The data contained in the Farmer’s Report is provided for informational purposes only, is not tailored to your specific needs, and is not intended as a substitute for any other publicly-available market data or information. The Farmer’s Report is compiled from the last-received market data provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and/or other market sources, and is subject to change without notice. Nothing herein is the opinion of US Foods®. US Foods neither assumes any legal liability nor makes any warranty or guaranty, either express or implied, regarding the completeness, accuracy or usefulness of this information.

All produce pricing trends are based on USDA data as of Aug. 6, 2019.

**VEGETABLES**

**POTATOES**

- **Russets:** The market on russets is steady to up this week. Burbanks out of Idaho are up on 70 count, 90 count and on 6-oz. minimum size. Supplies are very tight, with good demand. Suppliers are finishing their storage crop or have already moved into the new crop. Norkotah variety out of Washington/Oregon is steady this week, with moderate supply and demand.
- **Reds:** The red potato market out of Delaware is steady this week. There is lighter supply and good demand.
- **Yellows:** The yellow potato market out of Florida is steady, with moderate supply and good demand. Quality is reported as good.

**LEAF LETTUCE**

- **Green Leaf:** The green leaf market is down, with the fields producing strong yields. There is some irregular sizing and fringe/wind burn. Demand continues to be moderate.
- **Romaine:** The romaine market is slightly up, with stronger demand. Supplies will be around normal for the week. However, they are still dealing with a few issues at the field level, including light twist, fringe and wind burn.

**ICEBERG LETTUCE**

- The iceberg market is down, with supplies on budget this week. Fields are a little off schedule, but weather has been ideal and growing conditions have been good. Overall quality and color look good.

**GARLIC**

Domestic garlic is steady this week, with good supply, moderate demand and good quality reported. Our suppliers can take on additional business.

**ONIONS**

- The jumbo yellow onion market is mixed this week. Product out of San Joaquin Valley, California, is down, with moderate supply and light demand. Product out of New Mexico is down, with moderate supply and demand. Product out of Georgia is steady, with moderate supply and good demand. Quality will vary by growing region.

**MUSHROOMS**

- There are no issues to report on mushrooms coming off the East Coast, with good supplies, demand and quality. There continues to be issues on mushrooms coming from the West Coast regarding supply and quality.

**CILANTRO**

- The cilantro market is down this week out of all growing regions. Product out of Oxnard, California, and Mexico is down on 30s and on 60s, with moderate supply and demand. Product out of Central Coast, California, is down on 30s and on 60s, with moderate supply and good demand.

**CUCUMBERS**

- Cucumber prices are up in all growing regions for this week. Supply is tight out of Baja and Central Mexico. The East has been dealing with rainstorms in several of the growing areas. Quality is fair at best.

**CELERY**

- The celery market is down, with supply around normal this week. Volume is high out of California, and volume is expected to ship out of Michigan this week.

**YELLOW SQUASH**

- Yellow squash is steady to down for the week. Supplies continue to improve in all growing regions. The most significant issue right now continues to be heavy wind scarring, which is prevalent in all growing areas.

**ZUCCHINI**

- Zucchini is flat for the week. Both regions are reporting steady supply. Quality continues to be good.

**GREEN BEANS**

- The green bean market is mixed this week. Imported haricots verts are up, with moderate supply and good demand. Machine-picked product out of New York is down, with moderate supply and demand.

**BELL PEPPERS**

- **Green:** Green peppers are down in price for the week. Supply has improved in all growing regions. Mexico and California are supplying the West. The East is supplied with growing areas from the Carolinas to Michigan during summer harvests. Quality is fair, due to a mix of old and new crop.
- **Red:** Red bell peppers are steady to up for the week, depending on the size and grade. Supply remains tight, with supplies coming from Mexico and hot houses. Quality for now is good, especially out of the hot houses.

**TOMATOES**

- **Rounds:** Round tomatoes are up in price for the week. Supply has tightened up for the summertime. High heat and rainstorms have slowed down harvesting. Quality continues to be a struggle in all regions, with soft fruit being the main issue. Price changes will vary from size and grade.
- **Romas:** Roma tomatoes are up for the week out of all regions. The West is being supplied from California and Mexico, while the East is spread across multiple areas. Quality has been a struggle due to the recent high temperatures and rainstorms.
- **Cherry:** Cherry tomato prices are up for the week. Supply has tightened up, with limited supply coming out of the East. The West has started to send product east to help cover the demand. Quality is poor to fair, due to the high heat and recent rainstorms.
- **Grape:** Grape tomatoes are flat for the week. Supplies in both the East and West are meeting current demand. Quality is fair, due to the high temperatures and rainstorms hitting the growing regions.

**CARROTS**

- The jumbo carrot market is steady this week. Product out of California is steady, with moderate supply and demand. Product out of Mexico is steady, with moderate supply and good demand.

**GREEN ONIONS**

- The green onion market is mixed this week. Product out of Mexico is up on large, down on medium and steady on small, with moderate supply and demand. Machine-picked product out of Georgia is up on large, down on medium and steady on small, with moderate supply and demand.

**CAULIFLOWER**

- The cauliflower market is down, with supply lighter this week. Prices are expected to increase in response to lighter availability of supplies. Demand is steadily increasing as well. Quality is good.

**ASPARAGUS**

- The asparagus market is down this week. Product out of Peru is down, with lighter supply and good demand. Product out of Mexico is down, with lighter supply and moderate demand. Quality will vary by growing region.

**BROCCOLI**

- The broccoli market is up this week, with supply around normal. As far as quality, there is some pin rot, purple shade color and yellowing due to the warm temperatures from last week. Demand is fair.

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**PRODUCE**

**HANGING FRUIT**

**APPLES AND Pears**
- **Apples**: All apple varieties are steady this week, with moderate supply and demand. Golden delicious supplies continue to be out until the new crop arrives later in August.
- **Pears**: The pear market remains stable. Green and red D’Anjou and Bosc are available. The small end of pears remains tight, while 90 count and larger remain constant.

**CITRUS**

**Lemons**
Lemon prices are mixed this week. Smaller-sized lemons are seeing a slight price drop while larger-size lemons are increasing in price. Lemons continue to trend to smaller sizes, causing larger sizes to be tight. Quality continues to improve over week.

**Limes**
Lime prices are up for the week. Supplies remain tight after recent rainstorms created harvest delays. Summer demand continues to be strong, also adding to the tight supply. Quality is fair, due to the recent rainstorms.

**Oranges**
Orange prices are flat for the week out of California. Valencia continues to trend to 113/88/138-size ranges. There are some offshore navels available from Chile and South Africa. Quality is fair to good for now.

**BERRIES**

**Strawberries**
The strawberry market is up this week. There is some inconsistency in both volume and quality. Some growers have stripped to allow plants to bounce back as we head into August, which is notoriously a difficult month for strawberries. Quality overall has been fair.

**Blueberries**
Blueberry volume and quality coming out of Oregon and British Columbia are both good.

**Grapes**
The grape market is mixed this week, depending on variety and growing region. Flame seedless out of Kern District, California, is up on large to extra large, while steady on medium to large. Sugarones are down on large to extra large. Flame seedless, summer royal and sugarones out of San Joaquin Valley, California, are steady on large to extra large. There is moderate supply and demand. Good quality is reported.

**TROPICAL**

**Pineapples**
Pineapple prices are up for the week. Supply continues to be tight, but is starting to improve slowly. Sizes have started slowly shifting to larger sizes. Quality continues to be good.

**Bananas**
Banana prices continue to be steady. Conditions continue to be stable with the inbound supplies for the summer months. Quality continues to be good on all bananas.

**Avocados**
Avocados prices continue to fall as supplies out of Mexico improve. Price drops will vary from size and grade. #2 supply continues to be limited, due to high grading in all regions. California continues to slow down on harvesting. Peru supplies remain strong, but will start to slow down as their harvesting season begins to end.

**MELONS**

**Cantaloupes and Honeydews**
- **Cantaloupes**: The domestic California season is fully in play. Supplies are expected to be steady for the time being. Access to 15a and 8s will be greater during this portion of the season.
- **Honeydews**: The domestic California season is fully in play. Supplies are expected to be steady for the time being. Access to 15a and 8s will be greater during this portion of the season.
All current beef pricing trends are based on USDA data as of Aug. 7, 2019. Last week’s trends refer to the USDA market for the full week of July 29, 2019.

Cash cattle traded steady to up last week, with trades occurring between $112/cwt to $117/cwt. This week’s asking price from feeders is listed between $112/cwt to $115/cwt, and we have seen limited trade so far at those prices.

Harvest came in at 626k head for the week of July 29, 2019, which was both lower than the prior week and what the market analysts projected. Of that 626k head, 527k were of the steer/heifer variety. Harvest for the week of Aug. 5, 2019, is expected to be around 640k head.

77.9% of all steers/heifers graded Choice or Prime for the week ending July 26, 2019, which was steady from the week prior. Grading for Select and Ungraded also held steady, at 18.8% and 3.3%, respectively.

GRINDS

GROUND CHUCK: The ground chuck market ended the week like it was trending at the mid-week point last week, which was very strong. Reported data suggests that this market will peak at the end of August.

GROUND BEEF 81/19: 81/19 ground beef took a small gain in price last week. Like ground chuck, this market typically peaks around Labor Day weekend, and although the price is higher than the three-year seasonal average, reported data suggests that it will trade steady to higher until that date.

GROUND BEEF 73/27: The 73/27 ground beef market held steady last week, trading flat. Although the spike for this item in late August is not as significant as ground chuck or 81/19 ground beef, analysts report that the three-year seasonal averages suggest this market will trade steady to up over the next month.

ROUNDS

PEELED KNUCKLES: Peeled knuckles saw some discounting last week across both the Choice and Select grades. Current Choice grade prices are lower than where analysts would expect them to be at this time of year, and could be a value buy.

INSIDE ROUNDS: The inside rounds traded higher last week in price. Analysts note we’re at the time of year where this market, which has traded relatively flat to slightly up for a few weeks, could start to soften through September, before seasonal gains in October and spikes in early November.

BOTTOM ROUND FLATS: Bottom round flats traded down slightly last week. Historically, reported data suggests that this market will trade steady to slightly lower through mid-September before a seasonal peak in early October.

EYES OF ROUND: All grades of eyes of round took a very slight gain last week. Although this market is slightly above the three-year seasonal average, historically, this market will typically take a slow climb for the next few months before peaking in mid-to-late October.

LOINS

STRIPS: Strip loins traded up moderately across the board last week. Strips historically soften slightly throughout the remainder of the year, and analysts report that the market is at seasonal averages expected for early August.

TOP BUTTS: Choice top butts took a discount in price, and Select product traded up slightly last week. Analysts report that both grades are trading this year well below what seasonal averages would suggest. Reported data shows that this market typically reaches its low point in early October.

TENDERLOINS: Graded tenders experienced a moderate increase in price last week, however, Ungraded product was trending down. The tenderloin market peaks in early December, but analyst data would suggest the market will remain volatile until then.

RIBS

RIBEYES: The ribeye complex saw strength across both light and heavy ribeyes in almost all grades. The only weakness was in Select heavy ribeyes, down a few cents. Analysts are calling for both the light and heavy ribeye market to move upwards over the coming weeks. Select ribeyes, both light and heavy, are trading extremely below seasonal averages, which only supports analysts’ projections about the market taking an upward turn.

CHUCKS

CHUCK ROLLS: Choice chuck rolls were discounted last week in price, while the Select grade traded steady to slightly higher. In two of the last three years, chuck rolls have started to climb in price in August and continue to climb through early October. Analysts report that seasonal data suggests this market could go lower for another week, maybe two, before that climb begins.

TERES MAJOR MUSCLE: Teres Majors posted decreased prices across all products last week. Reported three-year data suggests that this market trades relatively flat through the remainder of the year.

BRISKETS: The upward momentum continued for briskets last week. Although briskets typically soften in the summer months before a small bump for Labor Day, analysts report that the brisket market is trading higher now than at any point in the last three years for this season.

THIN MEATS

BALL TIPS: Ball tips traded relatively flat last week. Although reported data suggests ball tips having a slight bump around Labor Day weekend, this sub-primal typically softens through the remainder of the year.

FLAP MEAT: Choice flap meat traded up at a very healthy mark last week, and the Select grade did just the opposite. Currently, flap meat is trading well above its three-year average, even though six weeks ago it was trading well below. Reported data suggests that flap meat will strengthen in price until Labor Day before weakening through mid-October.

FLANK: Flank steaks trended lower last week, but are showing some strength in midweek trades. Reported data indicates that flank steaks typically soften through the remainder of the year until mid-December.

SKIRT STEAK: The outside skirt market took a gain of a few cents last week. Although analysts report that day-to-day trading over the last few weeks has been extreme, reported data suggests that this market typically continues to weaken through mid-October before flattening out for the remainder of the year.
Pork market information from the week of July 29, 2019.

The USDA estimated hog slaughter was 2.351 million hogs, slightly larger than the previous week and almost 1% higher than the same week a year ago. From a seasonal perspective, weekly hog harvest numbers begin to increase during the August timeframe and continue to trend higher through year-end.

The USDA Monthly Export report for the month of June showed an increase of 1.3% in total pounds of U.S. pork exported. The report indicated that the top four countries receiving U.S. pork during the month of June were Mexico, Japan, Korea and Hong Kong/China.

LOINS
Prices in the loin complex were mixed. Analysts report that bone-in loins were lower, due to ample supplies and a lack of retail demand. Meanwhile, boneless loins traded higher, supported by tighter product supplies and steady retail demand. Analysts expect both bone-in and boneless loins to trend higher over the next few weeks, as retailers feature pork chops for late August and Labor Day promotions. Both bone-in and boneless loins are trading below year-ago levels.

TENDERS
Pork tenderloin prices traded lower for the fourth straight week. Analysts believe that ample supplies and lack of retail features has kept prices steady. From a seasonal perspective, reported data shows that tenderloin prices typically peak in July/August, however analysts believe that the recent rundown in price may attract retail buyers back in the market, and tenderloins could be featured for late August/early September retail promotions.

BUTTS
Pork butt prices traded higher last week. Supplies remain sufficient, and stronger domestic and export demand has supported current price levels. Reported data shows pork butt prices typically hold steady through mid-August, then trend higher in anticipation of Labor Day promotions.

RIBS
The rib complex remains active. Back rib prices traded steady, and analysts expect pricing to move slightly higher in the upcoming weeks as retailers decide to feature product for late August/Labor Day promotions. Meanwhile, spareribs moved higher for the second week in a row after falling to 10-year lows. Reported data shows the rib complex is expected to continue its seasonal decline during September.

BELLIES/BACON
The belly market continued its move higher. Analysts expect that there is likely increased retail demand for late August and Labor Day promotions, and that the belly market should be considered volatile.

HAMS
Ham prices continued their move higher. The USDA Cold Storage report indicates there is strong demand from buyers filling freezers with hams, and processor demand is also supporting the ham market for out-front holiday bookings. Ham prices typically trend higher this time of year, however, analysts are predicting a downward turn in the market, as export buyers step out of the market and let prices reset. Ham prices are trading 35% above year-ago levels.

TRIMMINGS
Trimming prices posted another week of steady to slightly higher prices. Reported data shows that typically processor demand remains strong for late summer/Labor Day hot dog and dinner sausage promotions. From a seasonal perspective, analysts report that trimming prices are expected to make their seasonal move lower during August, as processors wrap up their summer production.

PICNICS
Picnic prices traded steady to slightly lower. Reported data shows that the bone-in picnic market typically moves lower from August through September. Analysts report that boneless picnics are holding steady, due to strength in the trimmings complex. Both items traditionally move lower over the next several weeks.
Turkey boneless skinless breasts were flat this week. In the near term, analyst expect a flat to slightly upward market.

The whole turkey market was flat this week. Analysts expect this market should trend flat to slightly upward as vendors ramp up for the holidays.

Poultry market information from the week of Aug. 5, 2019.

**BONELESS, SKINLESS TURKEY BREASTS**

Turkey boneless skinless breasts were flat this week. In the near term, analyst expect a flat to slightly upward market.

Analysts report the demand in this market from retail and further processors has continued to be weak; however, this could change rapidly if further processors step back into these markets.

Analysts report that export demand continues to be well balanced. All dark meat markets remained flat this week. As export demand continues an upward climb, analysts expect slight incremental increases in all dark meat categories near term. Reported data shows whole birds/WOG demand has balanced out, resulting in a flat to slightly upward market trend.

**BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET IN THE UNITED STATES UP 1%**

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 232 million eggs in incubators during the week ending Aug. 3, 2019, up 1% from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 82.4%. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

**Starting in 2018, the 19 State totals have been discontinued.**

**BROILER-TYPE CHICKS PLACED IN THE UNITED STATES UP 2%**

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 187 million chicks for meat production for the week ending Aug. 3, 2019, up 2% from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the week ending Jan. 5, 2019, through week ending Aug. 3, 2019, for the United States were 5.78 billion, up 1% from the same period a year earlier.

**Starting in 2018, the 19 State totals have been discontinued.**

Analysts report that small bird supply and demand is still out of balance, pushing pricing higher as demand is harder to fulfill. This trend should be expected to continue through 2019. The market for larger-size whole birds and WDGs is balanced. As jumbo bird availability increases, analysts forecast this could develop into slight decreases in pricing for the near term.

The Select/small boneless breast market was flat this week. Analysts report that this market continues to be supported by the YTD headcount deficit in the small bird category. Analysts note the boneless breast Select/small market could trend flat to slightly downward in the near term. The medium boneless breast market was flat, with spot load offerings being uncovered at slight discounts. The jumbo boneless breast category was flat this week, with spot product being harder to uncover at attractive discounts. Looking near term, analysts believe this market should continue a flat to gradual downward trend.

This week Select/small and jumbo tenderloin markets were flat. Analysts report that further processors and retailers continue to move in and out of these markets, which could result in a flat to slightly downward trend in the near term.

The small wing market was down this week. Expectations by analysts are that this market will trend flat to upward for the near term. The medium wing market was flat, with spot load offers being consistently harder to uncover. Analysts forecast the medium market will remain flat to upward in the near term. The jumbo wing market remained unchanged this week. Spot product offerings have become harder to uncover and are offered at minimal discounts. Analysts report that the jumbo wing market is expected to trend flat to upward, as the typical seasonal high wing demand is right around the corner.

The boneless, skinless thigh meat market was flat this week. Analysts report that this market could be hampered by lack of further processor demand and jumbo supply increasing. Analyst expectations are that this market trends flat to slightly downward in the near term.
SOY, CANOLA & PALM OIL

SOY OIL:
- The August soybean oil contract closed lower last week at $.2819, down approximately 30 points for the week of Aug. 2, 2019.
- Media reports that President Trump has suggested a 10% tariff on the remaining $300 billion in Chinese exports, effective Sept. 1, 2019. Reports indicate that the remaining tariffs would be mainly on finished goods and not agricultural products. Media is additionally reporting that trade talks are currently scheduled to resume in September. However, on Monday, Aug. 5, 2019, it was reported that China stated that they will halt buying any and all U.S. agriculture products indefinitely.
- The USDA has estimated end of June domestic soybean oil stocks at 1.974 billion pounds, down from 2.018 billion in May. Reported data shows that the June crush was the lowest in 21 months, and oil yield was below expectations at 11.49 pounds per bushel crushed, compared to 11.58 in May.

CANOLA
- Analysts report that stocks continue to build without an export market to China. Weather has improved, but analysts report that canola oil basis levels still are considered weak.

PALM OIL
- Analysts are stating that palm oil prices have shown more resiliency over the past two weeks, due to an improved forward global demand picture and the recent lower pricing when compared to historical averages.

DAIRY

All dairy pricing trends are based on USDA and CME data as of Aug. 7, 2019.

BUTTER
Butter production is mixed. Analysts report that this may be driven primarily by the strong cream demand from other seasonal producers continuing to pull butterfat, effecting the amount available for spot butter makers. After two weeks of declines, the CME butter market has stabilized this week.

CHEESE
Analysts report less milk availability in the Midwest and Eastern regions has impacted cheese production, while adequate supplies in the Western regions have kept cheesemakers’ vats full. Demand was steady this past week across much of the nation, and is expected to remain steady over the next few weeks. Some manufacturers reported that inventories are coming into more of a balance, which should help stabilize the market near current levels. Analyst expect prices should start to ease once we see the milk production trends start increasing from these lower levels. The market is once again trading at its highest point in 2019.

SHELL EGGS
Analysts report that demand is considered close to average for this seasonally slower time of year, with some reports of better demand where eggs are being featured. Industry experts expect to see some increased buying in the upcoming weeks, as school gets back in session and as orders perked up some last week. Current inventories are still more than adequate for current needs, but suppliers are starting to hold onto their inventories with increasing confidence. Birds continue to be taken out of the laying flock at these prices, which analysts expect to contribute to some upside risk in the market as we head through summer and into fall.

MILK & CREAM
Reported data shows that milk production across the U.S. has entered a seasonal slowdown, with smaller herds and warming temperatures reducing output estimates. Analysts show that demand has slowed, compared to Q2, coinciding with school summer break.
**SHRIMP, DOMESTIC**  
(Whites and Browns): Pricing continues to be firm, while fishing is starting to improve slightly. Analysts believe smaller shrimp will have a lot of pressure on availability and price. The brown season is now open. Inventory on larger sizes is starting to improve, which has brought some price relief.  
(Domestic Puds): Smaller PUDs are becoming tight, as they have been pushed into the Gulf of Mexico with the influx of water coming out of the Mississippi River, which traditionally puts pressure on this category.

**SHRIMP, IMPORTED**  
(Black Tigers and Whites): The seafood industry reports seeing pressure on inventory and higher pricing on both white shrimp and black tigers. Large-size whites 26-30 count and larger are under a ton of pressure, due to seasonal demand and lower inventory domestically.  
(Mexican Browns and Whites): Analysts report that suppliers may have a concern about the tight supply of brown and large-size shrimp. The 2019 season will be underway in September.

**CATFISH**  
Domestic: The warm weather is allowing more feeding of fish, with production continuing to improve. Analysts report that pricing is expected to soften.  
Imported: Analysts report that with pricing firming up, the 5-7-oz. size range is in very tight supply. Pangasius or domestic catfish would be good alternatives.

**SALMON**  
Atlantic Farmed Salmon: Analysts report that the fresh market has stabilized for next week. Frozen portions have remained steady: vendors indicate that there is still a concern that 4-oz. portions will get tight, as the fish needed to produce that size are in short supply.

**MAHI-MAHI**  
Analysts report that pricing has turned steady, with fewer offerings. Inventory is in good shape along all size portions.

**SCALLOPS**  
Sea: Analysts report that pricing has shown some volatility on the fresh side. The catch is going well for the new season. Frozen prices continue to be stable.  
Bay: Pricing is moving upward, as analysts see product from China entering the U.S. after tariff increases.

**TILAPIA**  
Analysts report demand has been steady as the market settles into higher costs.

**PANGASIUS**  
Analysts report that pricing is trending downward, as inventory levels in the U.S. are in very good shape.

**WHITEFISH COMPLEX**  
COD: Analysts report that pricing is showing some firmness. Inventory is firm behind strong demand as other similar species increase in price.  
Pollock: The fishery for Pacific pollock has produced only smaller, 2-4-oz. fillets. It is expected that this could cause an inventory issue for frozen loins if they don’t start catching larger fish. Larger fillets 4-6-oz. and 6-8-oz. are very tight. Pricing is firming.

**HADDOCK**  
Vendors are reporting that pricing continues to firm, due to high demand and tight supply.

**TUNA, YELLOWFIN**  
(Frozen Steaks & Loins): Reports indicate that tuna pricing and inventory is stable.

**SWORDFISH**  
Reports indicate that swordfish pricing is stable. Inventory levels are in very good shape.

**KING CRAB**  
(RED & GOLDEN): Industry experts report that product is very short in the marketplace and is expected to be tight ongoing. Analysts report that gold product out of Russia is increasing in price.

**CRABMEAT**  
(Blue & Red, Pasteurized): Analysts report that the market is showing an imbalance in movement and pricing. Inventory seems to be in good shape overall. As the summer demand kicks in, analysts forecast this should stabilize the market.

Analysts report that Mexico blue crab season is beginning to slow, as is common for this time of year. Pricing is stable and supply is fair.

**SNOW CRAB**  
Alaskan: Most vendors are off the market, with very little if any product out there currently.  
Canadian: As pricing is now stabilizing at higher levels, analysts believe it could move higher through Q3. Vendors report 10-12-oz. product appears to be in the tightest supply.

**LOBSTER**  
North American Lobster: Analysts report that pricing is steady to firm. Vendors report small-size tails and meat have decent supply. Large-size tails continue to be a challenge. Maine is expected to be under way over the next one-to-two weeks. The season is later than last year due to water temperatures which could begin to drive pricing higher.

**LOBSTER TAILS WARM WATER:** Analysts report that the industry is extremely tight, with no new production set until the season starts in August. Very little product will be available.

**LOBSTER MEAT:** Analysts report that pricing and demand are steady. The season is later than last year due to water temperatures which could begin to drive pricing higher.
The U.S. announced in 2018 they would impose tariffs on imports to shrink the trade deficit.

4 rounds of tariffs have been implemented so far:
1. March 23, 2018 ~$3 billion of products: imported steel (25%) and aluminum (10%).
2. The next round of ~$50 billion in products from China - mostly machinery and parts - was put on in 2 stages:
   a.) July 6, 2018 ~$34 billion of imported products (25%).
   b.) Aug. 23, 2018 ~$16 billion (also 25%).
3. Sept. 24, 2018, an additional ~$200 billion in products from China (10%).
4. May 10, 2019 the U.S. government raised the 10% tariff it had implemented on $200B of Chinese goods to 25%.
5. China has initially matched the first $50 billion, and then an additional $60 billion against the latest round ($200 billion).
6. China announced on Monday, May 20, 2019, that it would raise tariffs to 20% or 25%, from the already 10% in place.

**Products with Price Increases**

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<td>Metals - Iron, Steel, Aluminum</td>
<td>Canned Goods</td>
<td>Canned Fruit and Veg., Pudding &amp; Custard, Cheese, Sauces, Beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Straws and Stirrers</td>
<td>Disposables</td>
<td>Straws, Drinking, Plastic/PLA - Straws, Stirrer, Plastic/PLA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metals - Iron, Steel, Aluminum</td>
<td>Value Added Shelf-Stable</td>
<td>EB Gelatin, Pudding &amp; Pie Filling, Shelf-Stable &amp; EB Sauces, Shelf-Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastics</td>
<td>Disposables</td>
<td>Bags, Food Storage (PE) and (PP), Bags T-Shirt, Buckets, Can Liners, Cups, Dust Pans, Food Containers, Lids, Pastry Bags, Urinal Deodorizer, Aprons, Bibs, Headware (Disposable), Trays &amp; Film</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibers / Molded Fiber</td>
<td>Disposables</td>
<td>100% Cotton Fabrics, Cups &amp; Bowls, Food Containers, Plates, Platters, Lids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloves</td>
<td>Disposables</td>
<td>Latex, Nitrile, PE, Vinyl/Synthetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen Seafood</td>
<td>Finfish &amp; Shellfish</td>
<td>Catfish, Flounder, Haddock, Tilapia, Pasteurized Crabmeat, Scallops, Squid, Crawfish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruit</td>
<td>Canned Fruit &amp; Veg.</td>
<td>Mandarins, Nuts, Cauliflower, Other Fruits &amp; Veg.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>