

# MARKET ALERT



July 7, 2023

**Tomatoes :** Prices for Tomatoes are trending slightly down this week but prices remain elevated. Production out of South Georgia & South Carolina is coming to an end. North Carolina and Tennessee are a few weeks away from seeing decent volumes. Bad weather in the East has impacted production. Tomatoes crossing through Nogales AZ are ending for the season. California is running a bit behind due to rain and cooler weather.

**Jalapeno, Poblanos, Anaheim, Serrano & Poblano Chili Peppers :** Prices remain elevated. Supplies are still very tight. Production out of Georgia is winding down while North Carolina growers are reporting that are volumes picking up slowly. Volumes is light out of Baja and California.

**Corn :** Prices for Corn are trending down this week, but prices are still every elevated. Now that the 4th of July holiday is over, supplies have a change to recover a bit. Production out of the East has been impacted by Rain & Wind. Corn out of the West is extremely tight. All the rain a few months ago in California impacted the normal planting and production cycles.

**Blackberries & Raspberries :** Prices for Blackberries are flat this week but still elevated. Production out of Mexico has been impacted by rains and cooler weather. Volumes out of Watsonville is slowly picking up but not enough to cover the shortfall out of Mexico. Growers in California are forecasting higher volumes during the next couple weeks. Prices for Raspberries are trending up this week. Just like with Blackberries, production out of Mexico has been impacted by rains and cooler weather. Volumes out of Watsonville is slowly picking up but not enough to cover the shortfall out of Mexico. Growers in California are forecasting higher volumes during the next couple weeks.

**Iceberg:** Supplies will be light this week. Quality is reported as only fair. Weights are expected to be lighter than normal. Lettuce will also be on the smaller size. Supplies are forecasted to be lighter next week. Growers are expecting market pricing to increase due to lighter supplies. Contract pricing will be escalated for the next few weeks. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$23.00 - \$25.00)

**Cilantro:** Supplies continue to be light this week. Quality is reported as only fair. Market pricing continues to remain high. Supplies are now shipping out of Salinas Ca. and Santa Maria. Growers are reporting lower yields. Market pricing has escalated due to high demand and limited availability. (\$24.00 - \$26.00)



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**Asparagus :** For at least another 2-3 weeks, expect very limited supplies and escalated markets. Mexico asparagus should improve in the next 7-10 days, while Peruvian supply will remain limited for another few weeks, until southern Peru fields open. El Nino's effects will result in warmer weather and smaller size. Mexico productions are expected to improve mid-July but season may end early August which will shift the pressure to Peru. Baja is starting to wind down and expected to be done mid-July, which will put pressure on Mexico. Mexico is looking at a possible gap in September as growing region transition. Recommend being flexible with sizing at time of loading and offering French beans or broccolini as an alternative. The effects of El Niño continue to be experienced in both Mexico and Peru. Extreme heat and drought conditions in Mexico are causing poor quality of asparagus with heavy spreading and seeding. Peru had heavy rains at the beginning of their season and just recorded its warmest day of winter in 26 years on Tuesday, 7/4. These weather patterns are hampering the asparagus to grow to true sizing. We will see heavy small and small-size standard asparagus through the winter and into the spring in Peru, our summer and fall. Asparagus supply has had quality issues due to these extreme weather patterns in both regions. Expect tight supply and very volatile markets through September.

**Broccoli:** Supplies continue to remain light this week. Demand for Broccoli is higher. Markets will be escalated. Supplies will be coming from Salinas Ca, and Santa Maria Ca. There is product available from Mexico as well. We are expecting for supplies to be limited the next few weeks. Mexico is limited with supplies at this time (F.O.B pricing for this week \$26.00 - \$27.00).

**Celery:** Supplies will continue to be very limited this week. Quality is reported as only fair. Supplies are currently coming from Santa Maria Ca and Salinas Ca. Market pricing will be escalated for next week. Supplies are expected to slowly improve the next few weeks. Salinas has started with the Celery harvest. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$62.00 - \$63.00)

**Brussels Sprouts:** Supplies continue to be limited next week. Quality is reported as only fair. Demand continues to remain steady. We are waiting for Salinas Valley for better volume. Supplies are expected to slowly improve the next few weeks. Market pricing and contracts will remain escalated. Supplies are expected to slowly improve the next few weeks. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$42.00 - \$44.00)



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## On The Radar

**Limes:** Extreme heat and humidity is impacting quality and shelf life, which is ultimately contributing to low yields/availability. The crop is beginning to peak on mid-sized fruit in most operations, including 200's & 175's – with increased volume on 150's, as well. Small fruit will be limited going forward until we transition to the new production cycle sometime soon. As we progress through the summer months, weather will continue to play a role in overall quality, which again, will impact the market.

**Avocados:** With more volume crossing and slight lower demand, the market has been reacting. Chain supply inventories are not yet fully recovered but we should expect a dropping price trend in the following weeks. Increase Flor Loca from Mexico, Peru arriving and California reaching high volumes will eventually fill in the pipelines and ease the market.