



Cool
as a
Cucumber



Weekly update for April 24, 2024

TOMATOES

Tomato on the Vine

Conventional

Supplies - Canada, USA and Mexico all have good supplies and availability at this time.

Pricing - Is all over the place. We are seeing costs in the \$6.00 - \$7.00 range with deals being made on USA and Mexican product. Canada with freight cost are seeing sales in the \$8.00 - \$9.00 delivered range.

Demand - Fair to good demand. Aggressive pricing is helping movement.

Organic

Supplies - Light to fair supplies out of Mexico. Canadian production is starting up.

Pricing - FOB quotes are in the \$10.95 - \$11.95 range. We haven't heard of any quotes out of Canada yet.

Demand - Fair to good demand.

Beefsteak Tomatoes

Conventional

Supplies - Good supplies out of Mexico and the USA. Older crops are finishing up. Quality has been fair. Canadian production is starting to pick up.

Pricing - Good quality FOB costs are in the mid-teens out of Mexico. Lower quality is being moved in the \$10.00 - \$11.00 range.

Demand - Good demand on better quality product.

Organic

Supplies - Fair to good supplies out of Mexico and the USA. Waiting to hear on Canadian production.

Pricing - FOB cost is in the high teens on good quality. Deals are being made on fair quality product.

Demand - Fair demand overall.

Organic Roma Tomatoes

Supplies - Good supplies out of Mexico.

Pricing - FOB cost are mostly in the \$16.95 - \$18.95 range.

Demand - Fair to good demand.

Grape Tomatoes

Grape tomatoes are still in great supply on both organic as well as conventional.

Heirloom Tomatoes

Organic

Harvest out of Central Mexico remains steady. Harvest out of Baja continues to be delayed until mid May due to unseasonably cool weather.

Conventional

Harvest out of Central Mexico remains good. Stable warmer weather has lifted harvest. Markets remain steady.

Medley Tomatoes

Medley tomatoes are steady.

Cherry Tomatoes

Cherry tomatoes are great in supply right now as well. Mexico is flushing on cherry, medley and grape tomatoes.

Organic Sweet King Tomatoes

Organic vine-ripe and hot house tomatoes are in the same boat with pricing soaring into the 30+ range.

Organic Purple Crush Tomatoes

Purple crush tomatoes still 3 weeks out from production.

Round, Roma and Vine-Ripe Tomatoes

Florida

This tomato growing area will begin to see early spring tomato harvest commence near the first week of May. Currently demand exceeds few supplies on both rounds and romas. Round tomatoes pacing \$26.00 - \$27.00 FOB. Roma tomatoes \$17.00 - \$18.00.

Mexico

Culiacan and Los Mochis have pretty much finished for the season. Sonora and Central Mexico are about 2 weeks away from beginning to see volume on round and roma tomatoes. Markets are in the \$17.00 - \$19.00 range on the best quality roma tomatoes. Vine-Ripe tomatoes are in the \$26.00 - \$28.00 FOB range for the best quality.

Baja, California

Growers are just barely getting started on both round and roma tomatoes. No volume for another 2 weeks.

Indio, California

Will begin harvest of field ripe tomatoes on or about the second week of May.

ONIONS

The desert onion has finally started up with some reds and some early yellow onions. Mexican white onion market is coming down more again this week. Red onions remain very tight this week as prices are high as not a lot of volume left up in the Pacific Northwest or down in Mexico. Yellow onions are still in good supply and the desert deal is colliding with the Pacific Northwest yellow crop. Quality remains good out of the Pacific Northwest.

POTATOES

Russet Potatoes

Conventional - Russet potatoes are steady, we will be shipping through the summer. Demand is moderate.

Organic - Organic russet storage crop will be shipping into the summer. Market will strengthen moving towards June. Veg-Fresh is shipping 3# and 5# bags, paper and poly. Organic carton russets too!

Sweet Potatoes

Organic and conventional sweet potatoes - shipping all varieties of sweet potatoes, conventional and organic.

White Potatoes

Call for up-to-date availability on white potatoes.

Red and Gold Potatoes

Conventional - Colored potatoes will continue shipping out of the Pacific Northwest through April/May. California is starting on colored potatoes, volume is ramping up!

Organic - Veg-Fresh offers these organic potatoes packed in paper or poly bags! We are shipping organic colored potatoes out of the Pacific Northwest through April, then we transition to the desert crop.

Fingerling Potatoes

Conventional - Russian banana fingerlings are available along with French and additional varieties.

Organic - Russian Banana and mixed varieties, 20# or 50# cartons.

Organic Creamer Potatoes

Red and gold creamers available, 50# cartons or packed in 16/1.5lb bags. Get single varieties or mixed.

CITRUS

Grapefruit

Organic

D2 - Star ruby. Good supplies and availability. Fruit is grading more towards fancy with good red color both inner and outer. Peak sizes 40s/36s/32s/48s/56s.

Mexico - imports continue to cross in good quantities, expect season to end in a couple of weeks. 32s/36s/27s/40s/48s/ some 56s.

Conventional

Lemons

Conventional

D1 harvesting is at its peak. Quality is good. Grading heavy on fancy and large sizes. 95s/115s/75s limited on 140s and smaller.

Organic

D1 is now at full harvest. Peak sizes 115s/95s/75s limited on 140s/165s/200s. Season is expected to finish before month is over.

D1 stars are now available in good supplies. Quality is good. Grading more towards fancy. Peak sizes 40s/36s/48s/32s.

D2 stars are now available in light supplies and are expected to increase as we move into the season. Peak sizes 40s/36s/32s/48s.

Valencia Oranges

D2 valencia's are now in season. Started harvesting last week. Peak sizes 113s/138s/88 limited on 72s and larger.

D2 is now at full harvest. New crop very strong. Quality is at its best with silver tips. Peak size 140s/115s/165s/95s limited on 200s.

Limes

The market is getting better and steady day by day due to improved weather.

Sweet Limes

D2: color are now full yellow. Good sizes peaking on jumbo/mam/large. Limited on Col.

BERRIES

Blueberries

Blueberries are steady and volume out of Central Mexico continues to rise as is Florida and Georgia. Peru imports will all but end by May 1st. Quality is good to excellent from all districts. Market should continue at same levels and will see prices start to fall slowly by end of next week. Great time for Mothers Day promotions.

Blackberries

Blackberry market is steady with quality fair to good. Imports will stay steady from Central Mexico for the next 2 weeks and now would be a good time to promote.

Raspberries

Raspberry demand continues to stay strong and looks to stay that way for the next 10 to 14 days. Crossings from Mexico are steady and should maintain however, demand is strong. Quality is good to excellent.

Strawberries

No rain in the forecast for the foreseeable future. Baja, Oxnard and Santa Maria regions are currently producing promotable volume.

Baja: demand is good. The market is trending in the double digits. Baja volume is trending up and quality has improved dramatically. Expect excellent fruit quality and condition with great flavor. Season to go through mid-May.

Santa Maria: Demand is good. The market is trending in the double digits. Like Oxnard in that quality is excellent. The plants are loaded. Expect promotable volume and excellent quality, condition and flavor. Baja, Oxnard and Santa Maria all have large fruit.

Watsonville/Salinas: Supply to pick up in 2-3 weeks.

PEPPERS

Green Bell Peppers

Conventional

Colored Bell Peppers

Conventional

Steady volume on all colored bells.

Steady volume from Nogales, AZ.
Coachella, CA should be starting soon.

Organic

Organic Green bell peppers are gapping due to quality issues in the fields.

Organic Mini Sweet Peppers

Organic Mini Sweet Peppers are currently out of Mexico with a short 2-day notice.

Organic

Organic colored bells out of Mexico are very limited.

Chilie Peppers

Please expect high prices and short supplies for the next 4-6 weeks until Baja and Northwen CA starts. Sinaloa, MX is finishing up and we are gapping.

FRUIT

Organic Apples

Good volume of organic apples still coming in from the Northwest.

Mango

Conventional

Mango volumes are up and prices are finally coming down out of Mexico. Pricing on larger fruit is more expensive and tighter in supplies. Mostly 10/12s available on Tommy Atkins. Ataulfos are still available but mostly smaller sizes 20-22s.

Organic

Mexican organic mango market coming down slightly this week. Quality is good with mostly Tommy Atkins 9/10ct available. Some organic Ataulfo mangos are available but mostly smaller sizes and some scarring present.

Pineapples

Conventional

Pineapples out of Costa Rica still remain high in price and this is very little extra fruit around. Market in high teens. Some Mexican and Ecuador pineapples around but not a lot of volume though.

Organic

Good supplies coming in from Mexico on 6/7/8ct Organic pineapples right now. Some small volume on Organic Pineapple arriving from Costa Rica. Market is steady.

CUCUMBERS

Organic Hot House Cucumbers

Currently out of Mexico. Good volume on production.

Organic Slicer Cucumbers

Out of Hermosillo, Mexico with good volume.

Cucumbers

Steady volume out of Nogales, AZ until another 4 weeks. Then we will see Baja starting in the middle of June. We will have a small gapping window.

Persian Cucumbers

Still have great supplies of Persian Cucumbers - both conventional and organic. Quality is excellent and it's a good time to promote.

VEGGIES

Brussels Sprouts

Conventional

Conventional brussel sprouts available out of Mexico & California.

Organic

Organic Brussels sprouts out of Mexico with limited volume and quality starting to show some issues.

Organic Green Beans

Organic Green Beans out of Mexico with good volume and quality up to the end of April. Then we will see some gapping for 2-3 weeks until California starts.

Organic Eggplant

Available out of Hermosillo, Mexico with better supplies and quality.

SQUASH

Organic Soft Squash

Mexico is currently in growing area Hermosillo. Good volume on zucchini. Organic yellow squash also has good volume. Price is starting to rise again.

Organic Hard Squash

Good volume on small sizes of organic hard squash. Butternut and Spaghetti are tight on the larger sizes. Limited delicata available.



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