

MARKET OUTLOOK

Apples



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

The apple market has leveled out and the prices are 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 the Mother's Day rush. Airspace is still very limited. Production out of Guanajuato MX region is expected to start in late May/early June.

Avocados



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

With two weeks of decent volumes, pricing is now on the other side of the peak. However, this side looks different than expected. The size curve being the biggest unforeseen change as excess big fruit has been entering the market. With this shift to larger sizes (something that we haven't seen in 6+ months) the pricing between sizes is what is going to adjust the most. Larger sizes will continue to come down in price. Add to this the large size curve that will be arriving from Peru in a few weeks and we can expect to have promotional volumes on big fruit into early summer.

MARKET ALERT

Bananas



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Banana availability is picking up and so is the quality. The weather is great 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. Growers are expecting good supplies for the next couple weeks. Supply and Quality are both Good.

Blueberries: Prices for Blueberries are trending down this week. Production is coming out of a California, Georgia & Florida. Growers are looking for good supplies for the next 4 weeks. Supply is Fair and Quality is Good.

Raspberries ALERT: Prices for Raspberries are stable this week. At the same time prices are still elevated. Look for tight & volatile markets to remain with us going forward.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Beans



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

FAIR

Green Beans **RADAR:** Bean supply are getting tight as the last harvesting in Florida finish up while it transitions to Georgia in a couple of weeks. Mexico is almost done as well as it transitions to Coachella, follow by Fresno. Market is expected to remain elevated.

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 very 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 \$8.83 - \$9.83).

Brussels Sprouts



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies will continue to be limited this week. Quality has been reported as only fair at this time. Strong demand continues for this week for Sprouts. Markets have also gone up with higher demands and lower yields due to quality issues. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$28.65 - \$29.65)

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

RADAR: Offshore cantaloupe are extremely light supply at all ports. Expecting to remain tight until domestic season start. Fruit has good sugar and has been solid upon arrival. Domestic is expected to start out of Arizona mid-May, then move to California in July. Currently the increased Mexican crossings combined with higher freight rates, especially from Florida due to Mother's Day flower pulls, have started to pressure the cantaloupe markets from its highs as we expected. Sizing on cantaloupe is getting away from the jumbo fruit and providing a nice mix of 9/12/15s. Quality is truly the best we have seen all season with excellent shell color and solid internal brix levels (13-15%).

Cauliflower



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies continue to be very 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 \$10.55 - \$11.25)

MARKET OUTLOOK

MARKET ALERT

Celery



SUPPLY
SHORT
QUALITY
FAIR

Supplies continue to be very short this week. Quality has been reported as fair with a heavy presence of seeder in every box. Markets are expected to remain escalated for a few weeks until Celery starts in June out of Salinas CA. Supplies are currently coming from Oxnard CA, and Santa Maria CA. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$24.75 - \$27.60)

MARKET ALERT

Citrus



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Limes ALERT: The market is steadily declining as overall availability ramps up/ crossings increase, which is consistent with seasonal production trends. Small fruit still represents majority of yields, while large sizes still extremely scarce. We are seeing slightly greater availability on mid-sized fruit. Market pricing will continue to drop on a daily basis until a cost threshold is reached.

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 up this week. Prices are expected to come off a bit after the Mother's Day holiday. Growers out of Florida and California are reporting good quality.

Cucumbers



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Prices for Slicing Cucumbers are trending down this week. Growers are reporting good volumes out of Florida and Mexico. Look for Production to ramp up out of Georgia during the weeks to come.

Eggplant



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Prices for Eggplant are trending down this week. Supplies out of Florida are picking up. That's helping to take some pressure off the market. Production is expected to be tight out of Mexico going forward while California is expected to see improving volumes.

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. (\$12.40-\$14.65)

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

RADAR: Offshore honeydew are extremely light at all ports. Northern Mexico has started in Nogales with volume expected to ramp up in the next couple of weeks. Sizing has continued to run heavier to the larger fruit (5s/6s) leaving smaller sizes in very good demand still. Sugar and quality have been good on both offshore and Mexican honeydew. Domestic honeydews are expected to start in a few weeks.

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 \$15.65 - \$16.65)

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 \$12.15 - \$14.65) (Romaine Hearts pricing for this week \$17.60 - \$19.55)

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 \$13.13 - \$14.65)

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

Market remains strong in the Imperial Valley. Quality is excellent and demand is high. Imperial Valley will move to San Joaquin in a month. The crop looks very good, and the area has had great growing weather this season. 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 \$11.85 - \$12.65)

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

Prices for Green and Red Bell Peppers are trending down this week. Prices for Yellow Bell Peppers are trending up. Production out of Florida is past its peak. Mexico is winding down. Georgia is projected to start in the middle of May. Production out of California is on the upswing.

MARKET ALERT

Peppers Chili



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Prices for Chili Pepper are trending down this week. Production is light out of Florida and Mexico. Look for supplies to be tight for at least the next 2 to 3 weeks.

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 it's only just beginning. Reds are also gapping.

Squash



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Yellow Squash are trending up this week. Prices for Zucchini are stable. Prices are currently a good value, and the quality is good. Production is coming out of Georgia, Florida, and Mexico. Growers are expecting stable prices for the next week or two.

Strawberries



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Strawberries are trending up this week. Supplies traditionally get a bit tight around the Mother's Day Holiday. At the same time the weather in California looks favorable. That will help to keep the production numbers at a decent level. Production is currently coming out of Santa Maria, Oxnard, Salinas, and Watsonville.

Tomatoes



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Prices for Tomatoes are mixed this week. Rounds & Cherry Tomato prices are trending up. Grape tomatoes are trending down. There is a great value. Roma are steady. Production out of Florida is steady. Production is moving its way from South Florida to Central Florida. Production out of Mexico is declining as they end their season. California is projected to start in a week or 2.

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.

MARKET OUTLOOK

30% of Farmers Still Having Trouble Finding Essential Crop Inputs for This Year

By: **TYNE MORGRAN** | 05 May 2021

Diesel prices are at record levels. The prices of dry fertilizer for corn are double what farmers paid last year. Planting progress sits at the slowest pace since 2013, with farm machinery parts on backorder or in short supply. The latest Ag Economy Barometer shows farmers' concerns seem to be overshadowing current optimism about commodity prices hitting decade-highs.

Purdue University-CME Group's April Ag Economy Barometer showed an uptick in producer sentiments, but the monthly reading was still 32% below the same time last year. Farmers are showing higher expectations for their farm's financial performance, but farmers continue to voice concern about input prices not just this year, but also into 2023.

The latest Ag Economy Barometer posted a reading of 121, which is an 8-point improvement from March. The survey was conducted between April 18 and April 22, 2022.

"Producers are starting to feel somewhat better about their farms' financial situation and 2022 compared to 2021," says Jim Mintert, co-author of the barometer and also an agricultural economist with Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture. "The farm capital investment index, however, did not improve. It stayed at 36. That's the lowest reading we've ever had on the farm capital investment index."

Climbing commodity prices are helping offset some of the increase in input costs for farmers, but some producers say they haven't been able to buy some of the inputs they need, no matter the prices.

"Over 40% of the producers in this month's survey continued to say the purchase plans are being impacted by low farm machinery inventory levels," says Mintert. "Farmers continue to experience difficulty obtaining inputs to plant the 2022 crop. This month, 11% of the producers in the survey said that they had received notice from an input supplier that the supplier would be unable to deliver inputs they had already purchased for use in the 2022 crop season."

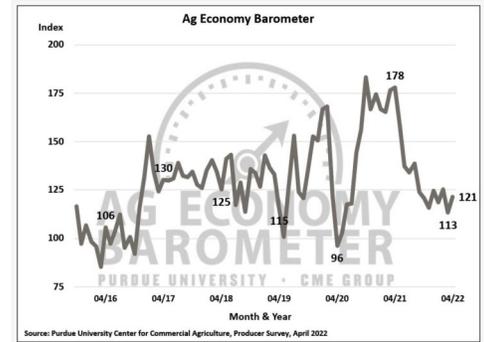
The Ag Economy Barometer found that 42% of producers surveyed said higher input costs are their biggest concern. That trumps the No. 2 concern on the list, which was government policies at 21%.

The monthly barometer showed 34% of producers said they experienced some difficulty in purchasing inputs for the 2022 crop season, which was up from 27% in March. When the Ag Economy Barometer broke down which inputs are posing the biggest challenges this year, the survey found:

- 30% reported issues sourcing herbicides
- 27% are having problems obtaining farm machinery parts
- 26% reported issues with fertilizer availability
- 17% are having problems finding insecticides

The concerns aren't just for 2022, but also for 2023. Economists found over half of crop producers expect input prices to rise above 2022's inflated level, and one out of five crop producers expect input prices to rise 20% or more compared to this year.

For full story: <https://www.thepacker.com/news/produce-crops/30-farmers-still-having-trouble-finding-essential-crop-inputs-year>



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

