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# MARKET WATCH



Ingredients for your Success

## Chicken



As hatchability of eggs remains an issue, we continue to see supply shortages especially on wings and tenders. Breast demand has started to level off. Wings demand continues to be strong. Tenders demand is very strong and remain the hardest offering to find. Dark meat demand remains very good. Whole birds are mostly steady.

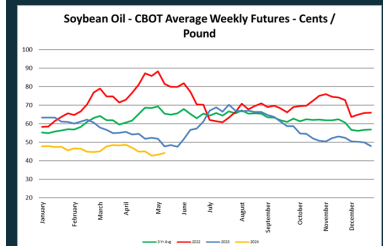
## Pork



B/I in butts are moving up next week while boneless butts took a slight dip. Spareribs are also moving up with grilling season approaching. Loins are also moving up as retail ads are being featured and strong exports. Bellies are moving up next week and the market remains volatile.

## Market Headlines

### Soy Bean Oil



## Beef



Supply is limited, and packers are asking higher prices, trying to do so gradually will be key. Ribs and tenders' prices are up across the board, although product is still available. Strips and top butts continue to drift higher, while supplies remain tight. End cuts, insides and chucks, are flat. Grind, due to limited harvest and high demand drifted higher.

## Dairy



Shell egg markets are all up including California and Northwest markets. The Block & Barrel are increasing and steady. Butter is up. Cream supplies are starting to seasonally tighten. Milk production is following seasonal trends across the country as we approach summer.

## Poultry

The majority of fresh chicken plants will not run on Memorial Day, and they just don't have birds to run Saturday. We expect a tight supply of fresh chicken next week due to lower production.

## Grains / Oil



Soybean oil moved about 2% higher last week. Crude, diesel, and soybean oil were all higher. The short speculator position is still present, but funds were the big buyers last week. Palm oil was flat with balanced supply & demand, while Canola moved higher with soybean oil.

## Seafood



North Atlantic Lobster tails supply is improving, and prices are coming down. Markets are steady week-over-week. Seafood sector is gearing up for big holidays going into summer and operators are revamping summer menus.

## Beef

Beef packers reduced hours due to continued losses on their end. With reduced harvest packers have been able to limit supplies and increase pricing for current shipping windows.



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## Asparagus

Mexican supplies are limited but with local and Peruvian supplies adequate to meet demand market is steady. Quality is fair to good.

## Avocado

Pricing has stabilized, with lighter volume from Mexico but California is underway helping to keep up with the strong demand. 48's and larger will remain at a premium compared to 60's and 70's.

## Broccoli

Market mostly steady but higher undertones due to lighter yields and higher demand. Supplies are adequate and meeting demand.

## Cabbage - Green & Red

Red pricing remains elevated as supplies are expected to be tight for the next couple of weeks. Supplies and quality good on green that market is mostly steady.

## Cauliflower

Market continues to come down as supplies continue to improve and demand is moderate.

## Celery

Supplies remain snug and market remains firm. We do not anticipate any significant relief until Salinas starts up in June.

## Cilantro/Parsley

Tighter supply on Cilantro and market is reacting higher. Quality is ok but weather is impacting yields. Market up a bit on curly but flat is active and higher as supplies remain tight, expect most suppliers to just meet demand.

## Corn

East - corn supply good, quality good, demand decent, and market remains low. West Good supplies with moderate demand.

## Grapes

Chilean supplies are coming to an end, and as volume picks up on Mexican and California desert product, there will be a significant spread in prices overall. Quality fair on Chilean supplies, quality good on Mexican.

## Citrus- Alert

Lemons -**Alert**-District 1 fruit is mostly Large (115 & larger). Consequently 140s & smaller are very tightly supplied. The lemon market will continue to be tight throughout the summer (mostly May & June) or until the relief of imports. Small lemons demand exceeds supplies.

Oranges -**Alert**-Navels begin to wrap up for the season. Most of the volume on 88's and smaller are Valencia's Oranges. Export Navel season is finished. Smaller sizes are better supplied, as the demand of schools have decreased.

Limes - Summer lime production continues to increase, but Mexico needs some rain to help the fruit continue to size up. Right now, most of the crop is 200ct and smaller, with very few 110cts being produced. Offshore fruit has also slowed down, pushing some of the demand back to Mexico.

## Onions- Red Alert

Market is a bit softer with good volume and quality as warmer desert weather continues to improve yields.

## Bell Peppers

East - Green bell supply good, quality is good, demand fair, and market steady. Red and yellow bells limited supply and very good demand. West -higher demand, steady supply but with weather out east expecting market to continue to increase as pressure increases.

## Potatoes- Russets

Supplies are very light on 40-50 ct from most suppliers. 90-120 ct are plentiful. This now looks to be the case through the summer months. Demand is following supply accordingly. Prices are steady on large and lower on smaller sizes

## Tomatoes- Round Alert

Round markets continue to improve with increased availability out of Florida. Grape and cherry markets remain stable with steady volume on normal demand. Roma markets have improved with increased availability of FL & MX.

## Squash

East - Zucchini and Yellow squash supplies are extremely short, demand is strong, and markets very high. Some Georgia fields already have significant disease issues from the rain. West higher market as transition is slow to start. Quality is fair from all regions.

## Lettuce Romaine

Market remains high but is beginning to soften a bit as supplies are getting better, demand though remains strong. Market also remains high on hearts as they are a bit tighter.

## PRODUCE MARKET Updates

### Peppers Chillies

East - Supplies are finishing up in Florida and starting in Georgia' supplies good, demand and quality good, with markets lower on all varieties besides serrano, Anaheim, and poblanos which remain extremely short. West - Market higher, supplies lower as Mexico finishes. Extremely short.

### Pineapples

Production volume has improved on 6ct and 7ct. Size 5 is still very tight. This is expected to continue for another 3 weeks. No significant peak is expected this summer.

### Eggplant

East - Supplies much lighter, demand very good and market increasing. Florida production coming to an end and Georgia is just getting started but not into volume yet. West Limited acreage planted in the desert, supplies lower, market higher, quality issues.

### Lettuce Iceberg

Market active and remains elevated with various growers at different levels of supply. Early season planting disruptions and cooler weather have suppliers tight and just meeting market demand.