



Published: February 24, 2023

MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

▶ Seeing the strongest demand in the back half of the bird this week. Jumbo breasts continue to have solid demand. Tenders are in balance with supply and demand. Whole birds and cut ups were lower this week. Jumbo and small wings continue to see demand grow as well neat March Madness. Medium wings stayed steady.



Pork

▶ The butt market moved higher due to the out-front buys and increased domestic demand. Ribs dipped slightly, but expected to be short-lived as interest has been picking up. Loins leveled off this week as retail ads dwindle. Bellies are continuing on their upward trajectory as expected.



Beef

▶ Cattle are costing packers more, causing low box counts and higher prices. Ribs continue steady; although, Select and No Roll are difficult to procure. Tenderloins, even with Valentines behind us, are trending higher in price. Strips and shortloins continue stronger, as packers are trying to raise pricing higher out-front. Chucks and rounds are trading stronger and grinds are tight.



Dairy

▶ Shell eggs supply tightening? Markets are higher except for California. Cheese markets are stable as demand remains steady. Butter markets increased but look for declines next week, as supply is ample. Cream and culture prices are adjusting due to non-market cost factors for March.



Seafood

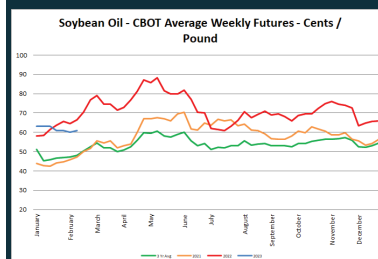
▶ Lent started Wednesday and it will go through the first week in April (February 22nd - April 6th). Shrimp, salmon, tilapia, pangasius, pasteurized crabmeat, mahi, tuna, calamari, cod and pollock supplies have all stabilized compared to the other seafood species. They are ideal to be featured in the seafood menus during Lent



Grains / Oil

▶ Decoupling somewhat, from energy, the soybean oil market moved higher last week with smaller global stocks being reported. Canola was flat on little new news, and palm moved slightly higher, but demand is starting to increase here.

Market Headlines



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

The Alaskan pollock catches (so far) are mostly yielding fillet sizes 2-4oz with few 4-6oz. Early season harvest across all species is up 18% from 2022, driven by large early season harvests of pollock, and Pacific cod.



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Asparagus - Alert

- ▶ Volatile market due to unprecedented cold and rain in growing region. Supplies well below traditional volume. Demand exceeds all sizes with shippers struggling to fill orders.

Avocado

- ▶ Market continues to get stronger as demand in the field is high. The size curve continues to favor 60s and smaller, #2s are also being harvested in a higher percentage.

Broccoli

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

Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ Colder weather has impacted yield pushing the market up on both Red and Green.

Cauliflower

- ▶ The market is active as some shippers are light in supply. Product is available, but with the cold weather, markets could shift up quickly.

Celery

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

Cilantro & Parsley

- ▶ Cilantro availability is up and down depending on growing region, keeping market a little active. Parsley holding a little steadier with supplies meeting demand.

Citrus

- ▶ Lemons - Market 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 major storm will be passing through the area and will likely impact harvesting and create some loading delays.
- ▶ Limes - **Alert** Lime market is volatile and expected remain volatile until at least mid-April. Market continues to increase due to light supplies and poor quality, driving up the cost of fruit in Mexico, along with additional demand.

Cucumbers

- ▶ East - Supplies are light from imports and very few out of Florida with limited production. Demand strong and pricing remains high. Quality good. West - Limited supply keeping market active.

Eggplant

- ▶ East - Market rapidly increasing, as supplies are short east and west. Quality is hit and miss. Demand strong for Lenten season. West - High demand and market, cold temperatures all indicate upward trend.

Mushrooms

- ▶ Barring any unforeseen weather disruptions, supplies will continue to keep pace with demand. The market continues to remain steady.

Peppers

- ▶ East Coast - Green bell supplies better, quality good and market lower. Red and Yellow extremely short supply in the east. West - Green supplies should improve by weekend while red and yellow are lighter volume. Market steady for green and up slightly for color varieties.

Pineapple

- ▶ Steady supply. Prices steady. No quality or volume issues. Supplies are building and demand remains good, if demand drops the market could weaken.

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.

Strawberries

- ▶ Volume overall has improved. Central Mexico is still seeing good volume. Baja and Southern California has been increasing volume with large size and good quality but rain late this week will likely set them back for next week.

Tomatoes

- ▶ Round and cherry market pricing will increase due to declining volume out of Florida. Grape and Roma volume remain steady due to good volume and low demand out West.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Green Beans

East - Currently seeing better supplies, market active with slow demand, and quality good. West - Better supplies, less demand has market trending lower.

Bananas

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

Broccolini/Baby broccoli

Baby broccoli - Broccolini continues with extremely short supplies as cold weather is impacting the growth, demand exceeds supplies with most suppliers.

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.