



Published: September 15, 2023

MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

Hot weather in the south continues to affect bird weights. Breasts have steadied after weeks of gains. Tenders are in high demand and are in short supply. Wings of all sizes are up on good demand and short supply. Dark meat is moving up on increased demand.



Pork

Butts markets remain strong, but demand should decline after labor day and bring the markets down. Ribs are holding steady right now with little signs of movement. Loins are coming down due to less demand from retail. Bellies are still on a sharp decline.



Beef

The market has slowed. Tenders and ribs are popping up but enough to make buyers pause. Strips, mostly Choice, continue to fill the pipeline, yet packers are hesitant to clear them out. Packers and buyers continue to eye the spread in price between strips and ribs, expecting a shift in sales. Chucks and rounds continue to show balance. Grinds are showing softer undertones on 73% & 81 lean.



Dairy

Shell Egg markets steady. Cheese markets up this week, look to remain steady. Butter markets are down again this week, but still have some bullish overtones. Cream and Culture pricing will increase for most of the country, California will remain flat for September pricing.



Grains / Oil

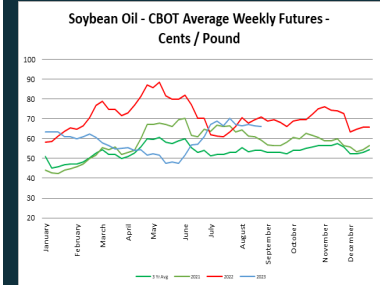
We experienced another week where the soybean crop score was downgraded, which has serious implications around harvest and production. Despite this, futures for soybean oil fell hard. Canola seed futures continued to move lower. Dry weather is allowing the farmers to continue to harvest. Palm oil moved along with soybean oil futures.



Seafood

The floods in China have affected Tilapia raw material availability. The extent to which it will affect our availability and cost is yet to be determined. Alaskan King Crab season has been canceled for the 6th year in a row. When looking for options to king crab, Golden king crab and Santolla crab (South American) are great options

Market Headlines



Seafood

Supply chain disruptions for the Tilapia industry are continuing to put upward pricing pressure on the global tilapia market.

Chicken

Bird weights continue to trend lower due to the heat. Lower bird weights limit production on key items such as jumbo breasts, tenders, and wings.

Beef

Packers and retailers continue to bet on the end cuts, chucks, and rounds, due to availability and affordability. Warmer weather may extend the opportunity for more ads/specials for steak cuts before the full "fall" transition.



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Asparagus

Market continues to be elevated compared to historical time periods but is on the decline. Supplies have improved.

Avocado- Alert

The size curve is starting to even out with more 48s showing up in the pack-outs, roughly 29%. #2 fruit will remain short with only 5% of pack-out.

Broccoli

Market a little active and up a bit as supplies are lighter this week as yields are down with some quality issues at the field level.

Brussels Sprouts

Market will continue to remain strong into this coming week with no significant changes in the supply picture.

Cabbage - Green & Red

Supplies and quality good on both red and green. Market a little higher on green and lower on red.

Cauliflower

Market still holding a bit higher as we have a mix with growers, some in the industry are still lighter on volume. Subbing sizes noted with some growers.

Celery

The market is creeping up. Supply is good, but yields are impacted by some quality issues at the field level.

Cilantro/Parsley

Supplies of cilantro are a little tighter parsley are good this week, moderate demand and the market steady. Product is showing occasional seeder however overall good quality.

Eggplant - Alert

East – Eggplant supplies light, quality is good, demand good, and market moving well at current prices. West Very limited supplies, possible prorates until weather improves.

Potatoes

Volume continues to improve as the harvest progresses. So far, quality and size are looking good for this season. Prices are lower.

Citrus - Alert

Lemons **Alert**- Lemons Demand is high. Fancy grade and small sizes are extremely tight. Expect supplies to be tight in September as Argentina and Chile are expected to finish the end of this month. The desert crop is expected to start early to mid-October.

Oranges-Strong demand and tight supplies on small sizes 113-138's, small sizes expected to remain tight through the Valencia season. Crop peaking on 72's and larger. The market continues to strengthen on 88's and smaller.

Limes **Alert**- Demand exceeds supply. Overall volume from Mexico low. High shrink due to heat so grading a challenge. New crop will start in October, but they have been impacted by summer heat, so that volume could be down also.

Grapes

Demand exceeds. Pricing increasing. Red availability is diminishing rapidly. Expect requests to substitute color.

Peppers-Red&Yellow-Alert

East – Green pepper supply is light, demand good, and quality very good. Red and yellow bells are in extremely short supply. West - Green supply is good, red is steady and yellow remains limited.

Onions

Northwest harvest continues with good volumes of yellows. Red availability has improved greatly, and whites are becoming more plentiful every day. Quality remains excellent. The overall market is steady.

Pineapple

Supply is starting to increase, and prices are starting to decrease slightly.

Squash

East – Zucchini and Yellow squash supplies are better, quality is very good, and market a little lower with new areas starting; demand good. West lighter supplies, quality fair. Volume expected to improve in the next two weeks

Tomatoes

Round and roma markets are increasing due to declining availability both east and west. Grape and cherry markets continue to improve with increased availability and normal demand.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Leaf, Iceberg, & Romaine

Market on lettuce fairly steady and overall quality is good. Romaine supplies are good, and quality fair to good with high seeder and fringe burn noted in some fields, market mostly steady, hearts trending higher.

Peppers-Chilies

East – Supplies are light, demand stronger, quality is good and markets steady. West-Serrano supply is good with other items limited. Should see more availability by weekend.

Green Onion - Alert

Demand is strong and the market a little firmer. The heat and storm damages have affected supplies and Mexico will be short for the next 4-6 weeks or longer.