



WEEK 43 : October 24 - October 30, 2022

MARKET OUTLOOK

TROPICAL STORM ROSLYN ALERT: Roslyn is forecast to be a hurricane when it passes near and makes landfall along the west-central coast of MX late Saturday and Sunday. This could impact availability on some crops. Please reach out to your NPC rep/local distributor if you have any concerns.

Transportation:

National Diesel Average: \$5.339

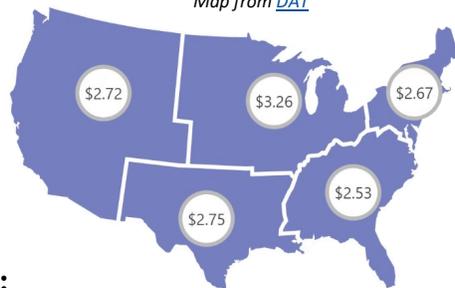
Compared to Last Year: \$3.671

National Fuel Surcharge: \$0.74

Shortages: Seeing high freight rates, with **extreme** shortages—none; **slight** shortages - none

National Posted Rate per mile

*previous week's average outbound reefer rate for each region
Map from [DAT](#)*



Regional Weather Update:

Oxnard, CA: Sunny with highs in the high 60s to 70s and lows in the 50s.

Salinas, CA: Sunny and cloudy during the week with highs in the 60s and lows in the mid-40s.

Yuma, AZ: Sunny with highs in the high 70s to 80s and lows in the 50s to 60s with partly cloudy on Saturday.

Immokalee, FL: Sunny and partly cloudy throughout the week with highs in 80s and lows in the 60s.

Idaho Falls, ID: Cloudy with highs in the 40s to 50s and lows in the 20s with rain/snow on Wednesday.

MARKET ALERT

- Broccoli
- Corn
- Eggplant
- Garlic
- Green Beans
- Green Onions (Extreme)
- Lettuces (Extreme): Iceberg, Green & Red Leaf, Romaine & Romaine Hearts
- Mushrooms
- Onions
- Oranges (Radar)
- Pepper Bell: Red & Yellow
- Peppers: Chili & Tomatillos
- Potatoes
- Squash: Yellow & Zucchini
- Strawberries
- Tomatoes (Force Majeure)

MARKET OUTLOOK



Apples



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

The guesstimate for the Washington Apple Crop came out at 108,700,000 which is 11.1% less than last season. This does include Organics. Conventional only – the State is 12% down so basically the shrink is in Conventional where Organics are down slightly. Galas are not growing so peak sizes look to be 113/125 then 100cts. 88ct Galas are going to be extremely tight and very expensive all year. It's very important to move 88ct into 100ct (only 1/4 size difference). There can be significant price difference between. The other varieties are too early to tell the size profile because a lot can happen between now and harvest. The unknown factor is how Michigan, NY and PA will affect movement out of Washington.

Asparagus



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Mexico and Baja have been affected by the hurricane rains causing the production to decline rapidly. Baja asparagus usually would be available through Thanksgiving and well into December, but this will not be the case this year. There is still production, but it is nothing compared to what we've seen in recent years. The weather in Peru has been great. In the south, the highs are now reaching up to 85° or so which is really helping the growth of the plants and increase supply. Expecting the southern growing area of Ica to continue to increase in raw material and then we will have a nice overlap with new fields opening in the north by mid-November or so.

Avocados



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Mexico continues to harvest strong volumes, with available orchards increasing. Availability on all sizes. Colombian avocados are starting to arrive. November may bring on some different dynamics with Mexico feeding the lion's share of the US avocado demand, and a shift in size curve as we progress into the season and fruit sizes up on the trees.

Bananas



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Banana situation is improving with volume beginning to increase.

MARKET ALERT

Beans



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Green Beans: ALERT Beans are starting to transition south with some quality issue. Florida is expected to start mid-November. Production gaps in California, Georgia, and Mexico. Supplies to remain light with minor quality issues for the next few weeks. Demand has exceeded the supplies. Orders are starting to be prorated.

Snow Peas: Supplies are light. California new crop just started. Mexico supplies are steady with good quality while production and quality continue to be an issue from Guatemala.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Berries



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Blackberries: Prices for Blackberries are trending down slightly this week. The quality out of Mexico is good. Production is picking up out of Mexico too.

Blueberries: Prices for Blueberries are trending down slightly week. Growers out of Mexico, Peru & Argentina are reporting good supplies. They're reporting good quality too.

Raspberries: Prices for Raspberries are trending down this week. Growers out of Mexico are reporting that production is decreasing, and the quality is good.

MARKET ALERT

Broccoli



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies have improved this week. Demand for Broccoli continues to be good. Market pricing is expected to continue improving going into next week. Current supplies are coming from Salinas CA & Santa Maria CA. Supplies coming out of Mexico are better this week. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$28.00 - \$30.00)

Brussels Sprouts



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies continue to be very good this week. Quality is reported as good for next week. Demand for Brussel Sprouts is steady. Market pricing is good and will remain favorable for the next few weeks. Great time to promote Brussel Sprouts. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$21.65 - \$22.45)

Cabbages



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Supplies have improved for this week. Growers are reporting better yields this week. Past rains and extreme hot weather have caused some issues at field level. Expect market pricing to continue improving going into next week. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$17.95 - \$18.20)

Carrots



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Shippers fulfilling 100% on jumbo carrots now. Availability and quality are good. Some packing out of Salinas and crop looking great.

Cantaloupes



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

California is done and have fully transition to Arizona. Majority of the size will be 9/9J follow by 12s next week. Brix level is 12-15% and quality are good. Mexico has 9/12s cantaloupe with a few 9J shipping out of Nogales with sugar level being reported as ok.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Cauliflower



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Supplies are much better this week. Market pricing has also improved. Good demand continues with Cauliflower this week. Market pricing is lower compared to last week. Yields have also improved this week. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$15.00 - \$17.00)

Celery



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
FAIR

Supplies continue to be steady for next week. Quality has been reported as only fair at this time due to hot days and rain. Supplies are currently coming from Salinas CA and Santa Maria CA. Expect market pricing to escalate going into next week as supplies begin to wind down. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$15.10 - \$15.55)

MARKET ALERT

Citrus



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Limes: Last week's tropical storm "Karl" caused minor damage to the groves in Martinez upon landfall; no significant impact is expected to the next production cycle in January. Crossings have rebounded this week as growers are able to harvest and pack again. Coloring and overall shelf life has begun to improve upon introduction of the new crop. However, conditional defects in the form of styler end breakdown and oil spots continue to impact the fruit due to recent inclement weather and will continue to be representative given last week's rain events. The crop is currently peaking on small fruit; mid-sized fruit yields are increasing; large sizes (esp. 110's) remain limited.

Lemons: The overall crop set is lighter this season in D1. With new planting in progress, this will put the volume about 15-20% more than last season. In most years new trees produce large lemons but with the lack of water it is looking to be more of 140/115 peak this season. The overall fruit quality looks good, seeing good shape and texture so far. Florida season started last week but the storm and rain has caused it to be delay. Sizing is projected to be small. California will start in a few weeks.

Oranges: **RADAR** Transition from Valencia to Navel will continue this week. The first Navels are coloring up slow, highly recommend to easy up expectations at least this week. More small sizes will come, and quality will improve with time. Navels are not brining yet many large sizes, probably opening this spec will be needed.

MARKET ALERT

Corn



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Prices for Corn is mixed down this week. Production out of Arizona is picking up and prices are working down a bit. Georgia is working through cold weather. Look for supplies out of the East to be a bit tight for a few weeks.

MARKET OUTLOOK

Cucumbers



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

POOR

Prices for Slicing Cucumbers are trending up this week. Production is picking up out of Georgia, but growers are reporting cold temperatures. They're also higher than usual challenges with quality.

MARKET ALERT

Eggplant



SUPPLY

POOR

QUALITY

FAIR

Prices for Eggplant are trending up this week. Supplies are extremely tight. Cold temperatures as well as wind plus rain on the East Coast is impacting volume and quality. Mexico is facing tight supplies due to Hurricane Kay last month.

MARKET ALERT

Garlic



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

Domestic garlic continues to remain tight. Harvest started late this season and growers are holding averages to try and minimized company buying heavy early in the season. Quality is good and the price is high.

Ginger



SUPPLY

FAIR

QUALITY

GOOD

Import Ginger continues getting a little thin due to the increase of overall cost to import and some delay at port.

Grapes



SUPPLY

GOOD

QUALITY

GOOD

Weekly shipments are down about a Million cartons when comparing the last 4 to 5 weeks this year against last. In total, the industry is behind last year by about 1.5 million cartons. These are concerning numbers, if for no other reason, the extreme heat, rain and historically very high humidity will likely lead to fruit having less storage life and shelf life. Especially so with growers struggling to find "GOOD" and "EXPERIENCED" labor. Green Seedless: Currently offered from as low as mid-teens to as high as mid-thirties. Great Green typically being offered at the lower end of the range and Autumn Crisp at the upper. This is about as wide a range of FOB pricing we have ever seen. As we head towards mid-October, we get closer to the start of the Southern Hemisphere grape harvest. Peru is expected to ship more fruit to the USA at the front end of the deal this year than last. Our expectations are that we should see early engagement on Imports from the retail trade in December, so having fruit on hand should make for a smoother transition from California to Imports with far fewer interruptions on the front end due to lack of supply. All in all, we are cautiously optimistic regarding Imported Grape sales in December and January.

MARKET OUTLOOK



Herbs



SUPPLY
LIMITED
QUALITY
POOR

All herbs from Colombia continues to have quality issue due to the rain.

Chives: Having production and quality issues from Mexico due to the rain.

Cilantro: Supplies are good this week. Quality has also improved going into next week. Most growers will be shipping out of Salinas CA and Santa Maria CA. Previous rains followed by extreme hot weather has affected yields. (\$16.95- \$18.15)

Honeydews



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

California is done. Honeydew production from the desert is very low this time of year due to historically uncertain growing conditions with wind, rain and/or cooler temperatures. Volume is good and demand is light. Good availability of honeydew crossing through Nogales which has pressured the pricing for domestic production. Size is mostly 5/5J. Imported melons from Guatemalan is expected to arrive around November 7th.

MARKET ALERT

Iceberg



SUPPLY
LIMITED
QUALITY
POOR

EXTREME ALERT Supplies continue to be extremely short for next week. Overall quality has been reported as less than fair at this time. Weights are expected to be very light going into next week. We are experiencing some quality issues at field level due to virus and weather. The presence of INSV and Sclerotinia continue to be present. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$68.00 - \$69.00)

Kale



SUPPLY
GOOD
QUALITY
GOOD

Supplies continue to be very good this week. Demand is down on Green Kale for this week. Good quality has been reported at this time. Supplies should remain steady for a few weeks. Market pricing is improving. (F.O.B pricing for this week (\$11.45 - \$12.65)

MARKET ALERT

Leaf



SUPPLY
LIMITED
QUALITY
POOR

Green & Red Leaf: EXTREME ALERT (Green & Red Leaf) Supplies will continue to be extremely short this week. Quality will be less than fair. Warm weather and rain have affected yields, crops are affected by Virus and disease. Market pricing will continue to stay escalated going into next week. Growers are having multiple quality challenges at Field Level. (Green Leaf F.O.B pricing for this week \$57.85 - \$63.15)(Red Leaf F.O.B pricing for this week \$38.75 - \$40.45)

Romaine: EXTREME ALERT Supplies will continue to be extremely limited for next week. Overall quality continues to be a challenge. We continue fighting INSV in the Romaine fields. Carton weights will be light. Romaine heads will also be on the smaller size. (Romaine pricing for this week \$55.00 - \$57.00) (Romaine Hearts pricing for this week \$59.00 - \$63.00)

Tender Leaf: Supplies are steady for this week. Demand has increased for tender greens due to higher prices on Leaf commodities. Supplies will remain snug until transition. Experiencing some rains and warm weather may cause some future quality issues with baby tender greens such as mildew. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$4.65)

MARKET OUTLOOK



<p>MARKET ALERT</p> <p>Mushrooms</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> SHORT</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> FAIR</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Onions</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> GOOD</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> GOOD</p>	<p>Onions are coming out of Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. All sizes and colors are available. Quality has been good. Demand is light. Pricing is trending down some. Majority of the growers are done harvesting and have their onions in storage. Yields are down along with fewer acres planted from previous year. Planting for 2023 season has started but it seems the overall acreage will be down due to the water shortage.</p>
<p>MARKET ALERT</p> <p>Onions Green</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> SHORT</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> FAIR</p>	<p>EXTREME ALERT Supplies continue to be very short this week. Market pricing will continue to be escalated going into next week. Green onions are coming from Mexico. Shortage of labor is also adding to limited harvest affecting supplies. We had some recent excess rains in Mexico that has caused some damage to recent crops. (F.O.B pricing for this week \$46.00-\$48.00)</p>
<p>Pears</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> GOOD</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> GOOD</p>	<p>The Pacific NW organic pear crop looks promising, as estimates point to an increase in volume over last year. Most organic varieties are seeing volume increases, which is welcome in a year where much of northwest tree fruit volume has been down. Sizing is looking to be two sizes smaller this year on summer pears (red and green Bartlett and, Starkrimson). The whole NW pear crop is estimated to be slightly up year-over-year, further strengthening the organic pear category. The crop will continue harvesting through October and into early November, pending geography and variety.</p>
<p>MARKET ALERT</p> <p>Peppers Bell</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> FAIR</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> FAIR</p>	<p>ALERT (Red & Yellow) Prices for Green Bell Peppers are trending up this week. Prices for Red Bell Peppers are stable and Yellow Bell Peppers trending down in price. Growing areas out of the East are currently transiting South. At the same time, they're seeing some cool temperatures this week. Look for volatile markets until production out of Georgia gets fully up and running.</p>
<p>MARKET ALERT</p> <p>Peppers Chili</p>  <p><u>SUPPLY</u> FAIR</p> <p><u>QUALITY</u> FAIR</p>	<p>ALERT (Chili Peppers & Tomatillo) Prices for Chili Peppers are mostly trending down slightly this week but are still elevated. Look for markets to remain in the tighter side for a while. Production is moving down to Georgia, and they are seeing the impact of cold weather right now.</p>

MARKET OUTLOOK

Pineapples



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

We are still feeling the effects of the Natural Flowering portion of the year, which gives us a higher % of smaller fruit. Couple that with the effects of La Nina and the results are not favorable. The volume on 5cts and 6cts are limited and to ensure supply, would suggest that all customers move to 7s or 8s to get product. This situation will go on for the next few weeks. This will be the case for all grower shippers of pineapple from Costa Rica.

MARKET ALERT

Potatoes



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

Potatoes are now shipping from storage. Prices for potatoes are trending down to being normal on the small sizes but still elevated on the bigger size. Big potatoes are still high and tight, recommend flexing size to smaller size. Market is elevated and quality is good. Overall acreages are down slightly compared to previous year. This will affect precut as well.

MARKET ALERT

Squash



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Prices for Yellow and Zucchini Squash are trending down slightly this week. Production is currently working its way down the East Coast to Georgia. Growers are reporting challenges with cold weather and some wind scaring due to Hurricane Ian.

MARKET ALERT

Strawberries



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
FAIR

Prices for Strawberries are trending up slightly this week. Growers are reporting fair quality due to heat and rain. Packing crews are putting extra efforts into grading out poor-quality fruit. This is reducing yields.

MARKET ALERT

Tomatoes



SUPPLY
BAD
QUALITY
BAD

FORCE MAJEURE Just like with last week, prices for all Tomatoes are trending up this week. Growers in the East are still working through the impact of Hurricane Ivan. California is working through heat and Rain. Mexico is working through the impact of Hurricane Kay. Look for the markets to be extremely tight and prices to be near record levels for the unforeseeable future.

Watermelons



SUPPLY
FAIR
QUALITY
GOOD

Supplies on Seedless and minis continue to be a little tight. Light supplies are coming from Arizona, California, Nogales, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas. Mexico is starting up out of Edinburg and Nogales for fall. Florida Fall crop has been wiped out from Hurricane Ian. Quality has been good.



MARKET OUTLOOK

Idaho potatoes, hurt by smoky skies in wildfire season, give researchers clues to crops' climate future

As increasing heat makes fire seasons longer and more intense, a team of scientists is looking to this U.S. state to see what might happen to potato yields – and their findings could have huge implications for North America's food supply

It was in 2012 that Addie Waxman started to notice a problem in the potato fields that keep North America's burger joints and grocery freezers stocked with French fries. She was in Washington state, walking through smoke so thick she could barely see, and noticed that some of the potato plants looked as if they were shrivelling earlier than expected.

It seemed some plants were vulnerable to the dense haze blanketing the field. When plants wilt, they can no longer convert sunlight into sugar – and sugar into starch. "So if the vines go down early, then they're not making enough potatoes, or large enough potatoes," said Dr. Waxman, who holds a PhD in potato science. And if the potatoes are stressed, they could also perform more poorly in storage.

Could the smoke be to blame? "I was like, whoa, I think that's something we ought to know more about," she said.

A decade later, Dr. Waxman, now the manager of agronomy for McCain Foods, is watching carefully as a group of scientists work to answer that question in Idaho, a state that is the company's largest-growing region and home to its largest processing plant in North America.

The research group is midway through a two-year study designed to tease out how smoke affects everything from the size of a potato tuber to its chemical composition, from its durability in storage to the colour of the French fries it yields.

The results could have important implications not just for McCain, the Canadian-headquartered food giant, but also for the vast agricultural industry in the western parts of the continent – and the fast-food appetites of a continent. Roughly half of all Idaho potatoes are made into French fries.

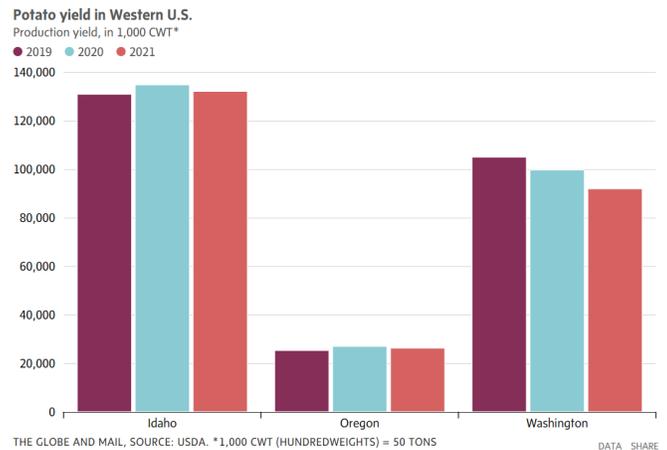
Climate change, and the advent of warmer summers and fiercer wildfires, has made the research more pressing. The past two summers in Idaho – No. 1 in the United States for potato production – have been the hottest in the state's history. This year, Boise highs exceeded 38 C a total of 27 times, seven more than the previous record. And, as in much of western North America, smoke from forest and grassland fires is darkening summer skies with increasing regularity. Potato growers say yields are down by 10 to 15 per cent.

What makes smoke particularly worrisome is that it can affect large geographic areas, filling entire valleys.

"We've had years where basically the whole month of August is smoky," said Mike Larsen, chief marketing officer for the Mart Group, a large Idaho potato producer.

"The smokier the skies are, the less light that gets down here – and the less photosynthesis that is going to happen. It is going to have a yield impact. It's just, how much?"

That's what researchers are trying to determine. This spring, the Idaho team planted three varieties..



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[Read full article HERE](#)

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

