

Ingredients for your success

## Hot News



### Poultry



Whole birds are slightly down to steady. Tenders and wing markets continue to gain strength due to heavier demand. Breast markets remain mixed with lighter bird weight showing up in the plants. Dark meat markets continue to weaken, as local demand has declined and China's limited export needs.

### Beef



Middle meats and ribs continue to move lower, with strip loins taking the most decline. Tenders appear to be leveling off as the price point was attractive for some of the large retailers. The chuck primal has also felt a bit of a shift with softer undertones; although, rounds are holding mostly steady.

### Pork



U.S. hog futures rose again this week. Bone-in butts are down, and boneless butts will continue to struggle to bone out product as labor remains an issue. Loins remain steady. Opportunities on boneless loins and tenderloins remain plentiful as these items are valuable purchases. Pricing on spareribs and St. Louis ribs continue to soften, and availability on backribs remains tight.

### Pork

As COVID-19 cases begin to rise, expect shortages across all pork suppliers as plants struggle with employee absenteeism.

### Beef

Cattle supplies are still higher than normal and there is pressure on pricing in the market. Grinds have experienced the most significant volume decrease week over week.

### Seafood

Bristol Bay saw its largest week for Sockeye, going back over 100 years exceeding preseason forecasts.

### Grains/Oils



For soybean oil, two very large biodiesel plants made large buys and have depleted overall supplies. Foodservice demand is also very strong. The overall crop rating for soybeans this year is over 70% Good/Excellent, which is great news for the upcoming harvest. Canola growers are also commenting on great growth in Canada.

### Dairy



The Cheese markets increased again this past week. There is excess demand; however, supply lags. The butter market made movements in both directions last week, but the net effect was nominal. Butter inventories remain good. Over the last 7 days, both white and brown eggs prices have continued to fall as demand has slowed.

### Seafood



Supplies of small PUD shrimp are very limited due to offseason. Please upgrade one size up as a viable substitute. Texas brown shrimp season opened this week. Catfish plants saw improvements in fish sizing and production although being constrained by labor participation. Groundfish markets remain stable.

### Top Produce Items

#### Asparagus

Market is showing signs of strength. Central Mexico has been hit with rain and the forecast is for more. The rain events have slowed production and put pressure back on Baja and Peru. Quality is fair to good. Look for stronger markets in the coming weeks.

#### Avocados

Mexico has begun harvest of their summer crop peaking on 60's and 70's. This crop is clean and will produce lower percentage of #2's. Tight supplies on 48's and larger. California has harvested 70% of their crop for the season. Good volume will continue through July and decline into August. Expect stronger markets

#### Green Beans

Good supplies and quality being seen in most parts of the country. Isolated quality issues are being reported in some areas. Market is mostly steady with some increase being seen out on the east coast.

#### Mix Berries

Blueberries are improved this week with better supplies and fill rates being seen. Blackberries and raspberries are short in supply, but due to lower demand continue to be available.

#### Strawberry-Alert

Strong markets continue this week with lighter supplies being reported across the industry. The end of July and August's production will be down, and markets will be unsettled the next 4-5 weeks.



#### Broccoli

Markets continue to adjust due to stronger demand and some supply challenges out of Mexico. Outlook for the rest of the month looks to continue to be unsettled as unknown swings in demand continue to be a challenge to forecast. Quality is fair to good with occasional brown head.

#### Cauliflower

Market is active this week due to an uptick in demand and some sizing challenges being seen. Similar to broccoli, as the swings in demand continue, this market will remain unsettled for the month of July. Quality is good with occasional discoloration in the form of off-white and occasional purpling.

#### Citrus

Lemons-Demand has been fair. Supplies are good with California fruit being heavy to choice grade. Imports are also coming in from Mexico and Chile. Oranges- Demand has been very good. Supplies are increasing as imports pick up. Market is steady and quality is good.

#### Melons

Cantaloupes: Demand has remained strong with increasing supplies. Quality is good from Central California. Market is steady. Honeydews: Demand is fair due to a lack of food service business. Prices are steady and quality is good. Good supplies on watermelon.

#### Lettuce and Leaf

Markets are once again active on romaine and iceberg and calmer on the leaf lettuces. Look for the markets to continue to be unsettled for the next 4-6 weeks. Quality on romaine, leaf and iceberg: mostly fair with reports of mildew, insect pressure and windburn.

#### Eggplant-Alert

Supplies remain light in the East, demand still strong and market higher. California in better production with moderate market.

#### Peppers-Alert

Red, yellow and orange bell peppers remain short in supply on both the east and west coasts. Demand is up with limited supply on the Hot House grown product. Green bells are doing better with good supply on both coasts.

#### Tomato

Increasing demand combined with reduced availability has caused the market to strengthen both east and west. The supply gap on both coasts should improve by early August.

#### Hot House

Tomato's continuing to be tight for 4-6 weeks, shorts primarily TOV, Beefsteak, and Campari's. Peppers supplies is intermittent with dips in production and potential shorts.

#### Potatoes

Market continues to firm up as we wrap up the storage season. The last week of July will be the toughest for supply. We will start to see new crop the first week of August.

#### Squash

Lighter supplies in the east (more yellow around than zucchini), quality good and market stronger. West is seeing less production with strong demand coming in due to lighter supplies out east.

#### Limes

Supplies have tightened up and will continue over the next few weeks. Currently, yields are down 35-40%. Fruit quality is average to poor due to the summer heat and typical growing cycle.

#### Garlic

2019 CA storage crop has come to an end. Product from other regions will be seen for the next 2-3 weeks. CA has started its harvest, but new product is 2 weeks away as it needs time to cure before shipping.



To learn more contact your local marketing associate.

Market Corner Produce information reflects both US and Canadian markets. All other commodity information is based on US market data only