



Market CORNER

Ingredients For Your Success!

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Poultry

There is availability across the board on most offerings besides dark meat. Tender demand is slower. Wings remain the best value in chicken as prices stay low. Breasts of all sizes are available. Thigh and leg meat demand is still strong.



Seafood

Prices of Cod continue to strengthen due to overall high global demand and less raw material availability. Pollock is a great substitute, although demand is increasing for all sizes due to the lack of Cod. Pangasius is facing inventory challenges due to increased demand, compounded by extended lead times from Vietnam.



Beef

The beef market tone from packers is shifting, as cattle trade at record highs. Packers did push forward with big harvest as they position for holiday week ahead, as they must have boxes to fulfill commitments. Middles continue to click up, especially on light ribs and CAB boxes; although, demand is coming in below typical seasonal demand. End cuts continue to cleanup, as buyers look for grinding material and value cuts. Grinds are being quoted at higher pricing w/ the expectation of limited supply.



Pork

Bellies are softening. In trim-both leans continue to level out. Loin demand is steady. Butts are expected to have a strong season. Look-out for spareribs some pressure on market exists and prices have been unusually high. Ribs continue to be inflationary YOY. Going into Memorial Day rib demand stays high.



Grains / Oil

Soybean oil traded slightly lower and volatile last week amid fund selling and weak grain sentiment but remains structurally supported by strong biofuel demand and elevated energy prices, keeping the broader trend bullish.

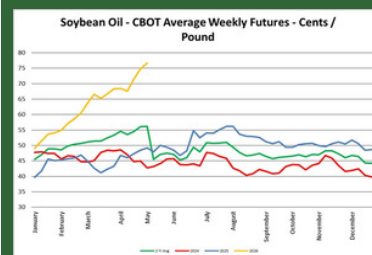


Dairy

Shell eggs – are up, California Shell eggs – are up, The Cheese Block market – is Down, the Butter market – is up, Cream remains readily available.

Market HEADLINES

Soy Bean Oil



Beef

USDA reports the average retail price for beef set a record in April at \$9.64 per pound, up about 13% from the previous year. Beef prices remain elevated by strong demand and the smallest U.S. cattle herd in 75 years

Oil

Soybean oil prices remain elevated and are expected to be even higher.

Asparagus

Improving supply as Michigan and Washington help to fill the pipeline. Will see lower market and better fill rate next week. Quality is good.

Avocado

Mexico - Supplies steady, quality is fair to good, demand is strong and the market is higher. California-supplies are good, quality is excellent, demand is good, and the market is higher

Bell Peppers

East - All pepper supplies are tight, quality is good, demand strong and the market is higher; Florida is finishing and Georgia has not started. West - All pepper markets are higher as Nogales finishes and desert ramps up. Mostly affected are color. Quality is improving.

Broccoli - ALERT

Markets remains active and elevated but is beginning to soften as supplies remain snug but slowly improving. Quality is good.

Cauliflower

Market is down but still elevated above normal levels as volume and sizing is starting to improve. Quality is reported as fair to good.

Cilantro/Parsley

Market steady on parsley and cilantro. Quality reported as good on both parsley and cilantro.

Celery

Market remains elevated and steady on stronger demand and reduced yields keeping supplies tight the next several weeks. Quality is fair to good.

Grapes

New grapes available now out of Mexico and the California Desert. Quality is good to great and market in a range of pricing due to many different shipping areas for the next couple of weeks.

Potatoes - Russets

Supplies remain good with steady demand. Quality is good but pack out shrink is increasing. Prices are steady

Citrus

Lemons - Supplies tight, quality good, demand strong, and the market is increasing. Crop peaking 95s/115s fancy in D1 and D2 is peaking 140s/165s/115s. Availability getting tighter on 165s and smaller.

Oranges - Supplies tight, quality good, demand strong, market is steady. Navel crop peaking on 56/72/48 and Valencia crop peaking 88/113/72. Supplies on 113/138 remain tight until Val's are fully available late May/early June.

Limes - Supplies steady, quality good, demand good and the market is steady. Current production is heavily weighted toward 200-count and smaller fruit. Availability of large-sized fruit 110s, 150s, 175s remains limited and command a premium.

Lettuce Iceberg

Market remains elevated and active from reduce yields impacting industry supplies. Quality is reported as fair to good.

Lettuce Romaine

Limited supplies continue on romaine and romaine has kept up its pace with the markets continuing to elevate to higher levels. Cooler temperatures have reduced yields.

Onions

Quality out of all regions is good, and the market is steady. Sout Texas starting to wrap up, Wintergarden (Uvalde, TX) is starting, New Mexico started 5/11 Southern Cal will wrap around 5/18 and move into Central Cal.

Squash

East - Yellow supplies steady, quality good, demand strong and market steady to higher. Zucchini supplies tight, quality good, demand strong and the market is steady to higher. West - Higher markets for both yellow and green squash due to transition. Quality is fair.

Tomatoes

Harvest continues in the Ruskin and Palmetto growing regions is approaching near normal seasonal volumes. Growers are currently harvesting a strong spring crop with overall good quality. Markets continue to correct downward as supply improves.

PRODUCE MARKET Updates

Green Beans

East - Supplies steady, quality good, demand good, and the market is steady, crop has transitioned to Georgia. West - Market is higher, demand is strong, limited volume.

Strawberries

Demand exceeds supplies due to cooler than normal temperatures, rain, drizzle causing immaturity. Growers will struggle to meet the demand.

Cucumber

East - Supplies extremely tight, quality good, demand strong, market is still elevated; Florida production starting, expect supplies improve next 2 weeks. West Wide range in price and quality as lighter demand has market stabilizing.