



Published: May 19, 2023

MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

► The chicken market was mixed this week and tenders continue to stay HOT. Jumbo and small breasts were up this week. Medium breasts were flat. Tenders were up BIG again this week and are very tight in the market. Wings of all sizes were steady. Whole birds were even. Thigh and legs were up.



Beef

► Rib and Tenders seem to be correcting, with supplies leaning toward heavy and demand not absorbing cases off the market fast enough. Tenderloins and briskets supplies are popping up and allowing for lower pricing. Chucks and rounds continue steady as processors and grinding of some round cuts are helping balance demand and supply. Grinds are steady.



Grains / Oil

► USDA reporting helped push the soybean oil market lower as stocks are seen as flat, while soybean planting is ahead of average, but cash values for soybean oil have increased. Canola values have increased with fewer reported seed stocks. Palm moved lower last week, keeping in step with soybean oil, and increased stocks.



Pork

► Butts had some modest gains in the market and should continue to see slight gains through the rest of the month. The rib complex is still holding relatively flat but could see some upward movement on fresh ribs. Loins are still firm held up by retail demand and the upcoming holiday. Bellies are not seeing the seasonal gains as expected mainly due to large cold storage supplies.



Dairy

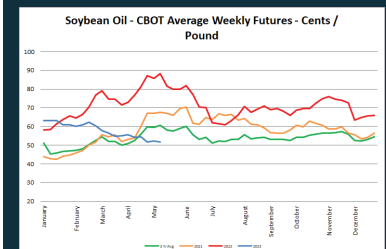
► Shell Egg markets are steady with prices starting to increase due to demand. Cheese and Butter markets are down with bearish overtones existing for both. Cream and Culture pricing will have nominal decreases for the month of May



Seafood

► Summer is around the corner and beach business is booming again. Snappers, grouper, mahi-mahi, swordfish, shrimp, and crab should be featured on the menus. Snow crab pricing has stabilized.

Market Headlines



Chicken

The chicken market was mixed this week and tenders continue to stay HOT.

Beef

Global beef production is expected to grow slightly this year, due to Brazil and China having continued growth. Both beef imports and exports were down compared to last year; a direct reflection to reduced consumer demand.

Seafood

The snow crab pricing is now stable as the bottom has been established in the past two weeks. Demand has been robust. 66% of the quota has been harvested.



MARKET WATCH

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Asparagus

- ▶ Market has remained steady as supply is meeting demand. Quality is good. White asparagus is limited.

Avocado

- ▶ The market a bit higher, the size curve continues to favor 48s and larger. Smaller fruit 60's and smaller expected to see the largest market increase this week.

Broccoli

- ▶ Market is starting to settle on both broccoli and baby broccoli as the weather gets back to historical norms.

Cabbage - Green & Red

- ▶ The market is active with some quality issues reported as Oxnard ramps up.

Cauliflower - Alert

- ▶ Markets coming down, however it's a mixed bag with growers, some have limited supplies and some with extra volume. Expecting this to yo-yo through June.

Celery

- ▶ The market started to rise quickly with supplies increasingly tight, as Oxnard production is dwindling. Expect supplies to improve in a couple of weeks.

Cilantro & Parsley

- ▶ Cilantro supplies and quality are good, no issues expect this week or next. Parsley for Curly remains snug but seems to be meeting demand, flat is short and having trouble meeting demand.

Citrus

- ▶ **Lemons** – Central Valley is peaking large fancy, 115/95/75. Suppliers are targeting smaller fruit from the Coast to complement the Central Valley. Small sizes are tightening up. 140ct & smaller are getting short supplies.
- ▶ **Oranges** – Navel size structure is starting to shift. Current peak is a 72/88, grading heavier into choice. Active market on 88s, 113s & 138s with rising prices.
- ▶ **Limes**— **Alert**

Overall size of the lime crop continues to get a little bigger each week, with most fruit entering the US in the 175-230ct size range. Harvest of 150cts, and 110ct remain very limited.

Grapes

- ▶ The next two weeks supplies are extremely short. New crop green grapes from Mexico should start ship by the end of next week and Reds the end of the following week. The market remains extremely high.

Green and Red leaf, Boston lettuce - Alert

- ▶ Green and red leaf supplies have improved, and the market is reacting down with better volume.

Mushrooms

- ▶ Overall good supplies with very few supply disruptions. The market remains steady.

Peppers

- ▶ West coast green bell pepper harvest is fully underway with good yields and good quality. Colored bells later start but Mexican supplies are steady, market is steady for now. East – Green bells supply light, quality good market high on retail sizes and a little lower on off grades. Red and yellow bells are short in Florida.

Pineapple

- ▶ Supply is very tight and will continue for the next 2 – 4 weeks. Demand is strong due to very good quality and tight supply. Expecting better supplies week 22 and will see peak in volume through week 26 followed by drop in mid-summer.

Potatoes

- ▶ Supplies are very light at 40-50 ct and moderate at 60 - 70 ct. 80's and smaller are seeing better volume. Quality remains good with steady pricing.

Onions

- ▶ This market is showing some strength as excessive rain in South Texas has stopped product from that area. We are now transitioning into Southern California and Southern New Mexico. Demand is currently outpacing these two newer growing regions.

Tomatoes

- ▶ Markets are escalating on all varieties both east and west. Out east, we are seeing a reduction in overall supply due to the heat out of Florida. Out west, availability out of Mexico is reduced due to the growing region winding down.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Brussels Sprouts

Extremely light supplies. Expecting lighter numbers through the duration of this month and well into June before we see improved production.

Green Beans

West Coast remains limited with the change in regions. It is expected to be roughly two weeks until we could see improved supply. East coast supplies a little better, market declining, expect better availability next week as more growers start up in Georgia.

Snow/Snap Peas

Market remains firm on moderate supplies on both snap and snow. Quality reported as good to very good.