



WEATHER UPDATE

Yuma— Sunny and partly cloudy all week with highs in the low 70's and lows in the upper 40's. **Oxnard**— Mixed report with sun, clouds and rain throughout the week. Highs ranging from mid 50's to mid 60's and lows near mid 40's. **Salinas**— Highs in the mid 50's and lows in the upper 30's. Overcast and rain expected periodically most of the week. **Mexico (Culiacan)**— Partly cloudy with chances of showers mid week. Highs in the mid 80s lows in the mid 60s. **Florida, Southern**— Partly cloudy with warmer temperatures later in the week. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s. **Idaho**— Snow expected most of the week with highs in the lower 30's and lows in the low teens.

TRANSPORTATION

The National Diesel Average has been recorded at \$3.074 up \$0.001 a gal from last week and down \$0.208 gal from last year. NPC continues to monitor and track diesel fuel averages by state as well as reported truckload freight rates on a weekly basis. **Transportation continues to work through its most significant structural changes in years in regards to new laws and regulations stressing available truck volume and controlling drivers. Trucks are in good supply overall nationally at this time.**

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MARKET ALERT

CELERY

GREEN BEANS

POTATOES

LETTUCE - ICEBERG, GREEN LEAF, ROMAINE & HEARTS

BUSH BERRIES

STRAWBERRIES

COMMODITIES ON THE RADAR:

Cantaloupes, Honeydews, & Tomatoes

MARKET OUTLOOK



Apples



The market is steady this week. New crop Washington MFC Gala, Red Delicious, Granny Smith, and Golden Delicious Apples are available. New crop Washington Fuji stocks are limited. Quality is excellent.

Asparagus



The asparagus market remains steady this week. Good volume coming in from Peru and Mexico. Quality is good from both regions. Expect the market to remain steady going into next week.

Avocados



Markets are relatively stable on most sizes and grades. Larger fruit continues to be a little stronger over all and 70's are the weakest size. The next few weeks should be steady, with slight changes, mostly because of border crossings and picking schedules around the Thanksgiving holiday. Supply for #2 fruit should start to increase as we move into December and pricing should remain stable. Overall quality is good and remains consistent.

Bananas



Plenty of supplies from now until week 49, then after that week we might be in a situation where supplies will be tougher to come by. This situation may remain until week 6-7 of 2020. Good supplies on organics, no major issues for the balance of the year. Finally, plantains still remain super tight and expected to remain tight until beginning of December.



Berries



Blackberries: Product supply is on the rebound and is expected to improve as weather in South America continues to improve. Mexico supply is light but steady and will continue to increase throughout December.

Blueberries: Production out of Peru and Chile has been solid. Expect volume in December and great opportunities for promotions on blues.

Raspberries: Production from Mexico was impacted by recent rains and has provided historically lower numbers than usual. Supply is still steady and should remain that way with current weather patterns holding.

MARKET OUTLOOK

Broccoli



Supply stream has returned to steady and markets have come down. Expect to see no escalation and a steady supply to match steady demand. Quality has been reported as great.

Brussels Sprouts



Supplies are holding steady for this week. Growers are anticipating a very good Holiday pull, the market will remain active as we move through the holiday months. Talk with your growers to ensure all your orders get covered.

Cabbage



Cabbage supplies and quality have been reported as steady and fair to good on both red and green cabbage.

Cauliflower



Supplies have improved this week. Better yields coming out of Yuma and some from Salinas. Good quality is reported by multiple growers and market pressure has began to release. Good weather reports next week should add to excellent supply and quality.

Cantaloupes



ON THE RADAR: Arizona is finished. A full transition to offshore melons in Florida got started. The first Guatemalan cantaloupe arrivals are expected to hit Los Angeles by the end of this week. The cantaloupe market remains very active, arrivals are peaking on 9s with a comfortable percentage of 12s. The market has settled slightly but we do anticipate the market to bounce back in early December as has been the pattern over the past two years. Quality has been very good to start the season with excellent internal quality. Brix levels have been mostly in the 11-15% range with a good flavor profile.

MARKET ALERT

Celery



Salinas has finished up and supply has moved to Santa Maria and Oxnard, Ca. Quality has been good. Holiday pulls will affect markets with an increase in demand which will lead to escalated pricing until growing transitions are complete and supply has caught up. Celery out of Yuma will begin towards the end of December adding to CA production.

Corn



Corn supplies have improved this week. Production out of Georgia is done and Florida is getting started. California production is steady this week with excellent quality.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Cucumbers



The cucumber market is steady to higher this week. West coast supplies continue to remain tight. While out East, Florida has still not hit their full stride and GA's production has finished due the cold temps. Quality is good. Expect supplies to remain tight for the next couple of weeks when imports start up and Mexico and Florida start producing better volume.

Eggplant



The market is somewhat steady this week. Higher out East due to GA winding down and Florida just starting up. CA continues to harvest eggs, but quality is only fair, and they should wrap up over the next week or so. Mexico has steady supplies with good quality crossing through Nogales. Expect supplies to increase in the next week.

Grapes



Green Seedless market remains steady. Primarily Autumn Kings are in supply and quality has been fair. Expect domestic supply to be completely ended by December and for import Peruvian product to pick up the slack. Europe has a good market at the moment and the majority of fruit is going there right now. Red Seedless—Allison's are still being harvested along with Vintage and a few Crimsons. The Allison market is \$18-16.95 with Crimsons \$2 less. Allison's have better size than the Vintage and Crimsons. Peru will begin red seedless arrival in mid-December.



Green Beans



Green bean prices have remained escalated as we continue to close in on the Thanksgiving holiday resulting from a high demand and supply issues due to rain on FL and CA coasts. Some green beans are coming from Mexico as but all in all, the increased demand along with shorter than expected supplies will keep the green bean market elevated through the end of the month and through December. Expect slight prorates but numbers should improve as we move through the month of December.

Herbs



Chervil & tarragon are limited this week due to quality issues. All other herbs are expected to remain steady with good quality.

Cilantro – Supply has improved and product quality is fair-good. The move south has allowed supply to meet demand and hold the market steady. Expect this to stay steady in the coming weeks.

Honeydews



ON THE RADAR: Arizona is finished. A full transition to offshore melons in Florida got started. We will start to see Guatemalan honeydew arrivals begin after Thanksgiving with sizing projected to be mostly 5/6s which will be very well received. Mexican honeydews continue to run small (8/9s) and we appreciate everyone's understanding of the situation the past few weeks as we have gone through this very challenging period. Flexibility of sizing will most likely be required for the next week before things begin to stabilize.

MARKET OUTLOOK

MARKET ALERT

QUALITY



SUPPLY



Iceberg



Lighter supplies on Iceberg lettuce this week. Growers are finished in Huron and have moved down to Yuma. Reporting good quality as initial shipments have begun out of AZ. Demand has been good and market will be active until all growers have fully transitioned. Anticipate markets to balance out heading into the first week of December.

QUALITY



SUPPLY



Kale



Suppliers are steady this week. Good quality reported with multiple growers. Expect market to remain steady for the next few weeks.

MARKET ALERT

QUALITY



SUPPLY



Leaf



MARKET ALERT- Romaine: Very light supplies continue on Romaine and Romaine Hearts this week. Production has finished up in Salinas and has moved down to Yuma, Az. Newly harvested Yuma romaine is in good quality and catching up with demand. Expect markets to remain active this week until all growers have finished transition and supply ramps up. **(Alert includes romaine hearts, chopped romaine, & salad blends)**

Green Leaf/ Red Leaf/ Butter (Boston) Lettuce: Supplies are light but will be picking up this week. Production has finished in Salinas and moved down to Yuma, Az. Expect to see some smaller heads in the packs but overall quality is fair-good. Expect relief in the coming weeks as supply picks up. Prices are still escalated this week due to demand exceeds supply.

QUALITY



SUPPLY



Tender Leaf



Supplies and quality are reported as good after the transition down to Yuma has completed. Expect steady supply and overall quality to remain solid in the coming weeks.

QUALITY



SUPPLY



Lemons & Limes



LIMES: Lime market and supply is currently steady but we can expect to see a rise in the coming weeks with a slight increase in FOB's and possible reduction in supply while demand will continue to stay steady. We have seen the 200's market price increase in relation to other sizes, but all sizes are currently priced in high teens to low 20's.

LEMONS: Lemons are steady this week. Very little fluctuation from last week with FOB pricing out of CA and AZ markets. Smaller fruit remains more readily available; however, no supply issues have been reported and quality has been solid.

MARKET OUTLOOK



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

Onions



This market remains steady as it has been in the previous two weeks. Supply of Colossal has been up and has kept the market soft. Pricing on mediums has firmed up due to higher demand with holiday packed onions. Reds are still sitting at about \$6-7 range while whites are still at about \$10. Historical trends will show a 25 to 50 cent increase in the coming weeks. This year, there have been abnormally cold temps in OR/ID affecting product. Quality may be affected as well as the length of crop but that will be seen early 2020.

Onions, Green



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

Supplies are steady this week, growers are anticipating a bigger demand for Green Onions as we continue through the Holiday. Expect the market to remain steady or increase slightly due to higher demand.

Oranges



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

California navels are in full swing and are showing volume across the board. All sizes are in excellent supply but size is peaking on 56s and 64s. Market price and FOB's have remained consistent over the past two weeks. Florida has seen cooler evenings recently which has helped with color and flavor as the season moves forward.

Pears



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

Barts are now available with sizes peaking on 100/110/120ct. New crop Washington D'Anjou are available and quality is excellent.

Peppers, Bell



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

Green bell pepper market is steady this week. Steady supplies and good quality from both areas. The market on color bells is higher this week. Supplies are tight due to transitioning in the West coast. East coast production out of GA continues but quality reports of some bruising. Florida is slowly starting with volume and quality is good.

Peppers, Chili



QUALITY  SUPPLY 

Supplies out of the East remain steady, with good quality. Supplies out of the west remain lighter this week due to higher demand and Mexico transitioning. Jalapenos, Poblano, and Anaheim peppers out west remain light. While serrano and tomatillos both have steady supplies. Expect supplies to improve in a couple of weeks.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Pineapples



Volumes are expected to improve along with demand in order to cover our thanksgiving pull. We are expecting volumes to remain healthy until the end of the year with the fruit trending large.



Potatoes



EXTREME ALERT: Fresh potato shipments from the 2019 crop are likely to fall 11.19 million cwt short of 2018 movement. Expected shipments would be the lowest in modern history. Russet table potato prices have exceeded year-earlier values by an average of 70.6% in past years when fresh shipments have fallen more than 5% short of year-earlier movement. The potato market is steady from last week but still on EXTREME alert. FOBs exceeding \$20 on all big spuds and smaller stuff isn't far behind. Additionally, most suppliers are out of 40s-70s even on market buys. This is a tough time with holiday pulls, not only on supply but also on trucks as freight is up as well. We recommend flexibility on sizing to get through the holidays and we will continue to monitor the situation and keep you updated on this unprecedented market.



Squash



The squash market is steady to higher this week. Supplies are tight both out of the east and west. Florida is producing good supplies with good quality. GA's pricing is higher due to the weather and seasonal decline. Reports of some quality issues like wind scarring. Mexico's pricing is higher this week as well, due to the weather issues and transitioning. Expect supplies to improve over the next 2 weeks.



Strawberries



Strawberries traditionally tighten up during the winter months. The recent heat, wind and wild fires in CA hasn't helped the supply situation. To make matters worse this year, Mexico's season has been delayed due to rains last month associated with tropical storms. Demand is leaning on Mexico but total supply is not able to keep up quite yet. We anticipate the supply to continue to increase and help balance the market. Most growers are requesting extra order lead times to give them some extra time to line up product.



Tomatoes



ON THE RADAR: Tomato prices out of the East have dropped a bit this week. West coast markets remain steady. Supplies on rounds out east are steadily increasing. Out of the west, round supplies are lighter with good demand and fairly good quality. Roma markets are steady this week. Supplies out of the east are moderate and good quality. While out to the west, supplies are lighter with good quality. Cherry and grape markets are steady. Supplies are good with light demand. Quality is good.

CBP to begin inspections for Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus

Release Date: November 18, 2019

Washington – U.S. Customs and Border Protection will increase inspections on imported tomato and pepper fruit, seed lots and transplants entering at all U.S. ports of entry beginning Friday, Nov. 22, to prevent the introduction of Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus and protect the multi-billion dollar U.S. tomato and pepper production industry. The increased inspections come following a Federal Order issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service last week which imposes restrictions on imports of tomato and pepper seed lots and transplants from all countries as well as restrictions on tomato and pepper fruit consignments imported from Mexico, Canada, Israel, and the Netherlands. APHIS is also prohibiting the importation of tomato and pepper fruits from all countries of origin in passenger baggage. Tomato brown rugose fruit virus can cause severe fruit loss in tomatoes and peppers. It is easily spread through the use of contaminated tools, hands, and plant-to-plant contact. It was first reported in tomatoes in Israel in 2014. Since then, it has been reported in China, Mexico, Germany (eradicated), Italy, Greece, the United Kingdom, Jordan, Turkey, and the Netherlands. The virus was detected and eradicated from a California tomato greenhouse in 2018.

Per the Federal Order, APHIS will:

- Require all imported tomato and pepper seed lots along with other propagative plant materials be tested and/or certified free of the disease.

- Require all tomato and pepper fruit commercial shipments imported from Mexico, Israel, Canada and the Netherlands to be inspected and certified free of disease symptoms.

In addition, CBP will:

- Increase inspections of commercial consignments at U.S. ports of entry to ensure imported tomato and pepper fruit entering from Mexico, Canada, Israel, and the Netherlands does not show any signs of disease upon arrival.

“Working closely with our partners at the USDA, our CBP agriculture specialists serve tirelessly to protect our nation’s agriculture industries against the accidental or deliberate introduction of plant and animal diseases such as the tomato brown rugose fruit virus.” said CBP’s Agriculture Programs and Trade Liaison executive director Kevin Harriger. “Diseases like this, as well as other invasive species could devastate our nation’s economy, and threaten the health and safety of our citizens.”

During a typical day last year, CBP agriculture specialists across the nation seized 4,552 prohibited plant, meat, animal by-product, and soil, and intercepted 319 insect pests at U.S. ports of entry. For further information on bringing agricultural products to the United States visit our CBP site [here](#).

A copy of the Federal Order is posted at https://www.aphis.usda.gov/import_export/plants/plant_imports/federal_order/downloads/2019/DA-2019-28.pdf

SOURCE: <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/national-media-release/cbp-begin-inspections-tomato-brown-rugose-fruit-virus>

If you have any specific questions or concerns on any commodities not mentioned in this report, please feel free to reach out to dforsythe@nproduce.com and we will be happy to give you those current market conditions. Also look for our Spanish