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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 higher this week. Jumbo wings were down but likely to move higher here in March. Medium wings stayed steady. Small wings were higher.



Beef

- ▶ Cattle cost continue to increase, forcing packers to hold steady or ask for higher prices. Ribs continue steady, but, some inventories are popping up. Tenderloins, are trending higher, with availability being the supporting factor. Strips and shortloins continue to garner attention, but there is not an agreed upon value between packers and buyers. Grinds are steady.



Grains / Oil

- ▶ Soybean oil moved higher last week with USDA reporting stocks lower by 7% with increases in biofuel demand. Canola stocks are largely increasing and may provide an opportunity for buyers. Palm is higher on good demand and flooding within Indonesia and Malaysia causing production to be lower.



Pork

- ▶ Butts moved up with normal seasonal demand and export interest on boneless butts. Loins held relatively steady as there is ample supply to meet demand. Ribs took a slight dip as there is still plenty of inventory in cold storage. Green hams continue to trend upwards with increased demand from export markets. Bellies moved counter seasonal due to excess cold storage levels.



Dairy

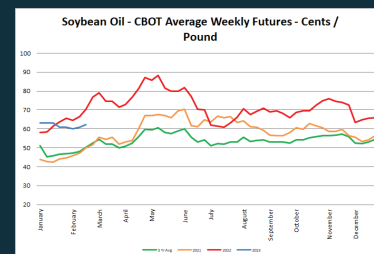
- ▶ Shell eggs continue to increase as demand picks up. California shell egg market continues to fall. Cheese markets remain steady to slightly up. Butter Markets decrease this week, bearish tones still exist. Cream and Culture pricing adjustments due to non-market cost factors for March.



Seafood

- ▶ Lent started last Wednesday and it will go on until the first week in April. (February 22nd - April 6th). Shrimp, salmon, tilapia, pangasius, pasteurized crab meat, mahi, tuna, calamari, cod and pollock supplies have all stabilized compared to last year.

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.

Wings

Chicken wing availability has increased coming out of the Super Bowl but we are fast approaching March Madness so be prepared.

Seafood

Shrimp Landings have slowed greatly in Texas and Louisiana season is done until sometime in May. There will be a very limited supply of U-12 Whites and Browns for the balance of the season.



MARKET WATCH

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Asparagus - Alert

- ▶ Mexican production is ramping up with warmer weather and the long-expected volume increase is just around the corner. Already the market is reflecting the downward trend with next week promising better weather.

Avocado

- ▶ Field prices have been increasing since the Super Bowl and are now being translated into higher FOB prices. 48's and larger are the real movers.

Broccoli

- ▶ Broccoli supplies are tighter and expect the market to start to react higher.

Cabbage - Green & Red

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

Cauliflower

- ▶ The market is higher as most shippers are light in supply and not meeting demand. Weather looks to improve but will likely be tight to the end of the Yuma season.

Celery

- ▶ Cool weather and rain in the growing regions is impacting harvest driving the market back up as supplies are struggling 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 - The desert region is done and moving up to the California coast and Central valley, with a high percentage of Fancy grade from the Central valley. As with oranges the rain in the valley will slow harvest and keep this market active.
- ▶ Oranges - Rain has stalled out harvest since Friday. Good Supply of 88s and smaller oranges. 72s and larger may be tight supplied as suppliers have not been able to harvest.
- ▶ Limes - **Alert** Supplies continue to be limited on U.S. #1 fruit and prices are remain elevated. Anticipate some relief mid-March with new crop, large sizes (110/150/175's) will remain limited because of stage of crop.

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 - Eggplant supply very limited on fancy grade. There is choice grade around with scars. Market is very strong, demand strong, and will remain until new fields start. West- Lower supplies, steady demand, no changes expected.

Mushrooms

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

Peppers

- ▶ Green bell pepper market is stronger, demand good, quality is decent, and supply lower. Market will increase more by weekend. Red and yellow belles extremely short. West showing a robust market with good demand and higher.

Pineapple

- ▶ Steady supply. No quality issues. Prices remain higher than average on all sizes. Demand will increase as we approach Easter.

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

- ▶ Market remains steady as we finish up February. Quality is holding steady as well. The market has come off slightly on Yellows and Reds onions. South Texas is ramping up with Mexican product.

Strawberries

- ▶ Rain and cold temps in California are severely impacting supplies. Growers still have good supplies from Florida and Mexico to supplement. The long-term this may go on for a few weeks or longer if weather doesn't improve. In which case the market will become very active.

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

Corn

East - Supplies continue to remain light, and market remains elevated. Anticipating, supplies to improve in the coming weeks. West - Both white and yellow showing better supplies and quality expected to improve. Market is unsteady.

Eggplant

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Broccolini/Baby broccoli

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