



WEEK 18 : May 2 - May 8, 2022

MARKET OUTLOOK

Transportation:

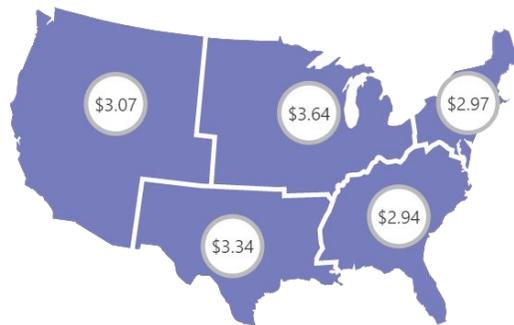
National Diesel Average: \$5.160

Compared to Last Year: \$3.124

National Fuel Surcharge: \$0.71

Shortages: Seeing high freight rates, with **extreme** shortages remain in NC; **slight** shortage in: CO, FL & MI

National Posted Rate per mile
previous week's average outbound reefer rate for each region



Regional Weather Update:

Oxnard, CA: Partly cloudy and sunny throughout the week with highs in the upper 60s and lows in the 50s.

Salinas, CA: Partly cloudy and sunny throughout the week with highs in the upper 60s to 70s and lows in the upper 40s to 50s.

Yuma, AZ: Sunny with highs in the upper 90's and lows in the 60s.

Immokalee, FL: Showers and rain with highs in the upper 80s to 90s and lows in the 60s to 70s with partly cloudy to start the weekend.

Idaho Falls, ID: Partly cloudy with highs in the 50s to 60s and lows in the 30s to 40s with morning rain/snow shower on Wednesday and sunny on Thursday.

MARKET ALERT

Banana

Berries: Raspberries

Carrots

Citrus: Limes (Force Majeure), Oranges

Grapes

Green Bell Pepper

Lettuce: Romaine

Mushrooms

Onions

Pepper Chili

Potatoes

MARKET OUTLOOK



Apples



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

The apple market has leveled out and the prices are fairly stable on most items. Prices to remain steady through April, then possibly start to push upward in May as inventory levels drop. The overall crop is down this year, making this the second crop in a row that is smaller than normal. This year crop is at least 3 million cases shorter than the crop last season. The quality of the fruit has been good, but will see how the fruit holds up in storage. Pricing overall is higher due to the shorter crop and overall inflation in the growing chain, including labor, picking, packing, and transporting of apples.

Asparagus



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

Peruvian production continues to increase weekly while Obregon continue with fair volume but with recent heat the yields are lower than projected. Market continues to be very active with the transition and with very limited airspace due to the Mother's Day flower rush. Production out of Guanajuato MX region is expected to start in late May/early June.

Avocados



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

RADAR - Total volumes to the US closed at 62.8 Mil lbs. for last week, but keep in mind a portion Mexico's harvest was carryover from the border delays of Week 15. Volume just about doubled from Week 15 to Week 16 (33 Mil lbs. to 63 Mil lbs.), and the market is transitioning from a major shortage to being restocked. The 2-week total of 96 Mil lbs. isn't that significant for the 2nd largest avocado promotional holiday of the year – . Standing inventories in the US are up to 48.2 Mil lbs. – up only 7 Mil lbs. from last week's low of 41.1 Mil lbs.

MARKET ALERT

Bananas



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Banana availability is picking up and so is the quality. The weather is improving and the issues in Europe are increasing the supply as less fruit is being shipped there.

MARKET ALERT

Berries



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Blackberries: Prices for Blackberries are trending down this week. Supplies are picking up now that the border in Texas is open and cleared out. Growers are expecting good supplies for the next couple weeks. Supply is Good and Quality is Fair.

Blueberries: Prices for Blueberries are trending down this week. Production is coming out of Florida, California, and Mexico. Look for improving supplies and prices in the weeks to come. Supply is Fair and Quality is Good.

Raspberries ALERT: Prices for Raspberries are trending down this week. At the same time prices are still elevated. Look for volatile markets to remain with us going forward. Supply and Quality are Fair.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Beans



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

FAIR

Green Beans: Overall quality and production level remain fair to good as labor continues to be a challenge out of Mexico. The transition from Florida to Georgia has started. Expect a gap for a couple of weeks. Quality continues to be good out East.

Snow Peas: Beginning to see some quality issues due to rain at the field levels on the domestic Snow Peas. MX production is light and quality is fair to good.

Broccoli



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies continue to be good this week. Supplies are coming from Santa Maria, Salinas CA, and Mexico. Good quality is currently reported. Expect markets to remain steady for a few weeks. This is a perfect time to promote Broccoli. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$9.35 - \$10.33).

Brussels Sprouts



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies will continue to be limited this week. Quality has been reported as marginal. Demand has increased from the past weeks. Markets have also gone up with higher demands and lower yields due to quality issues. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$25.95 - \$27.33)

MARKET ALERT

Carrots



SUPPLY

POOR

QUALITY

GOOD

Supply is good on every size except Jumbo carrots. Shortage on jumbo is industrywide and due to the cooler weather, that put the Imperial crop behind. Expecting the jumbos to improve in May. Stick production is expecting to pick up in the next week.

Cantaloupes



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

The cantaloupe market remains very strong as supplies continue to be limited throughout the industry. With Mexican production starting to cross, and higher retail pricing being realized, we do believe the market has peaked and will begin to feel the pressure to lower some. We anticipate the Arizona deal to be a little later in starting this year compared to previous seasons and we will be reaching out to everyone within the next few weeks to map out transitions to the desert melons after Florida arrivals conclude. Current cantaloupe sizing is almost exclusively 9s and larger leaving smaller fruit (12/15s) in an extremely limited position. We are experiencing some of the best overall quality we have seen so far this season with very nice external color but solid brix levels in the 12-15% range. The flavor profile has also been very good.

Cauliflower



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies continue to be good this week. Overall quality is reported as good. Current supplies are coming from Santa Maria, and Salinas CA. Expect for markets to remain steady for a few weeks. This is a good time to promote Cauliflower. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$9.60 - \$11.55)

MARKET OUTLOOK



Celery



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
FAIR

Supplies continue to be light this week. Quality has been reported as fair with some seeder starting to show up. Markets are expected to remain stable for a few weeks. Supplies will be coming from Oxnard CA, and Santa Maria CA. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$15.75 - \$15.80)

MARKET ALERT

Citrus



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Limes ALERT - FORCE MAJEURE: Lime market is coming down, especially on the smaller fruit with crop still peaking on 200ct/230ct/250ct sizing. Large fruit market is not budging and is also extremely scarce, currently accounting for only approx. 10-15% of total yields. There are a few rainy days expected in Mexico towards the end of this week; however, multiple dry days are expected to follow (this combination of heat and moisture may affect quality on next cycle). We highly recommend considering altering your spec during this time from a pricing/availability standpoint. The fruit is unable to obtain appropriate sizing and yields due to lack of rain paired with frequent harvesting to take advantage of high market costs. Demand trends will dictate the velocity of further cost shifts. During this time, please plan supply in advance and be cognizant of frequent price changes and availability shortages.

Lemons: Due to the weather CA has experience along with a lot of rain in December, the fruit had matured a lot quicker than anticipated. All the growers had to pick which caused a lot of lemons in storage. Value and volume mainly on 115's and larger. Will see market change on 140's and smaller towards end of month.

Oranges RADAR: Some growers have move into their late navel crop earlier than expected which will cause the Navels season to be done at the end of May instead of June. The crop is extremely light, and the fruit is large. Growers are holding off on picking Valencia's for a couple weeks to try and get growth. If the industry not picking Valencia's, small fruit will get tight, and the market will be strong.

Corn



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Prices for Corn out of the East and West are trending down this week. Volume out of Florida is picking up right now. Growers are reporting good quality. Production out of Northern California is on the upswing too. Look for improving prices for the weeks to come.

Cucumbers



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Prices for Slicing Cucumbers are trending slightly down this week. Production is picking up out of Mexico, Florida is holding its own and Georgia starts in late May. Look for continued volatile markets to continue going forward.

Eggplant



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Prices for Eggplant are trending down this week. Production is coming out of Florida and Mexico. Volumes are picking up out of both areas. Georgia will start production at the end of May or early June.

MARKET OUTLOOK



MARKET ALERT

Grapes



SUPPLY
SHORT
QUALITY
GOOD

Weather in Chile is going perfectly for grapes and has been for a few weeks which is increasing the supplies being imported into the US. Red Grape pricing continues to be low with plenty of supply. Greens remain firmer as fewer supplies have been shipped.

Herbs



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Cilantro: Supplies continue to be good this week. Good quality has been reported for this week. Most growers will be shipping out of Salinas CA and Santa Maria CA. (\$11.98-\$13.00)

Tarragon: Supplies is limited out of Mexico and will continue to be very limited due to the upcoming holiday in Mexico. Good availability coming from Ecuador.

Honeydews



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

Honeydews on the east coast seem to be in even more demand than the cantaloupe. Sizing is also leaning very heavy towards the larger fruit leaving 6/8s in an extremely limited position. We believe dews from Central America will remain limited and welcome the honeydews from Mexico, which are just now starting, to cross and help relieve the pressure on the dew market.

Iceberg



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Supplies continue to be very good this week. Quality and Weights will also be very good this week. Most Growers are now shipping from Salinas CA. Expect for markets to continue improving and steady supplies the next few weeks. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$11.98 - \$12.98)

MARKET ALERT

Leaf



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Romaine ALERT: Supplies are much better this week. Romaine supplies are very good this week. Romaine Heart supplies continue to improve this week. We are expecting supplies and markets to continue improving. Good quality and weights are to be expected for next week. Most growers are now shipping from Salinas CA. (Romaine pricing for this week \$11.40 - \$11.85) (Romaine Hearts pricing for this week \$17.28 - \$19.28)

Green & Red Leaf Lettuce: Supplies are fair this week. Quality has also improved now that we are in Salinas CA. We are expecting fair supplies and good quality the next few weeks. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$13.08 - \$14.95)

Tender Leaf: Supplies continue to be good this week. Demand is good on tender leaf; quality is very good. Supplies should remain steady for a few weeks now that we are back in the Salinas Valley. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$4.65 - \$4.75)

MARKET OUTLOOK

MARKET ALERT

Mushrooms



SUPPLY
SHORT
QUALITY
FAIR

Shitake Mushrooms: Due to uncontrollable rise in cost of imported Shitake logs from China. Shitake mushrooms supplies will be short, prices will be changing almost weekly. Long delays to unload shipments at the ports have caused some interruptions with supplies. This is caused by labor shortage and limited freight availability.

The mushroom industry continues with a shortage of labor, as well as cost inflation increases in raw materials. Specifically corrugated cardboard and packaging materials. Additionally, the price increases in freights nationally have greatly impacted cost to mushroom growers. Pricing on mushrooms must increase at this time due to Labor, Transportation, and packaging.

MARKET ALERT

Onions



SUPPLY
SHORT
QUALITY
GOOD

Onions in the NW are done. Market is steady. Will be in CA May to mid-August. The crop looks very good, and the area has had great growing weather this season. Imperial Valley will move to San Joaquin in a month. There is little bit out of NM/TX/AZ and MX. Supply short, cost is up, but should settle in a week or two. Freight and fuel rate continues to remain high this season.

Onions Green



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Supplies are light this week. Market pricing has increased with lighter supplies. Green onions are coming from Mexico supplies continue to be stable the next few weeks. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$12.25 - \$13.75)

Pears



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Anjou supplies are good and are not expecting to end until June/July. Domestic Bartlett are done. Imported Bartletts are starting to arrive along with some Bosc in small volume. Expect higher price on the import fruit since the ocean container freight cost are much higher this year.

MARKET ALERT

Peppers Bell



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

ALERT on GREEN BELL: Prices for Bell Peppers are trending down this week. Prices for Green Bell Peppers are still elevated. Supplies are picking up out of Florida. Mexico is winding down while volumes out of Coachella is picking up. Look for Georgia to be a factor in a few weeks.

MARKET ALERT

Peppers Chili



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Prices for Chili Peppers are trending slightly down this week. Production out of Florida is suffering from quality issues. Product out of Mexico remains tight. Growers are looking for some price relief in the weeks to come.

MARKET OUTLOOK

Pineapples



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies on Pineapple continue to be ok with size trending to 5s and 6s. Availability on 7cts is limited. Quality is good.

MARKET ALERT

Potatoes



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

Potatoes started moving this week and will continue to see that climb through the summer so its only just beginning. Reds are also gapping.

Squash



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Yellow and Zucchini Squash are trending down this week. Prices are currently at a value. Production is coming out of Georgia, Florida, and Mexico currently. Growers are winding down production in Mexico. Look for volatile markets in the weeks to come.

Strawberries



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Strawberries are trending down this week. Supplies are tighter due to the Mother's Day holiday. Looks for markets to stabilize after the holiday. As you know, Weather will be the main factor going forward.

Tomatoes



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Tomatoes are mixed this week. 2 Layer Rounds and Roma's are trending up. 25 lb Round Tomatoes are trending down. Cherry and Grape Tomatoes are stable this week. Production is moving up from Immokalee to Ruskin & Palmetto areas. Production out of Mexico is expected to decline in the weeks to come.

Watermelons



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies on Seedless is starting to increase while minis are still tight. Northern Mexico is starting to pick up volume with good quality. Florida has good supplies. Expecting better volume in May.

What dried chilies become fresh chilies?

By: **Daniela Juarez** | 05 May 2021

Did you know that chili peppers change their name when they go from fresh to dry?
Discover how the most used in Mexican cuisine are transformed

In Mexico there are about 50 species of chilies. Did you know that their names change when they go from fresh to dry? This is how the most used varieties in the national cuisine are transformed:

From jalapeno to chipotle

When this chili is young and green, it is called jalapeño or cuaresmeño . They nicknamed him Cuaresmeño, because there were places where this chili only arrived during Lent. At the time of drying it becomes chipotle . It is one of the most cultivated and consumed chilies in the country. The figures indicate that 60% of its production is used for pickles and canning, 20% is consumed fresh when it can still be called jalapeño. And the rest is used to dry and turn it into chipotle.

From poblano chili to ancho chili

Another of the most consumed chilies in Mexican cuisine is the poblano chili , as its name says, it originates from Puebla. It is used to make one of the most typical dishes of the region: stuffed chili with nogada sauce and pomegranate. It is also used for some creamy rajas or for the Aztec cake. When dried, this chili is called ancho or mulato chili , due to the color it takes. In this state it is no longer the star of the dish, rather it is used for sauces and many varieties of mole, since its itching is slight but present.

From Mirasol to Guajillo

The guajillo chili is highly valued in the kitchen, but not many know its fresh version, which is called mirasol . Also known as miracielo, because when this chili grows, it takes a vertical position, "as if looking at the sky." It goes from a green tone to an intense and bright red. However, its greatest use is when it is dried and turned into guajillo. A favorite for marinades and sauces for its color, aroma, and flavor.

From chilaca to pasilla

In Michoacán, the chilaca pepper is one of the most important peppers, as it is used in various dishes in the region. They call it "chili to unravel" because it is common for it to "unravel" and make pickled slices. When it dries, it takes on very dark tones and a much more intense flavor. It is when they call it pasilla, it is widely used in states such as Oaxaca, Jalisco and Nayarit. Another essential chili for moles.

From the chili ball to the rattlesnake

The chili ball , as its name suggests, is small and round. This chili is widely used in the center of the country, especially for a dish called texmole or tescmole. The latter is similar to a pot mole; It is soupy, with vegetables, condiments and of course, the chili ball. Sometimes it also carries chochoyotes, little balls made with corn. When the chili ball dries, they call it a rattle because its seeds harden and when moved it sounds like a sound instrument.

Benefits of consuming chili

Chili brings benefits to humans. Fresh chili peppers contain a high level of vitamin C. And dried chili peppers have good vitamin A content. Chili has also been proven to be good for skin and prevents hair loss, which is why so many beauty products add it as a principal ingredient. Anti-inflammatory, healing and, as if that were not enough, when you get enchiladas, your body releases endorphins, the hormone of pleasure. With a whole range of flavors, textures, aromas and colors, chili is undoubtedly one of the most important and valuable Mexican products.

For full story: <https://gourmetdemexico.com.mx/comida-y-cultura/chiles-frescos-a-secos/>

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 version that will be released on Monday. Have a great week!

Your Dedicated NPC, LLC Staff

