



FARMER'S REPORT

MARKET TRENDS | 8.21.2015

US.
FOODS
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PRODUCE ALERT

Salinas continues to have warm nights and hot days with higher than normal humidity. Yields of several leafy vegetables have plummeted due to this abnormal weather. Quality is poor and similar to what you would expect in late September or October.

LETTUCE

Lettuce is big, puffy and supply is around 20% of normal yield. Look for this market to stay high for several weeks.

ROMAINE

Romaine hearts and Mix Leaf: Romaine and Mix Leaf have been heavily affected by the tropical weather. Seeders, mildew and fringe burn have lowered supplies. These markets should stay strong for the near future.

PROCESSED LETTUCE

Due to unusually hot and humid weather in California which continues to adversely affect quality and supplies, the following items are on temporary triggers:

- Iceberg/Romaine lettuce blends
- Iceberg based blends
- Chopped Romaine
- Romaine based blends
- Spring Mix
- Spinach

RED BELL PEPPERS

This market continues to spike and supplies are short. Prices are up on all sizes. Supplies remain extremely tight and suppliers are prorating orders. Choice bushel red bells jumped another \$4 this week.





BEEF

Box beef prices surged higher last week mainly with interest in last minute needs in the ribeye and loin complexes. End cuts were higher as well led by inside rounds and chucks as packers were still in manageable inventory positions. However, the higher pricing did take its toll, and overall demand has weakened which could be a prelude to increasing inventories at the packer level as Labor Day deliveries conclude. Curtailed production will continue to allow packers to better balance cattle and inventory supplies.

ROUNDS

INSIDES: Insides moved higher as expected, but are losing steam. There is now downside risk to pricing and market retracement is not out of the question before we see seasonal advances middle to late September into the fall.

FLATS: Demand for bottom round flats is still lackluster, but we still expect the complex to advance into the fall with seasonal highs expected in October.

LOINS

STRIPS: Striploins and shortloins continue to move higher in advance of Labor Day, but they are very overdone to the top side and are expected to start declining by the end of next week. Pricing next week will most likely be higher. Moderate declines are expected leading up to and after Labor Day with modest declines into the fall.

TOP BUTTS: Pricing for top butts moved higher, but resistance is being notated at the buyer level. One more week of higher prices is expected and then modest declines moving into early fall.

BALL TIPS: There is only one direction for ball tips at this time and that is downward. We have seen the majority of the declines, but select is still moving much lower. Expect them to drift off after Labor Day and into the fall.

TENDERLOINS: They continue to advance to early lofty levels. Pricing will be higher again next week. They should stabilize soon. The question is whether we will see some retracement in September. If we do, it will be minimal and fleeting. Do not expect to see the lows of July.

RIBS

RIBEYES: All grades and weights of ribeyes moved higher once more. They will be higher again next week, but is it a question of too high, too fast? There is some downside risk to this market leading into September. Any retracement will be short lived and not expected at the lows seen in July.

CHUCKS

CHUCK ROLLS: All grades of chuck rolls have rolled on . . . higher. They too are running out of gas and there is now downside risk in the market. It will be fleeting and modest if it occurs. All in all, chucks are expected to advance into the fall with seasonal highs in October.

THIN MEATS & GRINDS

FLAP MEAT: All grades of flap moved higher and it will once again next week. Flap will start declining moving into Labor Day with modest declines into the fall. Seasonal lows should be seen around the end of October.

FLANK: Demand for flank has just not materialized for Labor Day and the lackluster demand has pressured pricing downward but only modestly so. Flank should continue to drift downward into the fall.

BRISKETS: The cash market for briskets just seems to be lacking. Pricing has been choppy. Some modest gains have been seen and look for them to slowly take modest gains into the fall with more moderate advances late fall and into the winter.

GRINDS: Grinds continue to move higher with Labor Day fast approaching. Expect more modest gains the next week or two before drifting off into early fall.

SKIRT MEAT: Skirt is modestly higher on last minute Labor Day demand, but should start modestly moving lower the closer we get to Labor Day and continue into the fall.





PORK

Base hog prices were quoted mixed due to variations in hog supplies in regional markets. Hog prices are expected to firm and move slightly higher through late August. Producer and packer margins continue to remain positive. Margins are forecast to remain in the black through mid September as feed prices are projected lower.

Last week slaughter numbers were about 10% above year ago levels while this week's numbers are estimated to come in approximately 11% higher than 2014. The forecast indicates that hog supplies will be abundant through early October with hog numbers projected above year ago levels.

Hog weights moved slightly lower last week. Weights are forecast to trend sideways to lower through early September then gradually move higher as cooler temperatures signal a transition to the fall timeframe.

On the demand side, retailers and foodservice operators will be featuring a lot of pork in their Labor Day promotions. This is expected firm up prices for the commodity cuts – which were lower last week. As for the hams and bellies, we are experiencing strong foodservice demand for bacon items along with heavy demand for hams from export and domestic processors getting geared up for the holiday season.

LOINS

Prices for both Bone in and Boneless were lower last week, however, demand is expected to pick up by month end. Prices for both boneless and bone in loins are expected to be steady to slightly lower next week then firm for late month retail promotions. Increased demand from export may support higher prices during September.

TENDERS

Pork tenders continued lower last week pressured by excess supplies and very weak retail demand. Prices are expected to firm through late August due to increased retail promotions for Labor Day. Prices are expected to gradually move lower after Labor Day.

BUTTS

Pork Butt prices traded lower due to excess supplies. Prices are expected to firm and hold steady through late August then gradually move lower after Labor Day. Increased export demand may support higher price points during the early fall timeframe.

RIBS

Spareribs held steady last week supported by retail demand for St Louis Ribs. Spareribs and St. Louis Ribs are expected to trade steady to slightly higher through late August in anticipation of Labor Day demand. Back Ribs traded lower but are expected to firm late month supported by Labor Day promotions. Supplies of frozen spareribs, St Louis Ribs, and Back Ribs remain tight as packers reduced their frozen inventories.

BELLIES/BACON

Bacon/ Belly prices continued their move higher last week supported by strong retail and foodservice demand. Bellies are expected to trade steady through August supported by foodservice demand. Expect belly prices to begin their decline after Labor Day.

HAMS

Ham prices moved slightly higher supported by improved export demand and strong processor demand. Prices are expected to trade steady to slightly higher through August then gradually move higher through October.

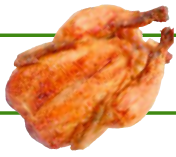
TRIM

The following market dynamics will impact finished goods pricing during the August/September timeframe. Pork trimmings prices started their seasonal decline and are trending lower. Similarly, beef trimming prices are trending lower through early August. Thus, prices for beef and all meat hot dogs are projected lower for August/September timeframe.

PICNICS

Pork Picnics traded steady to slightly lower due to excess supplies and weak processor and export demand. Picnics are expected to trade steady to lower through August the gradually move higher during early Fall. This may result in declining prices for dinner sausage during September.





TURKEY

WHOLE FROZEN TURKEY

The whole turkey market has trended sideways and will continue to trend sideways to slightly up as we move into the fall.

BONELESS SKINLESS TURKEY BREASTS

The industry has not even started to recover from the Avian Flu, as most farms have yet to receive poults. Even if the farms were all restocked with chicks, the bird will not be old enough for slaughter until the end of the year. Look for this market to continue to inflate.



POULTRY

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 214 million eggs in incubators during the week ending August 8, 2015, up slightly from a year ago. Hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 206 million eggs in incubators during the week ending August 8, 2015, up slightly from the year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 177 million chicks for meat production during the week ending August 8, 2015, up 1 percent from a year ago. Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 171 million chicks for meat production during the week ending August 8, 2015, up 1 percent from the year earlier. Cumulative placements from the week ending January 10, 2015 through August 8, 2015 for the United States were 5.49 billion. Cumulative placements were up 3 percent from the same period a year earlier.

WHOLE CHICKEN & CUT-UP PARTS:

Live weights continue to suffer from the heat, as chicken are as much as one half of a pound lighter than normal. The reduced weight has decreased overall tonnage which has allowed supply to match sluggish demand as the market trended sideways. Expect this market to continue this trend into September.

BONELESS SKINLESS BREASTS

The live bird light weight issue on supply and the demand for breast meat appears to be leveling off after a period of rapid inflation. In the last week, the boneless breast market gained early but then trended sideways. With that being said, there are not any deals on spot loads, so the market is well supported. Look for this market to trend sideways for the next week.

CHICKEN TENDERLOINS

The tenderloin market has remained flat. Spot loads on the market can be found, some over and some under the market price. This market should stay flat until the breast market starts to lose value in September. The market shows that tenderloins are less expensive than breast meat, an occurrence that will not last long.

WINGS

The wing demand is starting to ramp up slightly as spot loads are less frequently found on the market place, and none of those loads are below quoted prices. With the onset of football season, it appears this market should gain a little strength for the next few weeks.

BONELESS SKINLESS THIGHS

The boneless thigh market has continued to show enough strength for the market to trend sideways. This trend should continue into the fall, at which time deflation should be expected.





COMMODITY GROCERY

SOYBEAN OIL

DOMESTIC CROP & PRODUCTION:

The biggest market movement of the week came after the USDA released their new crop estimates for corn and soybeans. Both came in much larger than expected and the larger crop sizes sent the futures market for the entire soybean complex on a downward spiral that continued throughout the week. The losses in beans and meal spilled over to oil as front month soybean oil futures traded under 29 cents this week for the first time since December 2008. The bearish sentiment is expected to continue in oil as NOPA's report on Monday showed a very high crush along with sizeable oil stocks build.

- South American soybean planted acreage is expected to be higher this fall - el Niño year (more moisture than normal - beneficial so they wouldn't have any drought conditions)
- Weather continues to be something to keep an eye on domestically as we are fast approaching the harvest for the new crop year. Pod setting is at 54%, identical to same time last year

There were several factors that likely motivated the sellers in beans :

- China demand is down due to poor margins and big inbound shipments
- China stock market has been declining recently casting doubt about Chinese economy
- All of these current factors are adding up to a surplus in soybean oil
- If all continues to go well with the crop, we should see lower prices in soy oil

On the horizon:

- USDA recognized the dismal world demand for U.S. corn, soybeans and wheat by lowering their prior estimates for 2015-16 export demand
- The USDA also raised 2015-16 ending stocks estimates from their July estimates
- Lower palm oil prices and crude oil prices trading back below \$450 per barrel have contributed to the continued decline in soybean oil prices

CANOLA:

- Canola seed futures followed the losses of the soybean complex this past week and traded at a two month low this last week
- Weather conditions have been favorable for farmers this past week
- A "Stats Can" report is scheduled to be released on Friday and the expectations are for much lower canola production numbers compared to recent years

BIODIESEL:

- The market is still waiting for the renewal of the \$1 per gallon blenders
 - The US Senate committee has passed a bill to reinstate the blender's credit. The Bill has yet to pass the House and Senate
- Recent strength in energy markets has made bio-diesel production profitable in the U.S
- Biodiesel production numbers came in as expected @ around 5B Lbs. for 2014-2016

PEANUT:

- More Peanut oil inventory should be available this year which should result in more peanut oil production and lower prices as we head towards the end of 2015
- On the supply side there is a good crop this year. The USDA is projecting 1.6 million acres have been planted versus the previous estimate of 1.48 million acres. Growing conditions have also been good with 80% of the crop at excellent. The big unknown is what percent of the crop will be edible peanuts vs. inedible (peanuts used for oil)
- On the demand side there are flags that India may be too dry and may not have a good harvest (India is the largest consumer of peanut oil). If this happens there will be increased demand for peanut oil exports, which will push up prices

PALM OIL/USED FOR TFF MARGARINE:

- Palm oil prices continue to decline due to continued supply and weak demand
- Dry conditions in Malaysia and Indonesia due to El Nino are a major threat to palm oil production for the 2015/16 crop year which could lead to an upswing in prices
- Early market expectations of the MPOB report are estimating June ending stocks down 1.5-2.0% on the back of strong exports

RICE OIL:

- Total U.S. 2015 rice planted acreage is projected almost unchanged from last year at 2.90 million acres. Global availability is expected to improve in the second half of 2015, right along with all other oilseed crops. However, additional production information is very limited. . .



DAIRY

BUTTER

Market had a large jump in price this week as cream supplies remain tight. Also contributing to the increase are some yearend retail holiday orders being placed earlier than usual. Stocks are in better shape than last year so a sustained run up in price is not likely.

CHEESE

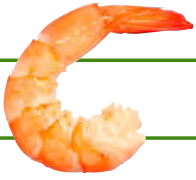
Last week markets continued to climb higher. We are trading in ranges that were not expected until September. Expect markets to trade within the current range through Q3. There will be slight weekly volatility back and forth, but overall markets are expected to climb slightly higher through September, and then seasonally fall at the end of the year.

SHELL EGGS

Most markets are down to flat. Supplies are increasing and demand is fair to slower as production is returning from seasonal flock rotations.

MILK & CREAM

For the month of August, production is in line with demand and is expected to ramp up in the next few weeks with the start of school. Pricing is flat to lower across most commodities. This translates into flat to lower pricing on most milk and cream items. Pricing is expected to remain relatively flat across most items next month.



SEAFOOD

SHRIMP, DOMESTIC

(WHITES AND BROWNS)

Domestic shrimp production is strong now with good landings of both Browns and Whites. We are starting to see lower prices. Time will tell on where we end up but we could see prices back at, or near, the May season open.

DOMESTIC PUDS: Prices have been stable for the past few weeks. Upcoming shrimp season may bring lower prices. Catch has been good this year and outlook going into fall is plenty of inventories.

SHRIMP, IMPORTED

(BLACK TIGER AND WHITES)

The Shell-on Tiger market has become steady as a reaction to the domestic market. The White market has remained steady. The outlook through December will be steady pricing on Farmed Whites. Value added both P&D and Cooked are showing some weakness on slow sales.

(MEXICAN BROWNS AND WHITES)

Larger shrimp are showing signs of weakness. We think we will see lower prices in the near future.

CATFISH, DOMESTIC & IMPORTED

DOMESTIC: We are starting to see some good harvest on Domestic Catfish. As inventory builds we hope to see some lower pricing.

IMPORTED: The market is higher and inventories are getting tight. One of the largest producers is in financial trouble and this could cause an issue in the short term.

SALMON

CHILEAN FARMED SALMON: Inventory is now good on low demand. Prices are falling on low demand.

NORWEGIAN SALMON: With the current exchange rate Salmon from Norway may be a fish you see promoted this year. Inventories look good and many suppliers are looking to move fish.

DOMESTIC WILD SALMON: Supplies are good with steady to low prices.

MAHI MAHI

Look for stronger prices as the summer season continues. Be aware of the origin of fish.

SCALLOPS

SEA: The catch this year is off from last year. Product from Japan is in short supply. Future pricing looks to be \$.85-\$1.50/# higher. Our Harbor Banks 10/20 and 20/30 dry scallops are a great value!

BAY: Pricing is unchanged this week.

TILAPIA

The report from China is production is low and farmers did not seed the ponds at the same rate as last year; this will cause an increase in price once current inventory starts to run low.

PANGASIIUS

The market is down this week. Overall outlook is for lower pricing and good inventory levels.

WHITEFISH COMPLEX

(COD, POLLOCK, HADDOCK)

COD: The market for Atlantic Cod is on the rise. Pacific Cod is showing signs of lower prices.

POLLOCK: The market remains stable to lower. Inventories are good and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Association is looking to promote heavy in the US. Look for bargains in the near future on Alaskan Pollock filets and imported Pollock filets.

HADDOCK: Current inventory is good and pricing is stable to weak. Fisheries are in good shape and long term outlook is abundant inventory and lower prices. Fishery management made an upward move on the quota allowing more fish to be caught. With this news we should see lower prices driving from now through Lent.

TUNA, YELLOWFIN

(FROZEN STEAKS & LOINS)

The portion business is seeing a rise in price due to new fishing rules being put in place. Outlook for the next few months is higher prices.

KING CRAB

RED & GOLDEN: King crab is starting to tighten up with supply; outlook is for higher pricing.

CRABMEAT

(BLUE & RED, PASTEURIZED)

Imports on Blue Swimming continues to be good and pricing is lower.

New Red Swimming production is due in the US around September 1st. With the low pricing on Blue Swimming crab we expect a lower offering on red.

SNOW CRAB

(CANADA & ALASKA)

Catch is done for the 2015 season and 8ups are very tight. There are some 5-8's still in the market but crab is getting tight and now is the time to buy. The Canadian market has turned flat on 5-8. There is good inventory levels and the overall outlook is after the East Coast summer season we could see lower pricing; time will tell. 8ups and larger are getting tight on inventory.

LOBSTER TAILS

WARM WATER AND NORTH AMERICAN LOBSTER: Cold-water tails, both Maine and Canadian, are now in season. Once the pipeline fills up we hope to see lower pricing. Warm-water tails took a move upward on slow fishing in Brazil. Outlook is for lower prices once other fisheries open up.

LOBSTER MEAT:

Lobster meat has stayed firm in pricing and inventory is tight.

PRODUCE

VEGETABLES



POTATOES

Russets: Idaho Russet market is generally stable this week with a slight decrease in FOB prices on 70s and larger. Burbanks storage crop are finished and all Russets coming out of Idaho are Norkotahs. Please note that the new crops have not gone through the sweat process yet and this could mean shorter shelf life on the Norkotahs. Colorado russet should be starting by the end of next week and will be in full production by Labor Day. Wisconsin is still short on larger sizes but should have a good range of sizes in the next few weeks. Prices in Colorado and Wisconsin remain steady with higher prices on larger cartons since they are in small supply.

Reds and Golds: The market has come down on red potatoes. Good supplies continue coming out of Wisconsin and Michigan and demand has been steady. Quality is good and B size price is still significantly higher than A size.

White/Yellow Potatoes: Yellow market is very similar to reds. Supplies are good which is causing a downward pressure on prices. Quality is very good and we should not have any issues going into the fall.



GARLIC

Chinese Garlic prices have moved up slightly. There has been consistent supply of peeled and fresh Spanish garlic in the Eastern markets.



CABBAGE

Round Green Cabbage market is up this week with light supply and good demand.



LEAF LETTUCE

Leaf market is extremely active. Romaine supplies continue to be tight due to quality issues. The hot and humid weather has increased the bug activity along with fringe burn, small seeders and light mildew. Romaine hearts are a little better as majority of the quality issues are on the outer leaves but insects are still a problem. Green leaf and red leaf supplies are also light and experiencing the same quality issues as romaine. Butter lettuce is doing better with good quality and good supply. Expect the leaf market to continue to go higher next week until the weather and quality improves.



ICEBERG LETTUCE

Lettuce market continues to remain active and prices are slightly up this week and supplies are tight. The warm temperatures are taking a toll on iceberg quality. There have been reports of misshapen and spongy heads along with seeders, fringe burn, and weak tip due to heat and humidity. Look for this market to remain light if not tighter next week as shipper struggling to find good quality crops to fill the demand.



ONIONS

Market continues to trend down. Supplies are steady coming out of Washington and Idaho. California crop should be done by the end of this week and New Mexico is pretty much done for the season.



CHILE PEPPERS

Chile pepper market is up this week with light supply and good demand. Product is available out of north Baja and California.



CUCUMBERS

Michigan continues to be the main sourcing region in the East but the market continues to be fragmented. Lighter supplies are causing upward movement on FOB prices. Quality is variable. Look for supply to remain light until North Carolina crop begins around September 1st. Western cucumbers are generally steady but quality is also variable in this market.



SQUASH

Supplies continue to remain tight in the East which is pushing the market up this week. Western prices are slightly weaker as a few more supplies became available. Quality is variable in both growing regions.



GREEN BEANS

Green beans out of Western North Carolina are up with light supply and moderate demand. Machine picked green beans out of Western and Central New York are up with light supply and moderate demand.



EGGPLANT

Eastern eggplants are steady this week. Quality is good. Western eggplants have tightened up with some upward pressure on FOB prices. Quality is variable.



BELL PEPPERS

Green Bells have good supplies out of Michigan and New Jersey in the East and Baja, California and Washington in the West. The market is down from last week with an abundance of good quality supplies.

PRODUCE



TOMATOES

Rounds: Round market is up on 5x6 sizes while steady on 6x6 and 6x7 sizes. Shippers are expecting the market to remain active throughout the summer as the supplies become tighter. FOB prices will be higher than normal for this time of the year. Eastern Virginia shore crop is finishing up with majority of the crop coming out of Western South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, New Jersey, and Alabama. Western market has been hit with very hot weather which may cause shorter shelf life on the rounds. Quality is variable as products breakdown earlier than usual due to weather issues.

Romas: Supplies continue to be tight in both Eastern and Western markets. Eastern market is steady to slightly down while Western market are slightly up. Quality continues to be extremely variable. We are about two weeks away until the new fields come into production.

Cherry and Grape: Cherry tomatoes are tight in both East and West markets. Prices are steady but quality remains variable. Grape tomatoes are active this week with higher FOB prices this week than last week. Wide range of quality reported in both markets.



CARROTS

Carrot market is up this week out of Kern District California with good supply and moderate demand. Carrot market is down out of Mexico crossing through Texas with light supply and light demand. Availability is good for jumbo carrots out of California.



CELERY

Celery market is down this week out of Santa Maria and Salinas-Watsonville, California with light supply and moderate demand. Quality is good overall.



GREEN ONIONS

Green onions are up this week with light supply and moderate demand. The iced market remains depressed as product is still crossing daily from Mexico. Production in Quebec, Ohio and Michigan is scheduled to start. The iceless market is seeing lighter demand with steady supply coming in from Mexico.



CAULIFLOWER

Cauliflower market is up out of Salinas-Watsonville and Santa Maria, California this week with light supply and good demand. Quality is fair to good.



ASPARAGUS

Peruvian asparagus market is up on large, smalls and standards sizes with light supply and moderate demand. Quality out of Peru is good. Asparagus out of Mexico is up on large and standard sizes and flat on smalls. Quality out of Mexico remains good.



BROCCOLI

Broccoli market is down this week with light supply and moderate demand. Warmer weather caused quality issues to arise which caused a loss of product at field level. Supply has since stabilized; the quality of the product is fair.



TROPICAL

PINEAPPLES

Pricing has stabilized. Large sizes remain tight, and small supplies are sufficient. Fruit is firm, yet juicy with tropical flavor. Sugar levels are high, averaging on 15 brix.



BANANAS

Supplies are much better and quality is good.



AVOCADOS

There is a large volume on 48's and lower volume of 60s/70s. Overall, industry movement has been strong but there is some market instability due to a size curve producing primarily 48s. The total market continues to be a mix of California, Mexico and Peru. The California harvest continues to decline, and production is expected to decrease throughout August and should wrap up in September. Mexican production is strong; the Flor Loca continues to be large in volume and size. There are no major quality issues at this time.

PRODUCE

MELONS



CANTALOUPE

Market steady with good demand and steady supplies but keeping up with inventories and nobody has any huge volume on the floor. We are peaking on 12's and the larger fruit is keeping very strong. The overall quality is excellent with nice internal and external color and fruit is eating like candy. We expect to have good supplies here on the Westside through mid October and then we will transition to the desert for the fall melon deal.



HONEYDEW

Market is very strong due to excellent demand and less overall acreage in the ground. We will see prices stay firm probably through mid October due to lighter overall volume. The overall quality has been excellent.

BERRIES



BLACKBERRIES

Blackberries are in tight supply as well and little relief is in sight. CA's volume continues to rise toward peak season, yet is currently affected by erratic weather.



RASPBERRIES

Raspberries are also sold out on a daily basis. Quality is excellent. Volume from CA continues to increase, but quality is variable due to recent erratic weather.



STRAWBERRIES

Strawberries remain in tight supply! Bad storms in Watsonville have affected the crop. No relief is expected before October at the earliest. New Crop from Santa Maria is starting but demand exceeds supply. Quality is fair overall. Warm nights and higher relative humidity continue to create textural issues. Sizing is also smaller due to the heat.



GRAPES

The market is steady and but high on red seedless and green seedless. Growers will be harvesting flames for the next 2 weeks and will also start crimsons this week and scarlet royals next week so supplies will start to increase on red seedless. Growers are currently packing Princess for green seedless and will start Autumn Kings in the coming weeks. The overall quality is fair to good with some erratic sizing due to the water situation, the sugar is very good and we are going to experience some warmer than normal days over the next week which could slow harvest, sugar and strength of the fruit is excellent. We will have good supplies through November barring any major weather issues.



BLUEBERRIES

Blueberries are winding down out of the Northwest. As supplies dry up shippers are attempting to raise prices accordingly. Quality remains good overall.



PRODUCE

HANGING FRUIT



APPLES & PEARS

The apple market is right on course at this time. You will find new crop Gala and GingerGold apples being offered from Washington, along with the California Gala's. Large Gala apples from both States are in short supply with 100 and 113 counts being the most dominant size. The Controlled Atmosphere apples, which are primarily Red Delicious, Gold Delicious, Fuji and Granny Smith, are still in good condition and demand remains steady. Consequently, prices are rising to reflect the demand. At this time it is estimated that the 2015/2016 apple season will be smaller than last year with more of the varieties being made available than in the years past. We will continue to keep you updated on the changes as the new season develops.

The pear market remains to be in the California "wheelhouse" Bartlett's and Bosc along with Seckel and Red Pears are readily available. Good supply of Comice by week's end. Washington new crop Bartlett's will be available next week with D'anjou following in mid August.

STONE FRUIT

Not much has changed with Tree Fruit. Yellow Peaches and Yellow Nectarines are peaking on larger sizes, although volume on Nectarines is down slightly. White Peaches and White Nectarines are the best quality and sweetness of the season. Good supplies of Black Plums.



CHERRIES

Growers are selling out every day. FOB prices remain steady for the time being. Quality remains variable.



CITRUS

LEMONS

Market is steady on California fruit and has eased a bit due to the influx of Chilean arrivals and Mexico starting. The first of the Mexican fruit we have seen looks pretty rough but growers are telling us we will see better fruit next week. We will start crossing some of our fruit this week and will keep you posted on overall quality. The California fruit quality is fair to good with fruit being weaker in some areas as the lack of water is taking its toll on the strength of the fruit. The Chilean fruit has been pretty nice; some containers have arrived with a fair amount of decay.



ORANGES

Market is very strong and steady as demand exceeds supply on 113's and 138's on both grades and will continue to be so through October until we start new crop California navels. The overall quality is good to fair with some re-greening on the bloom end and stem end due to our hot temperatures and we are gassing some of the fruit to bring the color back if the block is heavy green, also please keep in mind this fruit we are harvesting is 17 months on the tree and we are seeing heavy scars and fruit is not real firm in some blocks. The internal condition is excellent with great sugar and juice content.



LIMES

Pricing continues to increase but is expected to come off in the next week or so. Supplies are a little tight, quality is pretty good. There is some stylar showing up over the last week.

