

Regional Weather Forecast

Highs

Lows

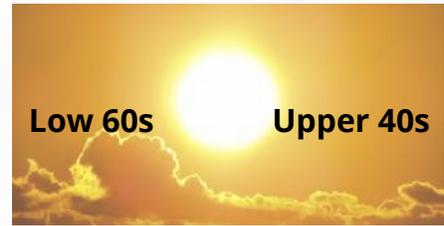
Oxnard, CA

Sunny and partly cloudy week.



Low 60s

Upper 40s



Salinas, CA

Possible rain on Tuesday. Partly cloudy week.



Mid 60s

Upper 40s



Yuma, AZ

Sunny and warm week ahead.



Upper 80s

Upper 50s



Huron, CA

Sunny and partly cloudy week.



Upper 60s

Mid 40s



Immokalee, FL

Weekend showers followed by a partly cloudy week.



Low 80s

Mid 60s



Idaho Falls, ID

Partly cloudy with chance of rain mid week.

Mid 40s

Mid 20s



Regional Transportation Report

National Diesel Average: **\$2.383**(wk 46)

2019 : **\$3.073**(wk 46)

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:

Nationwide trucks are still higher this week due to high demand in certain regions. Slight shortage in Nogales, Oxnard, Salinas, Santa Maria, West Florida, Minnesota-North Dakota, East North Carolina, Texas, Yakima Valley, and Central Wisconsin. Shortages in Colorado, Delaware, Minnesota, Idaho, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Oregon and Washington.

Weekly Market Changes

Asparagus

ALERT



Quality: FAIR Supply: BAD

Volume on asparagus has been improving as MX picks up harvest levels. There is still an uneven market and we have had colder weather in MX creating lower harvests. In addition, demand has picked up as we head into Thanksgiving holiday. Still seeing good numbers coming out of PE.

Avocados



Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD

Overall the market is stable but we are seeing retail driving the market. Currently California, PE, and MX product have been in good supply. So far there has been sufficient quantity and quality of product crossing the border.

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: GOOD

Blueberries- Seeing some more availability coming from the import harvests and also from MX and CA. Markets have come off over the past two weeks. Should see a more stable market in the coming weeks.

Raspberries- Overall supply has been in surplus and Raspberries have been very promotable. Should continue to see solid numbers in the month of November. Product out of CA and MX. Colder weather in CA and MX has slightly dropped production numbers.

Blackberries- Similar to Razz, Blackberries have recovered and are seeing good availability. The outlook is positive and product is coming primarily from CA and MX.

Broccoli

ALERT



Quality: BAD Supply: BAD

Broccoli supplies are extremely light for this week. Harvest is finishing up in Salinas and moving down to Yuma, AZ by the end of next week. Fair to good quality is being reported at this time. Occasional Pin Rot is being reported from the fields. Supplies are expected to be limited for a few weeks.

Brussels Sprouts

Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD



Brussels Sprouts supplies continue to be good this week. Demand continues to be strong, good pull is expected for the holidays. Good quality is being reported at this time. Expect markets to increase as we get closer to the holidays.

Cantaloupe

Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD



Overall conditions have been good and the melon category has balanced out after a couple months of ups and downs. No issues on the horizon as we move into late fall.

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

ALERT



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

Cauliflower supplies are extremely light for this week. Harvest is finishing up in Salinas and moving down to Yuma, AZ by the end of next week. Growers are reporting fair quality at this time. Big demand this week for Cauliflower, as demand exceeds supplies. Supplies will be limited for a few weeks.

Celery



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

Celery supplies are light this week while demand is strong due to the upcoming holiday. Salinas is finishing up and will be moving to Oxnard, CA. Good quality is being reported at this time. Supplies are expected to be light until we transition to Yuma, AZ in January.

Cilantro



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

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

Corn



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

Prices for Corn is trending up this week. Production is coming out of Florida, Arizona and California. Rains in Georgia and Florida will continue to impact markets for the next week or two.

Cucumbers



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

Prices for Cucumbers is trending up this week. Rains in Florida and Georgia is impacting production. Production out of Mexico has been impacted by cool weather. Look for prices to work higher next week.

Eggplant



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

Prices for Eggplant is trending slightly up this week. Production is coming out of California, Georgia and Florida. Rains in Georgia and Florida could make the markets a bit more active next week.

Weekly Market Changes

Chinese Garlic

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

Beginning to see better numbers as imports begin to loosen and there is supply between domestic, Spanish and China



Grapes

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

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 steady for the next few weeks but then will begin to see greens coming to an end while reds continue on for an additional few weeks.



Green Beans

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

ALERT

Supplies had been depressed over the past few weeks but have made positive last week followed by a move in the negative direction this week. Hurricane Eta hit multiple growing regions and has created a lack of supply in the marketplace as we move into the holidays when beans are at their highest demand. Anticipate this to remain the same as we move through November.



Honeydew

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

Overall conditions have been good and the melon category has balanced out after a couple months of ups and downs. No issues on the horizon as we move into late fall.



Iceberg

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

ALERT

Lettuce supplies continue to be extremely light this week. Huron Valley is finishing up the last fields and will be moving to Yuma, AZ. Expect for cartons to be light in weight this week. Huron & Salinas endured some frost on the remaining fields this week. The first harvest in Yuma heads were on the lighter side.



Romaine Leaf

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

ALERT

Romaine supplies continue to be extremely limited this week. Growers are finishing up in Huron, CA Growers are transitioning to Yuma, AZ. Expect carton Romaine to be light in weight for next week. Supplies will continue to be light until we fully transition to Yuma, AZ in another week.



Red and Green Leaf

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

ALERT

Still lagging behind on production numbers. Yields are down due to some quality issues including sun scald, dehydration, and wind/fringe burn. Other lettuce items remain tight as well which will not help the overall outlook on green and red leaf. We anticipate a period of limited availability until full transition in November.



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

Back into domestic crop as we moved into November. A cold front finally hit this week which allows for fruit to color up and hit ideal brix levels. Anticipate better quality and markets moving forward through domestic season.



Limes

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

Markets fell off a few weeks ago and have remained down and steady for the past few weeks. No indicators of any major changes in the near term.



Mushrooms

ALERT

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

Overall a fairly stable item for 10 months out of the year. We are entering the winter months where there is some activity as demand increases across the country. In addition to normal winter activity, we have begun to see some shortages in Crimini and Portabella Mushrooms. Retail pulling heavier than normal and labor issues with COVID have lead to an unstable market. Indicators are showing a limited fall and winter for Mushrooms.



Onions

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

Market has leveled out after a transition up into new crop out of the Pacific North West region. Quality has been good and supply is flush. Growers are expecting a good season baring any major freezes or setbacks.



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: **GOOD**

The USDA box program was the biggest catalyst affecting overall supply in the import fruit season. We have now moved into domestic crop after a difficult October. Markets have released more this week and have dropped down again taking oranges off alert. Cooler weather has begun in CA which should help with color and brix.



Weekly Market Changes

Parsley (Curly)

ALERT



Quality: BAD Supply: BAD

Overall volumes have decreased as fields are finishing up in CA and waiting for harvests to hit their stride in Yuma. Anticipate a couple week gap where markets will be active and volumes will be low until the transition is completely finished.

Peppers, Bell



Quality: FAIR Supply: FAIR

Green Pepper prices is trending down this week. Lower pricing could be short lived. South Florida experience rain last week and Georgia is expecting rain this week. Production out of Mexico is still about 2 weeks away. Pricing for Red and Yellow Peppers is trending flat this week but continues to be elevated. Just like with Green Peppers, the market for Red and Yellow Peppers will remain active due to rains in the growing areas and the high demands associated with the upcoming holiday.

Pineapple



Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD

Volumes have been low for the past few weeks but are now improving. Weather had been a major issue but is now improving. The labor strikes have ceased and we are now looking at a more balanced marketplace with good quality and supply.

Potatoes



Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD

The potato market has come back down as we have made the transition to OR and ID new crop. Supply is good and quality is back to solid condition. With new crop availability, there should not be any major issues moving through the month of November.

Summer Squash

ALERT



Quality: FAIR Supply: BAD

Production for Green and Yellow Squash has been impacted by rains in Georgia and Florida. Expect quality issues for the next week or so. Cool weather out of Mexico has impacted production. Prices jumped up this week and markets are expected to stay active next week.

Strawberries

ALERT



Quality: GOOD Supply: BAD

Prices had dropped multiple weeks in a row as we moved through heavy Santa Maria harvests and MX opened up as well. Unfortunately last week the markets bounced and continued to track upwards this week and heading into next week we anticipate the same trend. No heavy rain on the forecast from Santa Maria which is a good sign and we plan to see numbers coming from that area for at least another few weeks or until a major rain storm causes disruption. There are berries coming from MX but volumes wont hit for another couple weeks. Demand is up as we still move towards the holiday and this is causing the bounce/lopsided market on pricing.

Tomatoes



Quality: FAIR Supply: BAD

Tomatoes are extremely tight this week. Prices for 20 lb, 25 lb Rounds and Roma's shot up very fast. Rains in Georgia and Florida plus cool weather in Mexico continues to impact production and costs. Production out of Baja will be ending in about 2 weeks as well. As you know, demand typically picks up before Thanksgiving and that's also putting pressure on supplies. Normally, demands and prices drop drastically after holidays. This year is far from normal. We will miss 2020, but not in a good way.

Watermelon



Quality: GOOD Supply: GOOD

Supply has been plentiful and the market has continued to slump as there has been a surplus in the marketplace. Seeing prices decrease on MX product crossing on both boarders, McAllen and Nogales. Anticipate a low market for the coming weeks.

Industry Report

United Fresh, Other Food Groups Write Letter to Trump Urging Priority Access to COVID-19 Vaccines for AG Workers

Fresh Fruit Portal: November 13, 2020

United Fresh and other food and agricultural organizations are urging both President Trump and President-elect Biden to provide priority access to Covid-19 vaccines as they become available.

In a letter to the President this week and discussions with the Biden transition team, the groups emphasized the critical role workers in food and agriculture have played by continuing operations and ensuring Americans have access to foods.

The letter was signed by groups including United Fresh, the National Grocers Association, the National Restaurant Association, and the Food Industry Association.

The groups are urging a federally orchestrated vaccine distribution program and prioritization of vaccinations for critical infrastructure employees in agriculture, food processing and distribution, retail and restaurants.

"Our members have been on the front lines of the response to the pandemic by continuing operations and ensuring Americans have access to safe, nutritious, and affordable food," the letter said.

"Challenges have taxed the food supply chain over the past eight months, but the food, agriculture, manufacturing, and retail industries are resilient, and the supply chains have not broken."

The letter said that once a vaccine for Covid-19 is developed, it is "imperative that we have a federally orchestrated vaccine distribution program and prioritization of vaccination among population groups".

"The Administration's COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations (the "Playbook") seeks to do both," it said.

It continued: "As described in the Playbook, we strongly support prioritizing essential workers in critical infrastructure industries, including those responsible for ensuring the continuity of our nation's food supply.

"Prioritizing vaccinations for food, agriculture, retail, and CPG workers will be a key intervention to help keep workers healthy and to ensure that agricultural and food supply chains remain operating."

The groups said that to ensure a successful vaccination campaign, a "strong, coordinated, public education campaign will be required to ensure widespread and sustained acceptance FreshFruitPortal.com of vaccinations".

"We encourage the Administration to begin activating this as soon as possible," they said.

"The agricultural, food manufacturing, distribution, and retail industries will continue to fulfill the "special responsibility" critical infrastructure industries carry, and we are proud that our industry's workforce has selflessly persevered to feed America. We also look forward to partnering with the Administration to reinforce the importance and safety of vaccinations and ensuring our essential workers can access and receive vaccinations when available."

Food production and supply operations around the world have continued during the Covid-19 pandemic due to them being considered essential. In many countries including the U.S. and the U.K., there have been numerous outbreaks among workers at fruit and meat farms and packing facilities.