

Aug 29, 2016

the source

Weather Update

Slight warming to seasonal averages early this week out west under a weak high pressure ridge. Deep upper level low approaches mid-week with a return of the marine layer near the coast and slightly cooler temperatures. Central Mexico will see near average temperatures under a weak high pressure system with decreasing monsoonal moisture. Northern Mexico, Baja and the Southwest will see moderate warming under a building high pressure system with isolated scattered afternoon showers possible. The tropical disturbance just south of Florida will move into the gulf of Mexico and strengthen over the next few days. Heavy rains are expected throughout the state this week as the system tracks to the northeast toward the Florida Panhandle later this week. We will be closely monitoring this system and keep you up to date on tropical activity in the Outlook Report.



Market Alerts

Avocado (Mexican): Supplies are very short and very little small fruit 60s/70s available.

Berries (Blackberries): Supplies are decreasing and demand is exceeding supply.

Berries (Blueberries): Domestic production is falling off sharply and supplies are continuing to tighten up. We expect a dramatic decrease this week as supplies continue to fall off.

Berries (Raspberries): Production is falling off sharply and demand is exceeding current supply!

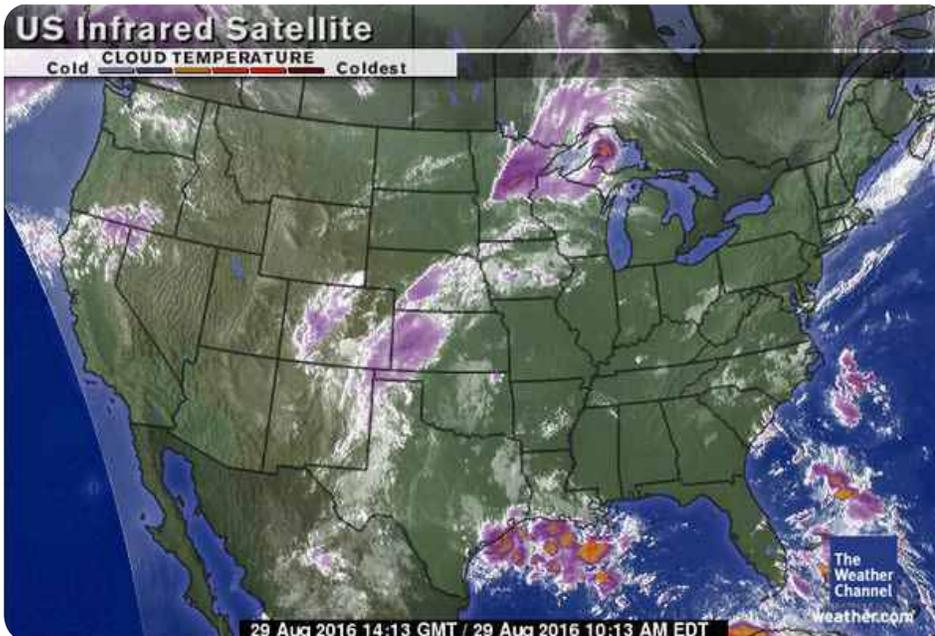
Cilantro: Extremely limited supplies and active markets.

Citrus (Lemons): Supplies of 140s/165s/200s/235 are very tight on both choice and fancy fruit.

Citrus (Oranges): 138 and 113 size oranges have reached demand exceeds supply situation with the increase school demand.

Green Onions: Iced and iceless green onions are in limited supplies due to the current and past weather patterns in Mexico.

Stone Fruit: Nectarines are the only small sized fruit available. Pluots are finishing this week. Plums and Peaches are available, but sizes are all in the large range, VF 50's and larger.



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Truckin' Along

California trucks remain steady again this week and should stay that way for the near future. Washington and Idaho potato trucks remain steady as well. The National Average for diesel rose .03 cents and is currently at 2.409 per gallon. A difference of .105 from this time last year. California prices are up slightly as well and are currently at 2.741 per gallon. Crude oil remained steady and is at 46.97 per barrel.

U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices* (dollars per gallon)

[full history](#)

				Change from	
	08/15/16	08/22/16	08/29/16	week ago	year ago
U.S.	2.310	2.370	2.409	↑ 0.039	↓ -0.105
East Coast (PADD1)	2.314	2.367	2.410	↑ 0.043	↓ -0.180
New England (PADD1A)	2.368	2.391	2.423	↑ 0.032	↓ -0.250
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	2.406	2.457	2.496	↑ 0.039	↓ -0.218
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	2.233	2.294	2.341	↑ 0.047	↓ -0.137
Midwest (PADD2)	2.273	2.342	2.391	↑ 0.049	↓ -0.052
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	2.179	2.249	2.269	↑ 0.020	↓ -0.107
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	2.394	2.435	2.476	↑ 0.041	↓ -0.086
West Coast (PADD5)	2.583	2.623	2.658	↑ 0.035	↓ -0.065
West Coast less California	2.441	2.498	2.555	↑ 0.057	↓ -0.009
California	2.696	2.723	2.741	↑ 0.018	↓ -0.110

Transitions & Temperatures

Berries (Blackberries): Mexico is beginning to cross very limited volumes of blackberries through McAllen, TX.

Berries (Blueberries): Peru, Argentina and Uruguay blueberries are beginning to hit the east coast ports with light volume, increasing volume by mid-September.

Berries (Raspberries): Central Mexican raspberry production should begin around mid-September with small volume, increasing by end of September.

Berries (Strawberries): Santa Maria's fall crop is coming on with better volume this week.

Commodity Updates



APPLES

Washington - Red delicious are steady to higher on all sizes and grades with only light availability of the Wash-Extra-fancy #2 and Wash fancy grades. Most shippers continue to peak on extra-fancy 72-88s but supplies are very light due to strong demand. Expect the market to remain strong through the balance of the storage season. Earli Golds & Ginger Golds are steady to higher and supplies are very light. The remaining fruit is still peaking on Wash-Extra 88/100/113s. Supplies of lower-grade fruit remain very short. Golden delicious but supplies are very light as well. Granny Smith are higher on most sizes and continue to peak on 88-113s. The Granny market has turned up quickly. Gala supplies remain fairly short due to strong demand but supplies are improving as more shippers get started and the market is slightly lower. The Galas are peaking on higher grade 100/88/113s.. Honey Crisp are steady but the fruit remains big and they are peaking on 48-64s. The quality for C.A. reds, goldens, granny-smith, Galas, and Honey Crisp has been good.

California - Galas are steady but supplies are light as most shippers are finished packing and selling from final floor-counts. Fuji's are steady on all sizes and peaking on higher-color 100/113s. Granny-Smith are also steady on all sizes with very light availability. The quality has been good.

Idaho - They packed a few early Galas on Tuesday.

Michigan - Zestars, Paula Reds, and Ginger Golds are all peaking on larger fruit and all are steady. Supplies remain fairly light for all three varieties.

New York - They have started packing a few Paula reds and they are small. The quality has been good.

Chile - Chilean Pinks Ladys are steady but only 70s are available. Chilean Fujis are also steady and peaking on 80-size. The import quality has been good.



ASPARAGUS

Asparagus market is lower in all regions. Quality is good in Northern Baja Mexico and Peru, and fair quality in Central Mexico.



AVOCADO (CALIFORNIA)

California harvest is declining rapidly, many shippers report that they will be done with any usable volume by the end of next week. This early end was brought on by the heavy harvest in June to make up for Mexico's lack of supply during that period. California is still peaking on 60's.



AVOCADO (MEXICAN)

Rain continues to delay harvest and is beginning to affect supplies shipping to the States. Mexico's summer crop harvest is declining and the next crop is still very low in maturity and it looks like October before it will be ready to begin. September will be a very short supply month for avocado's and hopefully getting better by October.



BELL PEPPERS (EASTERN)

The green bell pepper market is steady at lower prices. Production has continued to be very good from producing regions across the northern part of the country and Canada. Thunderstorms across many producing areas slowed harvest over the weekend but demand is still weak. There have been reports of some busing due to rain but overall quality is good and should get better this week as the weather clears and temperatures cool.



BELL PEPPERS (WESTERN)

Green bells out of Fresno and Otay are showing good quality and condition. Red bells out of Fresno, Bakersfield, and Otay are showing good overall quality and condition. Red bells are starting to show better availability. More availability on yellow bells. Yellow bells showing good quality and condition.



Commodity Updates



BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)

Production is trending down and supply is tightening, demand is exceeding supply. Quality is good overall, a few reports of overripe and red cell. There are still a few blackberries available in North Carolina but those are becoming increasingly limited as well.



BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)

Domestic production is slowing down sharply out of the Pacific Northwest and the Upper Midwest. Rain events and warm weather over the past few weeks have affected production in both regions - quality and availability. Availability is less than previous weeks and markets continue to strengthen. Overall, quality has been fair to good. Small volume of import blueberries from Peru and Argentina are available in Miami and on the east coast.



BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)

Production continues to fall sharply and volume will continue to decline until the Central Mexican deal picks up at the end of September. Supplies will become more limited than in recent weeks and demand is very good, currently exceeding supply. Quality has been good overall.



BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)

Supply is steady. Salinas, Watsonville and Santa Maria growing regions are all experiencing higher daytime temperatures than the previous weeks which will continue to bring on good fruit with good volumes as well. Production has been exceeding estimate volumes. Overall, quality remains good. A few reports of white shoulders, salmon and dry bruising. Sizing remains smaller with berries in the 20-30 count range, Santa Maria new crop on the larger end.



BROCCOLI

The broccoli market is unchanged with plenty of supplies. Quality has been really good with average crown size and minimal yellowing from all growing regions.



BRUSSELS SPROUTS

As we move into peak season, supplies are increasing. The market is trending lower. Quality is excellent with all sizes available and nice green color.



CARROTS

The Bakersfield crop is in full production. Growth is good and producing good percentage of Jumbo size and supplies are good. Supply of baby peeled carrots are good.



CAULIFLOWER

The cauliflower market remains steady at current price levels. Supplies are also steady but with any type of demand the market will take off. Quality has been really nice with minimal bruising upon arrivals.



CELERY

Current production in the growing regions of Michigan as well as California has proven to be plentiful to meet all demand needs. In other words, this market continues to be flat. Quality continues to be above average. Michigan production is meeting demand although smaller sizing is less available compared to large sizing, twenty-four counts in particular. Larger sizing is coming out of California predominantly as well. Good quality is expected throughout the week.



Commodity Updates



CHILI PEPPERS

Pablano - Good quality and condition expected to continue.

Tomatillo - Rainy weather has affected quality of Tomatillo. Many grower's showing water blister's turning into decay.

Jalapeño - Good quality on new crop pepper, mostly large sizing with good color.

Quality and Condition are good overall. , California supply has remained steady.



CILANTRO

Cilantro supplies are still extremely limited. Quality issues in Mexico and Oxnard such as seeder, yellowing, and dehydration are the major causes. The market remains active.



CITRUS (LEMONS)

The Ventura crop is our main supplier of domestic fruit, and their season is winding down. Demand is strong and steady. We are seeing 140s/165s/200s/235s supplies are very tight. The Desert crop looks to start some light packing by mid September, but will not full volume until November. Chilean fruit is available in good supplies and Mexico is going with fair supplies.



CITRUS (LIMES)

The larger 110ct, 150ct and 175ct are less expensive than the 200ct and smaller sizes. Demand is good on all sizes across the board. Limes are peaking on the 150ct now. Quality is fair overall with some leaf shading (yellow color) showing up and occasional styler end breakdown showing up from previous rains. The larger limes are old crop and are tired. Shippers are sorting through them before they load the trucks which is helping on arrivals. Large sized new crop won't show up until the first week of September. Smaller sized new limes are filtering into the supplies already. The market is steady on the limes.



CITRUS (ORANGES)

Supplies are getting tight on small size Valencia oranges with the "Back to School" demand. 138s and 113s have reached demand exceed situation and will be until Navels start at the end of October/first of November. Fruit is showing some weakness of quality, which is typical for this time of year after a long hot summer.



CUCUMBERS (EASTERN)

The cucumber market continues to tighten, especially on number 1 product and off grades are following suit. With some very high temps early this month production on cucumbers was pushed ahead on many fields coupled with reduced yields. There have been some quality issues from just about all producing areas. It appears that Michigan, Ohio and New Jersey will come to an end sooner than normal. Fortunately some of the southern states are set to start some product earlier then normal.



CUCUMBERS (WESTERN)

Good quality and condition on cucumbers coming out of Northern Baja coast. All sizes are being packed in 1 1/9 bushel boxes. Also 24's-36's-42's being packed.



EGGPLANT (EASTERN)

The eggplant market is lower/steady. The eggplant market is slowly coming down, there are a few deals out there. Quality is good and we are getting steady supplies from Michigan, east to New Jersey along with some local deals. There have been some thunderstorms all across the eastern half of the country that have slowed harvest but demand has weakened and there is enough fruit to fill orders and then some.



EGGPLANT (WESTERN)

Quality and condition on eggplant has remained good coming out of Fresno. Minimal cosmetic issue's like scaring being shown. Still showing green calyx on all size's. Volume has also remained steady on all sizes.



Commodity Updates



GRAPES (GREEN)

Green grapes supplies continue to remain strong. We have several varieties to choose from, but the Thompsons and Princess varieties are starting to show some signs of over ripeness. As these have been on the vine the longest, the warm weather has caused some heavy amber color and occasional soft berry. The new varieties such as Autumn Kings are packing out exceptionally well with berry sizes in the XL range and excellent quality, but are priced at a premium. We have several option in terms of variety and price point.



GRAPES (RED)

Red grape supplies and market conditions have been consistent. Depending on the variety and size, prices can fluctuate by several dollars. Some of the older varieties such as Flames and Crimson are being offered at a value, but sizing has been small (ring size 9 - 10) with some inconsistency and occasional soft berry. The larger varieties like Scarlet Royals and Vintage Reds are slightly more expensive, but are packing out with larger sized berries and excellent quality. Overall, we have several options to choose from and a red grape to meet all your needs.



GREEN ONIONS

Supplies of green onions are limited with higher markets. Both iced and iceless green onion supplies have been affected by the heat in Mexico. Also there isn't enough domestic acreage to handle demand. We are seeing brown to yellow discoloration of the tops upon arrivals.



KALE

Kale supplies will be plentiful for this week. The market continues to be competitive at current levels. Quality has been excellent with minimal yellowing and dehydration.



LETTUCE ICEBERG

Although this market was gaining strength with the emergence of school business towards the end of last week, this commodity is steady to start the week. Ribbing, insect, mechanical and puffiness exists but these defects have been minimal, overall. Most shippers have above average product that is being harvested. The weights are averaging 42-46 pounds. Expected stronger markets are in the forecast by the middle of the week.



LETTUCE LEAF

Steady markets continues to be the story on all leaf items. There are a few suppliers that have lighter inventories and this is why there is a bit of a pricing gap seen in the industry. Romaine as well as all leaf items simply continue to struggle as supplies exceed demand. Mechanical, fringe and tip burn as well as minimal insect damage is being reported sporadically, but overall quality has been above average. The weights on average has been running between 30-35 pounds. Green, red and butter leaf have had steady weights being reported.



MELON (CANTALOUPE)

The supplies have decreased and demand has picked up a little. The market is higher across the board. Many of the growers are packing 9ct through 15ct with a few packing 18ct. 9ct supplies are not as plentiful as the 12ct or 15ct. Quality out of the West Side has been good although lately we have been having some soft melons arrival issues due to the heat and shippers being behind schedule. We should see better arrivals now that demand has picked up and supplies have dropped a bit.



MELON (HONEYDEW)

Demand is steady versus last week. We have lighter supplies right now which are causing a slight jump in the overall market. Weather has been on the hot side lately making the quality of honeydews suffer a little. All in all honeydews are good and previous arrival issues should be cleaned up now.



Commodity Updates



MELON (WATERMELON)

The current availability is limited and offering medium to smaller sizes. Mostly 60 size fruit being offered. Movement out of the San Joaquin Valley has been moving steady. Steady production with steady demand. Quality is generally good overall.



ONIONS

California - They have finished with all colors.

Washington - The market is steady on yellows, reds, and whites and the sizing is still mostly in the medium to jumbo range very little larger product. The quality is good.

Idaho/Oregon - They are also steady on all colors and are peaking on jumbo and medium size for all. A couple shippers have more colossal and super-colossal yellows. The quality has been good.



PEARS

California - Bartlett pears are steady and they continue to peak on 100/110/90s but the wrap supplies are low. Some shippers are done packing and are shipping from inventory. Most suppliers don't have any fruit smaller than a 120-size. The quality has been good. Crimson pears are steady and continue to peak on half carton 45/40s but supplies remain short. Bosc are steady to lower and are peaking on smaller fruit. The quality has been good.

Washington - Bartlett pears are steady to lower and continue to peak on 90/100/110s. Inventories are growing as more shippers get started. D'anjou pears are steady to lower and are peaking on 90/100/110s. D'anjou inventories are also growing as the season is getting under way. Stark Crimson pears are steady and continue to peak on 40/45 half cartons. The quality for all pears has been good.



PINEAPPLES

Supplies remain very tight from the tropics and now looks to stay so through September. October it looks to start coming back with better availability.



POTATOES

Washington - The market is steady on most sizes and they continue to peak on the smaller carton counts. Most packers have good quality.

Idaho - The Idaho market is steady for the moment as the season is just getting started but we could see some adjustments as the week goes on. Most packers have good quality and are peaking on the smaller counts like Washington.

Wisconsin/Colorado - Both areas are packing but supplies are relatively light and the pricing remains fairly high compared to Idaho and Washington. The quality has been good.



POTATOES (COLORED)

Stockton, California - Reds, whites, and golds remain steady and all colors continue to peak on A size. Baker and premium whites and golds are still short. The quality has been good for all colors.

Idaho - The market is steady on reds and golds although some suppliers are lower on Red A size. Both colors are peaking on A size and the quality is good with only light skinning.

Minnesota - Reds and are steady lower on A size and higher on B size reds. Golds are mostly steady with good availability on most sizes. The quality has been good.

Wisconsin - reds and golds are both steady and the availability is good on most sizes. The quality is good.

Washington - Eastern red potatoes are steady to higher and they are still peaking on A-size. Some suppliers have finished with golds. The quality is good.

Delaware - All colors are lower on most sizes including premiums and bakers. C size are higher for all colors. The quality has been good.



Commodity Updates



SQUASH (EASTERN)

The squash market is Very tight. Like cucumbers, squash supply is getting very short and producing areas that traditionally have supply this time of year are going to finish early. Michigan and Ohio are winding down for the fall on fields that normally would produce until the end of September. New Jersey and New England experienced some of the same high temperatures as the mid-west and that region is gapping between their summer and fall crops. Fortunately some of the southern states appear close to starting production in the next week to 10 days.



SQUASH (WESTERN)

Supply on Italian squash and Yellow S/N out of the San Joaquin Valley has lightened. Supply still remain light pending transition into new fields. Quality and condition are fair to good. Mostly medium and Large size available on Yellow S/N



STONE FRUIT

Stone fruit supplies are very sporadic and availability varies depending on size and variety. The warm weather has pushed all stone fruit ahead of schedule. This has led to an increase in fruit size and a decrease in supplies. If you are looking for small sized fruit (VF 60/64) the only product available is nectarines. Peaches are all big (50's and larger). Plums are available in sizes VF 50 and larger. Pluots are done for the season. The last of the pluots are being packed today and this product will be gone by the end of the week. Market prices have been high and firm.



TOMATOES (EASTERN)

Previous warm weather has pushed crops ahead of schedule in past weeks, and recently rains have slowed picking schedules resulting in a shortage of available tomatoes over all. Poor weather is calling into question plant health and resulting in fewer pack outs and promotability at a time when demand currently is tracking upward. Roma tomatoes continue to be short with a majority of availability coming out of the west. Grape and Cherry tomatoes have began their seasonal slowdown and are finding better demand firming up prices. As summer months wind down, supply will tighten further shifting much of the national demand to California until Florida begins production at the end of September.



TOMATOES (WESTERN)

Western tomato production has tightened up moving prices higher into coming weeks. With rounds hampered by a flush of fruit weeks back, the gap in production has shifted more emphasis to the oblong roma variety which are also struggling to meet demand. Eastern Mexico growers have been hurt by rain, slowing round and roma tomatoes from crossing McAllen as they usually do. California is the only region in production and prices have firmed up with quality varying from shipper to shipper. Smaller yields of Cherry and grape tomatoes are realizing a stronger market with only moderate demand keeping the market from skyrocketing. Typical of this time of year, seasonal slowdown will dictate the market until new fields begin in October.



Commodities at a Glance



Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Apples		
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Coopersville/Belding/Sparta, MI	Steady	Good
Hudson/Pleasant Valley/Red Hook, NY	Steady	Good
Peru, NY	Steady	Good
Asparagus		
Ica, Peru to Trujillo	Lower	Good
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Lower	Good
Central Mexico	Lower	Fair
Avocado (California)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Higher	Excellent
Avocado (Mexican)		
Michoacan, Mexico	Higher	Good
Bell Peppers (Eastern)		
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Steady	Fair
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Steady	Fair
Bell Peppers (Western)		
Northern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Berries (Blackberries)		
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Good
Berries (Blueberries)		
Grand Junction, MI	Higher	Good
Salem, OR	Higher	Good
Mossyrock, WA	Higher	Good
Pitt Meadows, BC	Higher	Good
Berries (Raspberries)		
Watsonville, CA	Higher	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Good
Berries (Strawberries)		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Watsonville, CA	Steady	Good
Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Broccoli		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Celaya Guanajuato Mexico	Steady	Good

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Brussels Sprouts		
Salinas Valley, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Oxnard, CA	Lower/Steady	Excellent
Carrots		
Bakersfield/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Cauliflower		
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Celery		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Michigan	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Chili Peppers		
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady	Good
Cilantro		
Salinas, CA	Higher	Good
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Higher	Fair
Baja, MX	Higher	Fair
Citrus (Lemons)		
Oxnard/Ventura, CA	Steady	Good
Citrus (Limes)		
Veracruz, Mexico	Steady	Fair
Citrus (Oranges)		
Merced to Bakersfield, CA	Higher	Good
Riverside, CA	Higher	Good
Cucumbers (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Higher	Fair
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Higher	Fair
Cucumbers (Western)		
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Good
Eggplant (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Lower/Steady	Good
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Lower/Steady	Good
Eggplant (Western)		
Fresno, CA	Steady	Good



Commodities at a Glance



Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Grapes (Green)		
Delano, CA	Steady	Good
Fresno, CA	Steady	Good
Grapes (Red)		
Delano, CA	Steady	Good
Fresno, CA	Steady	Good
Green Onions		
Mexicali, Baja	Higher	Fair
Salinas Valley, CA	Higher	Good
Kale		
Salinas, CA	Steady	Excellent
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Excellent
Baja, MX	Steady	Excellent
Lettuce Iceberg		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Lettuce Leaf		
Oxnard/Santa Maria, CA	Steady	Good
Salinas Valley, CA	Steady	Good
Melon (Cantaloupe)		
Firebaugh, CA	Higher	Good
Mendota, CA	Higher	Good
Melon (Honeydew)		
Firebaugh, CA	Higher	Good
Mendota, CA	Higher	Good
Melon (Watermelon)		
Coachella Valley	Lower/Steady	Fair
Onions		
Huron/Metler, CA	Steady	Good
Ontario, OR to Nampa, ID	Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Steady	Good
Pears		
Wenatchee/Yakima, WA and Hood River, OR	Lower/Steady	Good
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good

Commodity / Region	Market	Quality
Pineapples		
Alajuela, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
Heredia, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
Limon, Costa Rica	Steady	Good
La Ceiba, Honduras	Steady	Good
Retalhuleu, Guatemala	Steady	Good
Peten, Guatemala	Steady	Good
Potatoes		
Hamer/Rupert, ID	Steady	Good
Plover/Bancroft, WI	Steady	Good
Monte Vista, CO	Steady	Good
Quincy/Hermiston, WA	Steady	Good
Potatoes (colored)		
Stockton, CA	Steady	Good
Pasco/Tri-Cities, WA	Steady/Higher	Good
Big Lake Minnesota	Steady	Good
Rupert to Rexburg, ID	Steady	Good
Plover, WI	Steady	Good
Squash (Eastern)		
Ottawa / Kent / Berrien County, MI	Higher	Fair
Seneca / Summit County, OH	Higher	Fair
Squash (Western)		
Northern San Joaquin Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Stone Fruit		
Madera south to Arvin, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Tomatoes (Eastern)		
Eastern North Carolina	Steady/Higher	Good
Benton Harbor/Byron Center, MI	Steady/Higher	Good
Exmore, VA	Steady/Higher	Good
Tomatoes (Western)		
Coachella Valley, CA	Steady/Higher	Good
Northern Baja California Norte, Mexico	Steady/Higher	Fair

