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MARKET CORNER

Ingredients for your Success



Poultry

Wings are the hottest selling part of the bird demand is expected to stay strong into April. Jumbo tenders supplies are experiencing tightening as demand in QSR and retail is strong. The jumbo breast market is strong with bird weights down and demand being strong. Boneless dark meat is higher on strong export demand and lower production due to labor shortages. Whole birds and cut up are slightly higher on strong demand and lower supplies. Look for portion breast to move higher as demand increases.



Pork

Hog futures continue to rise with export demand and labor shortages in the plants. Butts saw a slight dip at the end of last week. Foodservice demand increasing week over week and the market is expected to hold strong. Loins will follow suit with butts as usual and with less retail demand. The markets will be firm but level off. There is no relief in the rib market as it continues to rise.



Grains / Oil

Extreme volatility in the trading markets for soybean oil. The physical market is increasing daily, though the traded (futures) market has seen some downward moves. This will not impact the upward move of the value of the oil. Soybean oil, Canola, and palm are all moving higher.



Dairy

Both cheese markets decreased week over week. The butter market increased by \$0.02/lb week over week. Mediums, large, and extra-large shell eggs are all down .18/.20 dozen this week.



Seafood

Domestic shrimp production slows until the new season kicks off in May. Certain sizes and product forms may not be available due to poor catches. Imported shrimp are in high demand as restaurants re-open but supply from overseas is tight. Cold water and warm water lobster are in limited supply.



Beef

Retail & foodservice demand continues to increase, and reduced availability is driving prices higher. Packers are having reduced worker attendance and facility maintenance are impacting availability of product. All grades of beef and cuts are very limited in supply for the next 30 to 45 days.

Hot News

Beef

All grades of beef and beef cuts are very limited in supply for the next 30 to 45 days.

Seafood

Domestic shrimp production is now in the off-season until the new season kicks off in May. Certain sizes and product forms may not be available due to poor catches.

Vegetable Oil

Global tightness on all vegetable oil varieties is increasingly a concern, where some buyers are being turned away from waning supply.

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.



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Asparagus

Market mostly steady. Peru volume is coming back online, and Washington and Baja Mexico is a few weeks away. Quality reported as good.

Avocados-Alert

Mexico: It is Holy Week in Mexico and harvest is even lighter than originally expected. The industry feels this may cause a spike in demand next week. The peak size in Mexico is on the 48's then 60's.

California: The volume has increased by about 25% this week. Rain has helped size up the crop but will still be smaller-sized this year due to the lack of rain as well as recent winds. The size curve is heavy on 48s, 60s, and smaller.

Broccoli-Alert

Broccoli quality is fair to good; production has now moved back to Northern California for the spring and Summer/Fall season. Mexico is very short and limited in supply. This is causing a split market as better supply availability is being seen out of the growing regions in California.

Top Produce Items

Below Items on Alerts

Watermelon

Demand is very strong. Supplies are very light from Mexico. Imports thru Florida are lighter as some growers have finished for the season and others will continue for a couple more weeks. Quality is fair to good

Corn

Florida currently has very little supplies to work from. Spring crop may start up this week in a light way. Markets very strong but should back off once larger harvests are complete next week. Mexico supplies remain limited and expected to remain snug all week.

Hot House

Orange peppers short but improving, Medley tomatoes remain very short in supply.

Carrots

Jumbo carrots are very limited in supply as suppliers are not getting the size needed as they move to a new growing region. Expect active markets and limited supplies on jumbos for the next 2 weeks.

Cauliflower

Cauliflower has just started back up in Northern California and we are observing fair to good quality to start with on light supplies. Market is mostly steady with some suppliers in better shape than others. Mexico is challenged with their supply, with Arizona coming to and California continuing to ramp up their production.

Celery

The market is steady with no major issues to report at this time. Quality remains good with no major concerns.

Green Beans

Florida bean supply very good, quality good and market is adjusting. Mexico supplies and demand moderate

Lemons / Limes/Oranges

Lemons-Good supplies to meet all demand. Market looks to remain steady from the previous weeks. Demand has started to calm with the Lenten season nearing its end.

Oranges-Demand is steady. Supplies are good. Quality is good with good color and sugar. The market is unchanged. This is the best time of year for orange eating quality.

Limes- Alert

Market will remain tight this weekend due to Holy week. Lighter crossings, rain, less labor as the week progresses (this week). Market adjustments will start to be seen in mid-April but will not be like normal years. Look for pricing to be active than a normal year until mid-June. Peaking 230s/250s with limited supplies 175s and larger.

Mushrooms

Supplies are starting to improve, and better production is coming into the farms. Labor issues coupled with transportation concerns will continue over the next few months and will be monitored closely.

Mixed Berries-Alert

Mixed berries are challenged from both a quality and availability standpoint. Blueberries from Chile have been challenged with their quality upon receiving. Blackberries and raspberries are very short as their seasons wind down out of Mexico. CA is behind on their production due to cooler weather patterns.

Strawberries-Alert

The overall market continues to recover from previous weeks rain/hail events in CA and the coming to the end of the seasons in Mexico and Florida. Plants are trying to recover, and some suppliers are now reporting more damage than original; yields dropping by an estimated 25% for this week and into next. Demand is strong from the retail segments for the Easter Holiday. Improvements expected in the next 7-10 days should there be no major changes in the forecasted weather patterns.

Leaf and Lettuce

Good supplies available on all leaf and lettuce items. Demand for now remains steady and markets continue to follow as the product is in transition from the desert growing regions of AZ to the central coast regions of CA.

Quality Updates: Transition is taking place in Yuma, Imperial, & Fresno Counties.

Quality and condition is fair to very good with the limiting concern being weight on leaf, romaine and iceberg packs. Transition looks to be completed by April 26th.

Tomato

Supply continues to improve on all varieties (round, roma, grape, & cherry). Quality is good on all varieties as well. Look for continued improvement on availability in the coming weeks.