



January 17, 2019

By Amerifresh - January 11, 2019

Northwest

Apples

- Apple market continues to be bullish in WA. The shorter crop has kept pricing on the higher end.
- Small sizes 100s/smaller continue to be tighter & almost non-existent on Granny Smith & Golden Delicious.
- Food service sizes 113-198s on most varieties will be tight in WA for the rest of the season. Overall quality has been good.
- There are still some issues with bitter pit & shippers are repacking prior to shipment.

Onions

- Market UP! DEMAND HIGH!
- Both Yellow and Red Medium onions have been tight all season and are demanding a slightly higher FOB than the Jumbos.
- Jumbo Yellow demand is up as well with many shippers sold out for several days in advance.
- A far cry from the first half of this season in which growers had negative returns on Yellows and were happy to have an order.
- Clearly Onion availability and demand has turned a bad year around and become a Sellers market.
- That is not to say this market will spin out of control.
- However, it makes sense to stay a bit more ahead of inventories as supplies may become a challenge for the rest of the storage season.
- Heavy pull on White onions from Mexico has nearly doubled the prices in some districts.
- This will last at least until the end of January or beginning of February when White onions will be imported from Mexico and may level things out.
- Yellow Sweets are available now. All colors of Organics are now available as well.

GOLBON

Watching out for you is our business

Pears

- NW C.A.. storage Bartletts, Bosc, D'Anjou, Red Anjou, Comice, Seckels, & Forelle pears available.
- There's various deals on aged product. Quality is good. Overall, a good mix of sizes available.
- Much like the apples, pear pricing continues to be on the stronger side.

Colored Potatoes

- Eastern WA has availability of Yellow & Red potatoes. Organic Red and Yellows are available in Eastern WA as well.
- Mt. Vernon District - good supplies of Red and Yellow. Heavy to the size A this season; Whites may finish by the end of January.
- Good quality and excellent color on all four colors including Fingerlings are available as well as Organics.
- California has White and Yellow onions now. Most Reds in CA are being brought down from WA.

Potatoes

- Market UP! HIGH DEMAND on Cartons. Export demand in WA continues to be strong.
- All growing districts are realizing that there is in fact a shortage of storage potatoes this growing season, in the states as well as in EU.
- Many shippers in WA state are running shorter schedules to ensure supplies last into the summer.
- Consumer pack price will most likely remain steady as the small profile in Idaho will produce many of them as sheds run for the high dollar cartons.
- Russet Organics are available in most districts. Overall, quality is excellent in all growing districts this season.
- Idaho is offering Burbank and Norkotah varieties.

Salinas

Berries

- Strawberries- Mexico prices down a little as supply increases. Rain in Oxnard this week will cause quality problems for CA berries.
- Raspberries- Supply is tight. Market is high. Expect pro rates--quality is medium.
- Blackberry - Supply and quality is good out of Mexico and volume increasing out East.
- Blueberry - Quality issues, a lot of tagged arrivals--a lot of open on the market--fruit quality is mediocre.

Broccoli

- While the desert temperatures have moderated somewhat, the recent cold snap slowed down broccoli (and all cole crops).
- Bunched...and to a greater degree crowns are in tight supply with many shippers walking in sold out each morning.

- We expect that the deal will remain active for the next few weeks. Overall quality is fair to good.

Cauliflower

- Cauliflower quality and condition is good. Supplies have tightened up due to heavy ice and cold weather.
- Market will be stronger through the week.

Celery

- Oxnard is finished. Volumes are still very light. The market will stay high as desert volumes ramp up.

Iceberg Lettuce

- Last week we experienced seven days of ice, which is causing epidermal peel.
- Harvest crews will do their best to peel any visible cap leaves showing the effects of ice.
- Because of this, we are seeing lighter weights and lower yields, especially for processing.

Leaf Lettuces

- Romaine showing some peel and blister and with more rain forecast prices should increase a little.
- Green and Red leaf have both jumped up a bit in price from last week and should continue up a bit with the upcoming weather. Quality is medium.

Fresno

Avocado

- Mexico's crossings are steady but expected to drop off slightly due to fuel shortages in the area. We are seeing a good run of all sizes.
- Super bowl pulls and demand are starting to be seen as retailers start locking down fruit.
- Pricing has been stable but as supplies tighten due to fuel shortages and demand we will see an upswing.
- Fruit is peaking 48/40/60's and quality is good to excellent. Movement is expected to kick up the end of the week.
- Chile is still bringing in but this has dropped significantly and is showing no real bearing on the markets.

Carrots

- Processed carrot supplies are steady and moving well on regular as well as organic.
- Conventional carrots are in good demand and the market is up slightly on Jumbo/Cello/Clip Tops.
- Be sure to book early to get the packs and sizes you need.

Grapes

- Import Grapes are going from Chile & Peru. Supplies are very tight on both Red and Green Seedless.
- Market is strong and advance booking is strongly encouraged. Also available in small numbers from Peru are Red Globes.

Lemons

- Lemon market has steadied with fruit shipping out of all areas. Sizing continues 140/115.
- Quality is good with clean pack outs only grade that is light are standards and growers aren't complaining about this.
- Supplies are good and shippers are looking to move. Look for lemons to stay steady for the next 3-4 weeks.
- Meyer Lemons are available being packed 1#/2#/10#/20# and 38# units. Call for availability and pricing.

Melons Cantaloupe/Honeydew

- Cantaloupe is sizing mostly 12.
- Supplies should be improving and we have seen some but government shut downs are slowing this..
- Quality good to excellent all offshore (Honduras/Guatemala). Color is on the concrete to light tan.
- We have seen some relaxing in this market but not expected to see big changes until supplies pick up.
- Honeydew market is up slightly with sizing mostly 6/8's. Most of this fruit also is offshore with light supplies finishing up out of Mexico.
- Quality is just fair on the Mexican fruit but looking very nice from Offshore.

Oranges

- Navels sugar levels and color are nice; with the fruit packing out clean heavy to fancy.
- Sizing is starting to improve with a more 72 and a few 56/48 now available. Movement has been steady.
- 56's and larger pricing continues to be stronger.
- Rains last week and those expected this week have slowed harvest.... expect to see demand up due to lack of supplies by mid week because of this.
- The fruit set looks good and we anticipate decent supplies this season.
- Cara Cara oranges are peaking 113/138/88's similar to Navels. This variety is looking very nice and eating well this year.
- Packing mostly in 1/2 cartons but full cartons are available on request.
- Blood Oranges numbers are starting to pick up a bit. Most of this fruit like the Cara Cara are packing up in 1/2 cartons.
- Exterior color is still on the light side but they are cutting a nice deep interior color.

- Like all Orange varieties they are small predominately this year 113/138/88.

Potatoes

- California's New Potatoes are done for season.... time to move to Washington for the best quality. Call our Mt Vernon office for pricing and availability.

Specialty Citrus

- Calif Ruby Grapefruit size is peaking 40/36 and color is improving.
- We will have supplies for a few months and will see some light supplies of Organic available to load out of southern Calif.
- Clementine are going and are peaking around a 36 size.... large fruits are being snapped up by retailers. Very good supplies this year.
- Stem and Leaf are now available as well.
- Minneola are going with the fruit peaking on 100/120's finished up in the desert and starting to harvest up in Central Calif.
- Color and sugar on these is great right now. Look for large sizes (80/64's) to remain tight all season.
- Also going now are Pumelos, Oro Blanco (Sweeties), and coming soon Royal Mandrins. Call for info.

Stone Fruit

- We have good supplies and various packs of Arils (Pomegranate seeds). We can offer a variety of pack sizes packed to order.
- Asian Pears are packing great in 1 & 2 layer trays.
- Off shore fruit is starting to slowly arrive on Peaches/Nectarines/Red Plums/Cherries.
- All loading in LA area with consolidation in Central Calif with notice.
- Market will be firm until early Feb when supplies get better.

Watermelon

- Watermelon quality is fair. Supplies are very light out of MX and expected to stay this way for the next few weeks.
- This situation will continue until harvest moves into Southern Mexico. Sizing is just fair. Market will stay firm with growers pushing it up.

Kiwi

- Calif Kiwi are now shipping with all sizes available. Fruit is very firm (you will need some time for this to soften up).
- Market adjusting down slightly. Quality is good.

Southeast

Cabbage

- Good supplies from Florida. Prices are lower. Quality is generally good.

Corn

- Moderate supplies from Florida. Quality is generally good.

Cucumber

- Steady supplies from Florida. Prices are higher. Quality is good overall.

Eggplant

- Moderate supplies from Florida. Quality is generally good.

Green Beans

- Moderate supplies from Florida. Prices on machine picked are lower. Quality is generally good.

Green Bell Pepper

- Good supplies from Florida. Prices are higher. Quality is generally good.

Yellow Squash and Zucchini

- Moderate supplies from Florida. Prices are higher. Quality is generally good.

Sweet Potatoes

- Moderate supplies from Eastern North Carolina, Louisiana and Mississippi. Prices are unchanged. Quality is generally good.

Nogales

Cucumbers

- Cucumbers are up this week, supplies have tightened up because of cooler weather. Product is crossing through Nogales and San Diego.
- There are also English and mini cucumbers available supplies are also tight.

Beef Steak Tomatoes

- Prices are steady this week. There a few single layers crossing though Nogales, supplies are limited, mostly large sizes.
- Cooler weather is limiting supplies.

Grape Tomatoes

- Grape tomatoes are down this week. Supplies are improving, product is crossing through Nogales.

Roma Tomatoes

- Prices are up this week this week, supplies are down because of cold weather. Product is crossing through Nogales.
- Rounds have also started to cross but supplies remain tight. Supplies should improve in the coming weeks.

Peppers

- Green Peppers are up supplies have tightened. Red, Yellow and Orange peppers remain tight.
- Supplies should improve in the coming weeks as more growers start to harvest.

McAllen

Chili Peppers

- Limited supplies in good quality. Jalapeno prices are high; Poblano steady price and supplies.
- Limited Habanero; moderate quality. Limited volume in Anaheim and Serrano; Prices in general are high due to limited supplies.

Lime

- As with Avocados, Limes saw heavy promotions for Christmas and New Years Eve.
- Supplies are light and pricing is up. Quality is good as cooler temperatures are in the growing areas.

Mango

- The season out of Mexico has drawn to a close. Expect the Mexico season to begin again in February 2019.

Melons

- Local season has completed.

Mexican Avocado

- Supplies are light on small fruit (60s, 70s and 84s).
- This is due to heavy promotions for Christmas, New Years Eve, and the upcoming Super Bowl.
- Demand over all is higher and we should see a price increase next week.

Mexican Onions

- Rains and now frozen fields are continuing in Mexico and will be affecting even more supply.
- Very limited supplies and high prices in white, yellow and red onions.

Pineapple

- Supplies and demand on Pineapple remain the same.
- Cold temperatures are keeping the pineapple from coloring up; so we are seeing light crossings and higher than usual prices for this time of the year.

Watermelons

- Supplies are light from Mexico due to cold temperatures. Harvesting in southern Mexico has been pushed back another two weeks.
- Supplies are light coming from Guatemala due to disease that is affecting growth.