



# Market CORNER

*Ingredients For Your Success!*

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## Poultry

As expected, the loss of production days due to the holidays has tightened offerings on the open market. Breast of all sizes have tightened in the open market. Tenders are steady. Wings are seeing consistency in the market. Dark meat continues to weaken. Whole birds are mostly balanced.



## Pork

Butts both Bone-in and boneless are steady and continue a flat market trajectory. Loins are steady with adequate supply. Ribs see adequate supply – backribs & St. Louis are steady market prices, while spares continue to fall. Bellies are unsettled, continued to decline as supply is unsure. Trim is mixed, 42's have more supply, 72's are more tight.



## Beef

One of the lightest Christmas week slaughters helped the packers add further pricing support to many of the cuts. Ribs/PSMO prices across the carcass moved higher last week. Chuck, rounds, grinds and thins are all expected to remain strong into the first half of January. Tenders pricing has begun to move lower, and Ribs should follow over next few weeks.



## Dairy

Shell egg markets are up this week and California eggs are flat. New values reported last Friday now suggest the total number of layers lost to bird flu in the month of December alone has now reached a staggering 13 million. The Block is up & Barrel are down. Butter is up. Stakeholders note healthy butter inventories.



## Grains / Oil

Soybean oil trading last week was held within a tight range, averaging the week slightly lower. Palm oil trading calmed, helping soy stay relatively flat. Soybean oil stocks are very tight and demand for exports is very strong. Palm oil production fell but exports are down, keeping the value flat. Canola trading also ended flat.

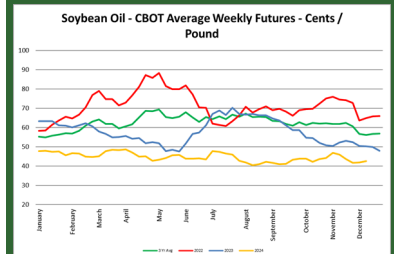


## Seafood

We are coming up on holiday usage of seafood items when we see increased demand on popular categories: Shrimp (raw & cooked), smoked salmon, lobster & crab. Expect pricing to firm up or remain stable, at best, going into the holiday season.

# Market HEADLINES

## Soy Bean Oil



## Beef

Last week slaughter came in at an estimated 436K head which makes it the fourth smallest Christmas week kill since 2013. With packer margins in the negative last week, they will closely watch this kill number in January.

## Eggs

A conventional egg farm in Ohio has been confirmed as HPAI positive losing of just under 1.0M layers. There is also another reported organic egg farm in California has been confirmed as HPAI positive losing of 181k layers.

# Market CORNER

## Asparagus

Mexican volume on larger sizing is lower. Market is higher. Peruvian supplies are steady but western demand has market higher. This is expected for the next two to three weeks.

## Avocado

Harvest demand will be strong this week as higher inventories are needed at the end of this week to carry through the upcoming holidays. The market is expected to continue being strong overall, with smaller fruit continuing to strengthen.

## Bell Peppers

East – Bell Pepper green, red and yellow will remain in short supply. Quality is good. West all bell peppers remain in demand exceeds. Red are extremely short. Expecting to improve into next week as volume increases. Quality is good.

## Broccoli

Markets continue to decline slowly. Demand has remained very strong for florets and moderate for cartons.

## Cauliflower

Market is active and has moved higher as supplies are slow to improve as quality is impacting yields. Value added growers have been impacted and struggling to meet demand.

## Celery

Market higher as supplies are light due to lower yields from the fields. Overall quality is good.

## Cilantro/Parsley

Market is steady on both Cilantro and parsleys with moderate to good demand. Some occasionally yellowing noted for both, but overall quality is good.

## Grapes

Domestic grapes still available in the West, but quality marginal and supply on fair. Imports on the East Coast are in fair supplier and quality is good. Expecting some delays in arrivals due to lack of shipping containers out of Peru.

## Citrus

Lemons-Demand is steady. Fruit quality is excellent, and the peak sizes are 115s, 140s and 165s followed by 95s. Pricing for smaller sizes is strengthening due to the shift in sizing.

Oranges - Demand is steady. Pack outs show a high percentage of fancy grade over choice and the peak sizes are 88s, 113s and 138s followed by 72s. Fruit quality is excellent.

Limes -As we approach the holidays, anticipate some delays in shipments from Mexico due to workers taking time off. Although markets are gradually increasing, the 110/150 count sizes will be the peak sizes until we fully transition to new crop.

## Lettuce Iceberg

Supplies are improving and weights continue to slowly increase. The market is starting to settle and mostly steady.

## Lettuce Romaine

Market continues to soften on both romaine and hearts as supplies continue to meet demand. Quality is reported as good.

## Onions

Supplies are good on new crop yellows and reds from Washington and Idaho. Whites are lighter in supply this season. Demand is good on all colors. Quality has been good, with good sizing. Prices are steady on Yellows reds and whites.

## Potatoes- Russets

Supplies are good on the new crop. The sizing is heavy to large with most growers being lighter on small sizes. Quality is good. Prices are steady.

## Squash

East - Plenty of summer squash in Florida, quality is good and markets lower. West. Moderate supplies on yellow, green is steady. Market is lower.

## Tomatoes

Market remains on alert due to significantly reduced availability both east and west from recent weather conditions in Florida combined with reduced availability of CA & MX. Market is not expected to improve until mid-January. Quality varies amongst growers.

## PRODUCE MARKET *Updates*

### Strawberries

Supplies are still light in California due to typical cool winter weather and shorter days. Florida and Mexico volume in increasing but still leaving the overall volume light. Prices are higher.

### Corn

East – Corn out of Florida is extremely tight; hitting planting gap, and markets are very high. West – desert corn is finishing, with Nogales ramp up increasing into next week.

### Green Beans

East – Supplies are better, quality good, demand good and the market is steady West Steady market, with increasing supplies.