

Regional Weather Forecast

Highs

Lows

Oxnard, CA

Sunshine and partly cloudy days. No rain on the forecast.

Low 70s

Low 60s

Salinas, CA

Sunshine and partly cloudy days with no rain on the forecast.

Low 70s

Mid 50s

Ivanhoe, NC

Partly cloudy with thunderstorms mid and late week.

Low 90s

Low 70s

Watsonville, CA

Partly cloudy and sunny next week.

Low 70s

Mid 50s

Alma, GA

Thunderstorms all week.

Low 90s

Low 70s

Idaho Falls, ID

Sunny and partly cloudy.

Upper 80s

Mid 50s

Regional Transportation Report

National Diesel Average: **\$2.437**(wk 28)

2019 : **\$3.055**(wk 28)

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.

Regions with shortages:

Slight shortage in Southern New Mexico. Shortage in North and South Carolina.

Weekly Market Changes

Asparagus

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **FAIR**



Volumes on asparagus is currently limited but markets have come down slightly from last weeks spike. Currently there are three prominent growing regions: Peru/MX/US, and each is dealing with circumstances that are keeping volumes tight. Peru historically has lower volume in summer months, MX is dealing with major heat and lack of rain, while US crop out of Michigan is hampered by labor issues at pack houses due to COVID.

Avocados

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Overall the market is stable but we are seeing retail driving the market. Currently California and MX product have been in good supply. So far there has been sufficient quantity and quality of product crossing the border. No foreseeable issues in the coming week, but avocado markets historically can become active in summer months.

Bananas

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Overall there hasn't been much fluctuation in the banana market. Supply and quality have been good and freight costs have been level leaving the banana industry quite stable.

Berries, Mixed

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **FAIR**



- Blueberries**- Harvest was slightly down in Oregon and WA which limited the marketplace this week bringing markets slightly up. Supply is leaning on OR/WA/CA and what can be harvested off the East Coast, which has been limited due to rain and thunderstorms.
- Raspberries**- MX and CA are still going, although MX is finishing up and CA is getting going. Overall, supply is sitting in a steady place with decent numbers out of MX and CA. Should continue to see volume increase throughout July.
- Blackberries**- Overall not as active as straws and blues but still feeling the affect of summer holiday pulls. There has been some supply out of CA, GA and MX is just about finished up. As CA opens up more later thsi month, there should be additional supply in the market place.

Broccoli

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **GOOD**



Broccoli Supplies are better this week. Growers are expecting for supplies to be steady for next week. Growers are reporting good quality at this time. Good demand continues with Broccoli.

Brussels Sprouts

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



Brussels Sprout supplies continue to be short this week. Growers are expecting better supplies for next week. Growers are reporting good quality. Good demand for Brussels Sprouts at this time.

Cantaloupe

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



The domestic season has begun with a major obstacle. Sizing has leaned towards larger size leaving 12/15ct lopes very limited. Growers have battled very low yields due to early rains in the growing cycle and are currently challenged with a labor shortage leaving some fields unharvested. The labor shortage could potentially become an ongoing issue throughout the domestic deal.

Weekly Market Changes

Carrot Sticks



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **FAIR**

COVID-19 has had an impact on value added carrots and the array of pack sizes and cuts available to the market. The additional labor and contact throughout the supply chain has put this item **on the radar** until supply can catch up with demand.

Cauliflower



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **FAIR**

Cauliflower supplies are better this week. Growers are expecting better supplies to continue for next week. Growers are reporting good quality. Good demand continues with Cauliflower for next week.

Celery ALERT



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

Celery supplies continue to be short for this week. The current harvest is light and demand is creating a higher market. Good to quality is been reported by multiple growers at this time. There is a higher demand for Celery this week.

Cilantro



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Cilantro supplies are good this week. Growers are expecting steady supplies the next few weeks. Good quality is been reported by multiple growers at this time. Demand for Cilantro has decreased this week.

Corn ALERT



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

Prices are down but still a bit elevated. Growers are experience tight supplies even though the holiday has passed. Yellow is the tightest out of all colors. Bi-color corn is the most plentiful at this time.

Cucumbers



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Prices on cucumbers are down slightly this week. Growers are seeing some downward pricing pressure due to post-holiday demands coming down.

Eggplant



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Eggplants inched up this week. Supplies are coming out of Georgia and California right now.

Weekly Market Changes

Chinese Garlic

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



Chinese garlic is on alert due to Coronavirus affecting labor and also ports allowing product out of China. We anticipate this to remain and also continue to add pressure on garlic prices until the virus is contained. The overall outlook continues to look worse as more and more time passes and import product is cut short.

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **FAIR**

Grapes



We have made our way into domestic season and we are now seeing good volume in the open market. Price has come down as supply has picked up. We anticipate this to continue moving through July. There has been pressure on green grapes and have created limited supply over the past week.

Green Beans

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



Beans are on high alert. Heavy rain in Georgia and the Midwest has effected the green bean crop causing delays in harvesting. The colder weather has also pushed back the start date for harvesting out of the Midwest. This is causing a gap during a transition period resulting in low availability of green beans. Product quality could also take a hit. This is expected to last for a few more weeks.

Honeydew

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



The domestic season has begun with a major obstacle. Sizing has leaned towards larger size leaving 6/8ct dews very limited. Growers have battled very low yields due to early rains in the growing cycle and are currently challenged with a labor shortage leaving some fields unharvested. The labor shortage could potentially become an ongoing issue throughout the domestic deal.

Iceberg

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **FAIR**



Lettuce supplies are light for this week. Growers are expecting for light supplies next week. Growers are encountering some tip burn at the time of harvest overall quality will be good. Demand is good with Lettuce at this time.

Romaine Leaf

Quality: **FAIR** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



Romaine supplies have improved this week. Growers are continuing to see an improvement with supplies. Growers are experiencing better yields at the time of harvest. Some fringe burn and internal quality issues continue due to the warmer weather in Salinas CA.

Red and Green Leaf

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Supply and quality have been good on both colors. Not seeing any issues on supply or quality at this time.

Weekly Market Changes

Tender Leaf

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Growers aren't reporting any issues on supply and quality has been fine. Look for this to continue for a few weeks.



Lemons

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **FAIR**

Lemons are reaching a period during the summer where overall volume in the marketplace goes down. We have seen a steady rise in the price of lemons as their region transitions. Currently we have had a \$5-7 FOB increase over the past three weeks and plan to see this trend continue.



Limes

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Still seeing good supply on product crossing the border. FOB's increased slightly over the past two weeks with an overall increase of about \$2-3/case.



Onions

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

We are seeing the WA storage crop season come to a close and the California summer crop begin. Transition to CA has been good with FOB's on yellows ranging from \$8-10 this week. Red's are in the \$6-7 range while whites have crept up over the past two weeks. We anticipate a smooth couple of weeks with demand meeting supply.



Green Onions

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Good quality and good yields reported by multiple growers. Prices are back to normal and not escalated.



Oranges

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT

We have seen some pressure on price over the past three weeks and are beginning to see certain sizes more limited and increase in price. Market alert on oranges as pricing has been escalated. Valencia's have begun and will continue throughout the summer period. Navels will stay available throughout the summer but trend on the larger size until volumes return in Mid October.



Peppers, Bell

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT

Green Peppers - Green Peppers are extremely tight right now. Sizing is mostly large and ex-large. Weather and production region changes are the main factors.

Yellow and Red Peppers - Color peppers are facing many of the same challenges as Green Peppers. The lack of Green Peppers is also putting pressure on the Assorted Color Peppers right now as well.



Weekly Market Changes

Pineapple



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

Good supply versus how much demand is currently in the marketplace. Expect to see solid product and good supply for the next few weeks with sizing on the larger side.

Potatoes



Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**

The potato market has stabilized over the past month as we have seen weaker pulls across the country. Burbank crop will be shipping until the Norkotah variety begins in late July/early August. Smaller size product will be in high supply and lower market prices than 40's-70s. Also, we have seen a slight jump this week in FOB price of about \$2-3.

Summer Squash

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Prices came off this week. Prices are at rock bottom and quality is good. We anticipate a solid few weeks of good quality and supply in the marketplace.

Strawberries

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **BAD**

ALERT



Not a lot of change from last week. There has been a big turn in outlook for the summer months with Strawberries. Production numbers are limited due to weather in growing regions back in May. In addition, there are still some spotty labor issues and also some fields on their last legs providing processor quality berries at best. Watsonville has the best production numbers at this point but can't cover the demand coming out of holiday pulls this week. We anticipate limited, active markets for the next month.

Tomatoes

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Tomato prices came off this week following the normal post-holiday downward bias. Growers traditionally experience a drop in demands after most holidays. This puts pressure on costs as they make price reductions to keep product moving. Prices are expected to work up next week due to production transitions on the East Coast.

Watermelon

Quality: **GOOD** Supply: **GOOD**



Overall supply has been stable and no quality issues detected as we move into the most important two weeks of the watermelon season. Supply is slightly down from what it historically is at but there is also slightly less demand with foodservice numbers down.

Industry Report

T & G Global Launches First "Climate-Change Resistant" Apple Variety

The Fruit Portal: July 10, 2020

New Zealand-headquartered T&G Global will commercialize the first new apple variety that is bred to withstand "the world's hottest and driest of conditions".

The apple is the first to be launched from the Hot Climate Programme, a global pan-industry breeding program focused on the long-term sustainability of apple production in a changing climate. Peter Landon-Lane, T&G Global's Director Innovation and Technical, says with an increasingly warm climate, new apple varieties need to be developed and commercialized.

"We know the world's climate is changing and consumers will continue to demand tasty, healthy, safe food that is sustainably produced so T&G Global, along with our partners in the Hot Climate Programme, is preparing for this by developing and commercializing apples that are climate-change resistant," says Landon-Lane.

"The first variety to be commercialized is 'HOT84A1', which we've successfully trialed in Spain, where temperatures reach more than 40 ° C. This apple has proven to be sunburn resistant, while retaining excellent eating qualities. It's a red-skinned, juicy, sweet apple, with a great crunch which we know will appeal to consumers.

"By breeding innovative new varieties, like 'HOT84A1', it provides food producers with opportunities to grow apples in regions previously not suitable for production, as well as grow closer to consumer markets.

"In addition, plants which are bred for a specific set of conditions – such as these for a hot and dry climate – are more resilient and require fewer inputs, such as water and fertilizer, and therefore support efficient and smart production systems."

Initiated in 2002 by Plant & Food Research and the Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology (IRTA) and Fruit Futur, an association of the main fruit producers in Catalonia (Actel, Fruits de Ponent, Nufri and Poma de Girona), the Hot Climate Programme develops new apple and pear varieties adapted to high-temperature growing areas.

At this time, growers in Spain, particularly in the Catalan region, had begun to experience issues with traditional varieties – the fruit was increasingly produced with low red coloring, sunburn, soft flesh textures and higher-than-average incidence of storage disorders.

It was recognized that other apple and pear producing regions would begin to experience these issues as the global climate continued to change, and that varieties developed for these niche environments would be in increasing demand worldwide. T&G Global joined as the commercialization partner in February 2019.

T&G Global is leading the program's commercialization and has established a global network of six partners to initially test and commercialize 'HOT84A1'; Waimea Nurseries (in New Zealand), TopFruit (in South Africa), Dalival (in Europe), Worldwide Fruit (in the UK), Montagues (in Australia) and Fruit Futur (in Spain).

Peter Alderman, TopFruit's Pome Fruit Manager says the program is significant for countries like South Africa.

"It's particularly exciting for producers in a country like South Africa, with high temperatures and low water availability which can result in poor fruit color, texture and pressure issues," says Peter.

"Combined with increased pest and disease resistance, we believe these varieties will be highly adapted to environmental conditions that are likely to be increasingly faced in countries with hot climates." Fruit Futur will plant the first commercial volumes of 'HOT84A1' in the Iberian Peninsula in February 2021, and licenses for other parts of the world are expected to follow.

"We want to expand the number of organizations trialing and evaluating the new variety, so we can robustly test it in various global territories. We welcome expressions of interest from growers and marketers worldwide," says Peter.