



MARKET WATCH

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Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

Following Super Bowl week the poultry market is continuing to move in the same direction as previous weeks. The jumbo breast market was up this week as there is solid demand on that offering. Medium, small breasts, and tenders were steady. Wing demand is higher as many operators will look to fill their fridges.



Pork

Butts increased slightly for next week due to out-front buys and domestic interest. Ribs are steady for the moment but expected to trend up more throughout the month. Loins also moved up as demand from retail is holding this market up. Bellies are also expected continue to move up throughout the month of February.



Beef

Ribs continue steady; although, Select and No-Roll continue to be difficult to procure from packers. Tenderloins appear to be settling in at steady levels. Strips and shortloins continue steady, but packers are trying to walk higher out-front. Chucks and rounds continue to trade steady, with supply and demand levels varying from between packers. Grinds are holding steady.



Dairy

Shell eggs are moving lower despite good demand. US cheese markets were lower with increased production, but EU markets were higher. Cream & culture markets are trending lower, while butter is jumping higher. Processed eggs are moving higher with delayed impacts from avian influenza.



Grains / Oil

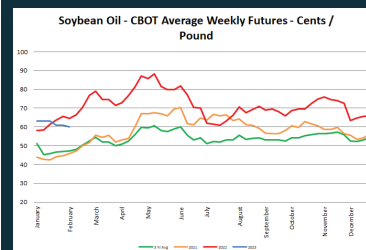
The soybean oil market moved lower last week, but bounced higher by week's end, following higher crude oil. Overall, the market averaged lower. Palm oil was higher with good stocks, but also good demand. Canola is flat with expected overall stocks vs. demand.



Seafood

Lent starts next Wednesday and it will go through until the first week in April (February 22nd - April 6th). Shrimp, salmon, tilapia, pangasius, pasteurized crabmeat, mahi, tuna, calamari, cod and pollock supplies have all stabilized compared to the other seafood species.

Market Headlines



Beef

Beef Packers continue to reduce harvest, leading to tighter availability and increases in prices.

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.

Seafood

Cod fishing has begun in Alaska and is expected to catch the quota quickly as most crab fishermen moved to target Cod, suppliers well supplied on most items.



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Asparagus

- ▶ Cold weather in Mexico has this item in extremely short supply with predictions of at least 7 to 10 more days of cold. Mostly larger sizes affected. Expect possible sizing substitutions as shippers strive to fill demand.

Avocado

- ▶ Harvest has slowed out of Mexico to give the industry time to recover from Super Bowl high volumes.

Broccoli

- ▶ Broccoli steady, but the cool weather could impact volume in the coming weeks and see the market trend up.

Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Cooler weather has pushed the market up on both Red and Green.

Cauliflower

- ▶ Cold weather in growing region has affected growth and slowing production. The next couple of weeks will be mostly a demand exceeds supply situation.

Celery

- ▶ Steady supplies and markets are starting to level out. Expecting supply, the next few weeks to meet demand.

Cilantro & Parsley

- ▶ Cilantro supplies are light and not meeting demand. Parsley is in better shape and market is mostly steady.

Citrus

- ▶ Lemons - Market is steady. Supplies are good coming from the Southern desert areas, and Central California region. Crop now peaking on 140/115/95 ct sizes.

- ▶ Oranges - Good supply as harvest is somewhat back to normal. A few pop-up showers over the weekend - nothing to stall any major harvesting. Production pack outs are heavier to Fancy grade right now.

Limes - **Alert** There is volatility in the Lime market. Volume from the southern Mexico lime growing regions has diminished. This is driving the market up on existing supplies from Veracruz and other growing areas.

Cucumbers

- ▶ East - Supplies are very light, quality good and market increasing. Less import cucumbers planted overall is keeping market high. Anticipating more volume early March. West - Lighter supplies are causing a market upswing, as with the east, relief not expected until mid-March.

Eggplant

- ▶ East - Supplies light, demand strong, quality fair and market very strong. West - Demand exceeds supplies and market is ticking up.

Mushrooms

- ▶ Some order delivery disruptions due to weather. Suppliers are recovering as quickly as they can. The market continues to remain steady.

Peppers

- ▶ East Coast - Green bell supply good, quality good, demand good, and market steady. Red and yellow pepper supply lighter, demand good, and market increasing. West - Most shippers reporting better supplies on green, color peppers remain limited.

Pineapple

- ▶ By next week at origin volume should be back up on large sizes. Rain has caused less crownless availability due to internal conditions. Market has come down slightly.

Potatoes

- ▶ Prices have stabilized. 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

- ▶ Slightly lower pricing in the NW due to sluggish movements. Quality remains very good aside from the normal translucency that is common for this time in the season.

Squash

- ▶ Good supplies on both coasts with moderate to good demand on both green and yellow.

Tomatoes

- ▶ Round, grape, and cherry varieties remain stable with good availability out of MX. Roma market is escalating due to reduced availability out of Florida which is a result of cool weather the growing region is experiencing.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Green Beans

East - Better supplies (seem to have finally caught up from weather), demand weaker, quality is good and market lower. Cooler temps in Mexico could push this market up. West - Cold is continuing to keep this item in short supply with market steady.

Bananas

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

Brocolini/Baby broccoli

Baby broccoli - Brocolini continues with short supplies as cold weather is impacting the growth cycle. Demand is exceeding supplies.

Strawberries

Volume overall is steady, but demand has decreased. Central Mexico is starting to gradually decline with med size. Baja and Southern California is slowly increasing volume with large size and good quality. Cool weather is holding back volume.