harvest.

- Oranges - Break in the weather this week; crews are picking as much as possible before the next rain event. Heavy to Fancy Grade 70% Fancy / 30% Choice.

- Limes - **Alert** Market active. Mexico supplies remain limited in particular the mid range 175/200/230 sizes. There is heavier demand for those sizes keeping that market elevated. Supplies expected to be limited into February.

## Cucumbers

- ▶ Both field and Hot House Long English cucumbers remain very light in supplies as colder weather hampers production. The supply situation is expected to improve the next 7 - 14 days for Long English cucumbers.

## Eggplant

- ▶ Steady demand market trending lower for 18s, 24s about steady.

## Mushrooms

- ▶ Supplies are getting back on track with few prorates currently being seen. The market remains steady.

## Peppers- **Alert**

- ▶ Green bell supplies very light with cold weather in the East putting pressure on the West. Red and Yellow bells are extremely short in both East/West and higher markets expected.

## Pineapple

- ▶ Production will remain very tight on large sizes a few more weeks. Quality should be improving. Demand good. Market holding steady.

## Potatoes

- ▶ Prices are edging down slightly from the extreme highs we have seen. Demand is light which is typical for this time of year and will be thru February. Packers have cut production to pace the lighter storage volume thru the season.

## Onions

- ▶ Super Colossal Yellows and Colossal Yellows continue to be tight. Plenty of other supplies available. Quality is still very good in the Northwest.

## Squash - **Alert**

- ▶ East – Zucchini market has fallen but expected to rebound a little next week. Yellow market trending higher. West – Zucchini market steady with good volume. Yellow may strengthen with colder weather.

## Tomatoes - **Alert**

- ▶ Round markets are escalating due to cold weather in Florida combined with Mexico's delayed start to the season. Roma availability continues to improve with readily increasing volume. Grape and cherry markets remain stable and unchanged.

## PRODUCE MARKET Updates

### Green Beans

East – Supplies limited. Quality is good and demand has remained strong. Market holding steady at current high prices. West -Very limited supplies, cold weather will hold back production until later next week. Market forecast to hold for next three weeks at the elevated levels.

### Bananas

Supplies continue to be lighter from all suppliers due to cooler weather in the growing regions. Quality is good. Prices are steady.

### Long-Stem Strawberries

Long Stem Strawberry outlook for Valentine's Day look to be extremely short in supply.