



FARMER'S REPORT

MARKET TRENDS | 2.23.2018





BEEF

Cash cattle traded hands \$4-6 dollars higher than last week at \$129.50 on one of the largest single week trades since April of last year. 146K head traded on cash, which is 20K head more YOY. Federally inspected slaughter last week came in at 596K head, of which 455K were fed steers/heifers. The week ended lower than original projections. The forecast remains in the 588-595k level, and should seasonally increase starting early March. With the lower-than-expected kills, packer inventories seem better aligned to demand. Asking prices across the carcass this week are again higher on the market rally, but overall box volume is trailing last year by 4%. Cattle continue to perform well and are grading more than 80% Prime/Choice. Supplies for ungraded product are very limited, with less than 3% of all animals harvested unworthy of a grade.

GRINDS

GROUND BEEF 81/19: Blended grinds ended the week modestly higher, with the market remaining firm on balanced supplies. A modest retreat is anticipated in early spring before seasonal gains take hold in late March/early April.

GROUND CHUCK: Ground chuck moved modestly higher on good call and support from raw material costs. The market remains very firm, with more upside potential the next couple of weeks.

ROUNDS

PEELED KNUCKLES: Knuckles fell modestly last week, but the market has since firmed on higher cash cattle. Despite the near-term strength, retracement is expected in late winter.

INSIDE ROUNDS: Inside rounds ended the week slightly to modestly higher, and the market remains firm on the shirt tails of higher cash cattle. Seasonal weakness is expected entering early spring.

BOTTOM ROUND FLATS: Bottom round flats retired the week lower, with the market remaining soft in lieu of higher cash prices. Further declines are anticipated moving into early spring.

EYES OF ROUND: Eyes of round traded lower for the week. The market is seeing a temporary rebound with higher cash cattle prices, but this is not expected to continue as we enter early spring.

LOINS

STRIPS: Strip and shortloins led the loin complex, with all grades moving significantly higher on good demand and higher cash cattle. The market remains firm this week. There is a slight chance of retracement in March, but it is limited. Greater gains are anticipated starting early April, with grilling season officially kicking off.

TOP BUTTS: Top butts ended the week soft, with Choice holding and Select slightly lower. Since the market for top butts is already pricing in expected spring highs, they are at risk of retracement moving into spring. Vulnerable price swings cannot be ruled out if food service segments should enter the market.

TENDERLOINS: Tenders traded firm for the week, and the market remains robust on good demand, with supplies limited due to lower harvest levels and large orders for shortloins shipping in the next couple of weeks. Seasonal increases are anticipated as we enter spring, with more substantial gains starting late March into April.

RIBS

RIBEYES: Light ribeyes are firm on good call, coupled with limited supplies on lower harvest levels. The market remains firm, especially for Select/Ungraded, due to grading. Less than 3% of all animals harvested are unworthy of a grade, which limits supplies available. Choice heavy ribs remained firm as well. Downside is limited at this time.

CHUCKS

CHUCK ROLLS: Chuck rolls may have declined last week, but the market has new breath on higher cash cattle and good exports. This complex is still expected to retrace seasonally moving into spring, but the decline could be tempered by large orders for ground chuck and robust export sales.

TERES MAJORS: Teres Major muscle continues to climb, with good demand coupled with limited supplies. The market remains firm currently.

BRISKETS: Briskets continue to hold their value, with the market remaining firm at present. Spot sales are very good as last-minute orders for late winter come in. Weakness is expected after St. Patrick's Day orders have shipped.

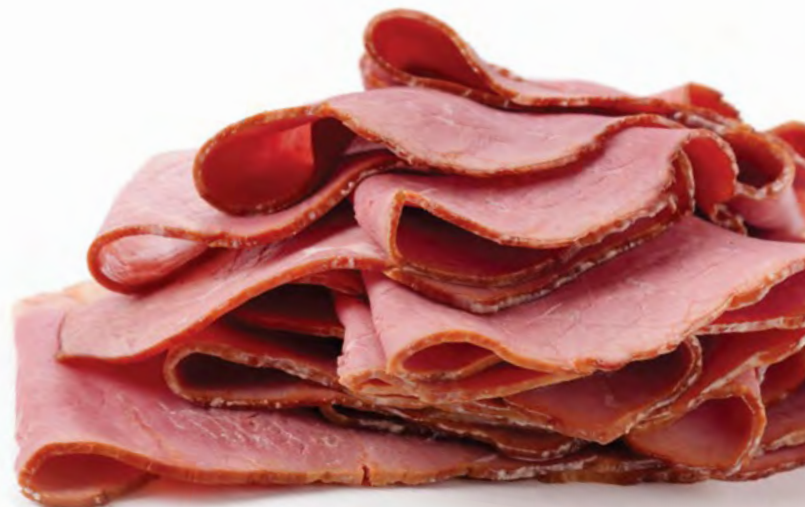
THIN MEATS

BALL TIPS: Ball tips traded modestly higher and remain very firm. They are expected to strengthen seasonally into spring.

FLAP MEAT: All grades of flap moved higher. The Choice market remains firm, with Select soft currently. Flap has been holding its value well above last year's levels on good forward orders. Because the value is higher at this time, there is some downside risk moving into spring, but it is also considered limited.

FLANK: All grades of flank were higher on good demand and reduced production. The market remains firm, with a very slight risk to retracement the next couple of weeks.

SKIRT STEAK: Outside skirt moved higher again on good demand and limited supply, due to lower kills. The market is showing signs of softening, but remained higher as the week progressed. Sales volume for skirt is lower, which could lead to a risk of retracement, with harvest levels increasing seasonally in March.





PORK

Last week the USDA reported an estimated harvest of 2.38 MM hogs, up around 1% over last year. This week was a short week for packers, with some down for the Monday holiday. Slaughter numbers are estimated to come in around 3.5% above one year ago. Packer margins continue to gradually decline, which negatively impacts Saturday production schedules and somewhat restricts pork supplies. Lastly, weather-related disruptions remain a possibility over the next two months. These disruptions may impact weekly pork supplies and result in packers adjusting their inventory positions “on the fly”. Regardless, the combination of restricted supplies and weather-related disruptions result in uncertainty and increased price volatility during March.

LOINS

Prices for bone-in and boneless pork loins were slightly higher last week. Bone-in loins and boneless loin prices are slightly higher in early-week trade, as retailers present this item as a value item for spring promotions. Boneless loins are expected to be a popular retail feature after Easter. Typically an “early” Easter allows retailers more time to feature pork items before Memorial Day.

TENDERS

Pork tenderloin prices traded lower last week, and are posting significant declines in early-week trade. Typically tenderloin prices decline during March; however, prices may turn higher in mid-March as retailers promote tenders during the last two weeks of March/early April. Overall demand for tenderloins is typically hit-or-miss at this time of year, and heavily dependent on retail features.

BUTTS

Pork butt prices held fairly steady last week, but are trending higher in early-week trade. Export buyers have moved back into the market, and retailers are expected to promote pork butts for spring features. Thus, packers are requesting higher prices for out-front purchases and near-term supplies are tightening up. Pork butt prices are expected to move higher during March and remain above year-ago levels.

RIBS

Pricing on the rib complex was steady to slightly higher last week. Spareribs continue to hold their value, and are slightly higher early week, while back ribs remain on their upward trend, continuing their gradual move higher. Packers have been and will continue to be focused on converting a majority of their production to freezer packages for out-front business, which limits supplies of fresh ribs. Availability of smaller-sized ribs is also becoming extremely tight. Expect this trend to continue for at least the next few months.

BELLIES/BACON

Belly prices continued their decline for the second week in a row; however, a turnaround is on the horizon. Prices are trending higher in early-week trade, and it seems as though bacon processors are moving a significant amount of bellies to the freezer. Belly prices are expected to make a gradual move higher in the upcoming weeks. Whether this upward trend is sustainable will depend on the amount of retail bacon promotions scheduled after Easter.

HAMS

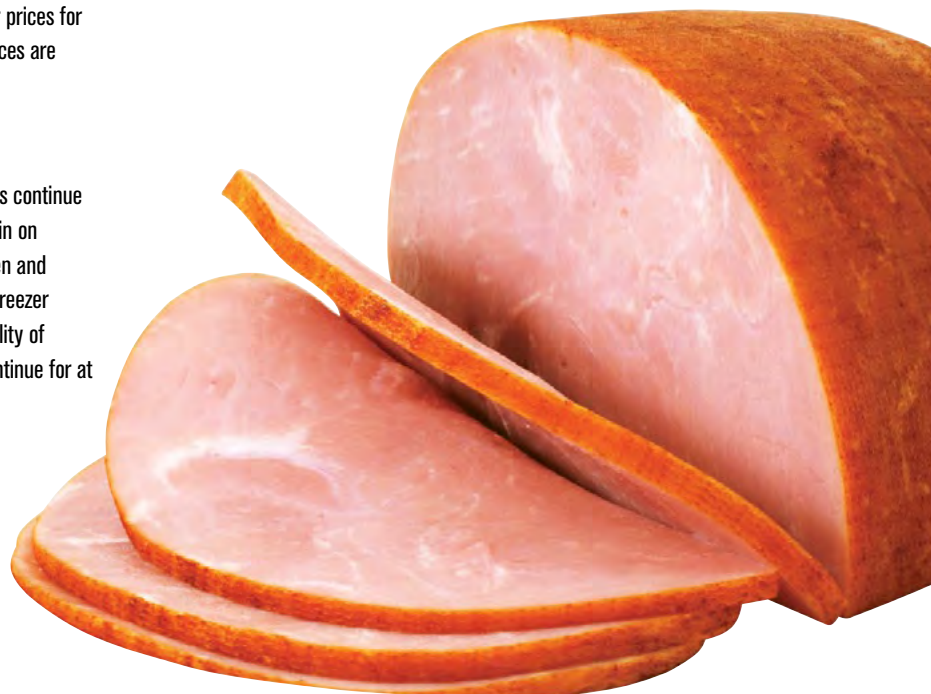
The ham market held steady last week, but is higher in early-week trade. Export buyers have jumped back into the market, and domestic processors were invigorated by the slight dip in prices. Ham prices are expected to move slightly higher over the next two weeks, then turn lower late March. Overall demand is expected to be choppy, as domestic buyers continue to assess their pre-Easter inventory levels. Expect prices to trade sideways to slightly lower in late March/early April.

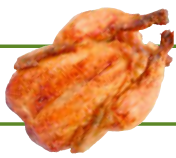
TRIMMINGS

Trades on pork trimmings were mixed last week, with fat 42% trimmings trading flat to slightly higher, and lean 72% trimmings continuing to move lower. Both items are forecasted to move gradually higher in a sawtooth-like fashion through summer, especially as processors slowly ramp up for warmer weather production.

PICNICS

The picnic complex was mixed last week, with the boneless picnics moving lower and the bone-in picnics trading flat. Picnics are forecasted steady to lower over the next 30 days.





TURKEY

BONELESS, SKINLESS TURKEY BREASTS

The turkey breast market was flat this week. We should expect this market to trend flat to downward for the near term.

WHOLE FROZEN TURKEYS

Whole turkeys were flat this week, as there seems to be ample supply. We expect this market to trend flat to downward in the near term.



CHICKEN

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET IN THE UNITED STATES UP 2%

Hatcheries in the United States weekly program set 227 million eggs in incubators during the week ending February 17, 2018, up 2% from a year ago. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week in the United States was 82%. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Note: Starting in 2018, the 19-State totals have been discontinued.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS PLACED IN THE UNITED STATES UP LESS THAN 1%

Broiler growers in the United States weekly program placed 180 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 17, 2018, up less than 1% from a year ago. Cumulative placements from the weeks ending January 6, 2018 through February 17, 2018 for the United States were 1.27 billion, up 1% from the same period a year earlier.

Note: Starting in 2018, the 19-State totals have been discontinued.

WHOLE CHICKEN & CUT-UP PARTS

Small bird demand is still very strong, and supply continues to be tight. We can expect this trend to continue through 2018.

BONELESS, SKINLESS BREASTS & CHICKEN TENDERLOINS

Select, medium and jumbo boneless breast markets were all flat this week, as supplies continue to be adequate for seasonal demand increases. We can expect these markets to trend flat to upward in the near term. (Given the current declines in the wing and tenderloin categories, there could be a slight possibility of declines specific to the jumbo boneless breast market.)

The tenderloin markets were down this week, as demand has abruptly fallen off. We can expect this market to trend downward to flat in the near term.

WINGS

Small, medium and jumbo markets were down this week. The market is in an oversupply situation, and there will be more declines to come. For the near term, we can expect these markets to trend downward to flat.

BONELESS, SKINLESS THIGHS

This market was flat this week, and we can expect it to trend flat to upward in the near term. As seasonal and export demand ramp up, labor shortages will heavily come into play.





COMMODITY OIL

SOY, CANOLA & PALM OIL

The soybean complex closed mixed last week, with the primary feature being the strength in the soybean meal market and resultant meal/oil spreading. Soybeans were able to shrug off a bearish USDA report to post a slight gain for the week, and continued to climb into this week.

The Buenos Aires Grain Exchange lowered their estimate of this year's Argentine soybean crop another million tons, due to the continued dry weather conditions there. Rains forecast for last weekend did not materialize and caused additional demand in the meal market, which facilitated a drop in soy oil.

SOY:

- This market continues to go nowhere fast, as record domestic crush numbers have kept oil supplies available to the market, while the traders' focus remains on the Argentine weather and diminished crop prospects and crush rates there.
- Last Thursday's USDA report was a bit of an enigma, with soybean exports being reduced as expected, but there was no increase in the crush estimate, despite the record levels we have been running at. The net result was a 60 million bushel increase in 2017/2018 soybean ending stocks, but literally no changes to the soybean oil and soybean meal balance sheets.
- The latest news from the biodiesel front is it looks like the \$1 per gallon blender's credit will be reinstated retroactively for 2017, but will not be put in place for 2018.

CANOLA

- Canola oil basis levels remain steady to slightly weaker for Q1 and Q2.

PALM OIL

- Palm oil prices showed some modest strength this week despite lower soybean oil prices, as the weakness in local currency supported the market.
- Indonesia said that it will be filing a case against the United States in the International Court of Trade on the recently-imposed biodiesel tariffs. Though their volumes into the U.S. were much smaller than that of Argentina, the outcome could set a precedent going forward.

US EXPORTS

- Despite solid weekly numbers, year-to-date soybean oil sales are still running 40% behind a year ago.
- With the dollar gaining strength, our export numbers are beginning to drop.

SEASONALS

- Seasonal indicators show a strong history of soybean oil prices in the late December-through-March period.



DAIRY

BUTTER

Cream inventory continues to be abundantly available across the United States. Butter production has been slightly up, causing inventory to be steady to building for the season. Demand remains steady. Prices are expected to remain steady to slightly higher the next 30 days.

CHEESE

Overall inventories are balanced, with some barrel producers reporting that inventories are limited. Cheese production is active, with many plants running seven days a week. Demand is steady. Barrel prices have increased steadily the past 3 to 4 weeks.

SHELL EGGS

Demand has recovered some from the recent market selloff, but promotional activity continues to be greatly reduced. Supplies are still more than adequate, given the increased production schedules and current demand. Shell egg inventories should continue to increase.

MILK & CREAM

Milk output is steady to lower across most of the country. Weather continues to be a concern for the Midwest and transportation needs. Cream supplies are abundant. For February: FMO markets have seen decreases, except in Class I butterfat, which was slightly up. California experienced slight decreases in all markets.





SEAFOOD

SHRIMP, DOMESTIC

(WHITES AND BROWNS): Shell-on Browns: Larger sizes took a small increase this week. Inventories are getting tight. Shell-on Whites: Markets are steady, as there are still a few boats out with average landings for this time of year. Overall outlook is for higher pricing as we move into early spring.

DOMESTIC PUDS: Inventory positions are now reporting tighter than initially thought from last week. Prices are rising and will continue to do so. Inventory is extra tight on 90/110's and 130/150's.

SHRIMP, IMPORTED

(BLACK TIGER AND WHITES): Production on tigers continues to be very low. Farmed Asian white shrimp are showing some signs of weakening, but the feeling here is that inventory levels in the US are causing vendors to lower prices. Latin whites remain steady.

(MEXICAN BROWNS AND WHITES): The season is coming to an end, with catches better than in the 2017 season, season but still disappointing. Some larger sizes will be hard to come by in a few months.

CATFISH

DOMESTIC: Production of farmed domestic catfish has started to pick up, and we are starting to see more inventory and some weakening in prices.

IMPORTED: We are seeing stable pricing on imported catfish. New season fish is starting to hit the US. Long-term outlook is still uncertain.

SALMON

ATLANTIC FARMED SALMON: Pricing and supply has become stable after the holidays on frozen portions. Fresh fillets have remained high, with Lent sales and tight inventory in Chile.

MAHI MAHI

Fishing is coming to an end in Central and South America. Catch has been better than in the past two years. Outlook for the spring and summer is for good supply.

SCALLOPS

SEA: Pricing has turned to a steady tone. The new quota and season begins March 1. There is talk about extra trips into restricted areas, and if that happens we could see some lower pricing on U/10's.

BAY: Pricing has turned steady overseas.

TILAPIA

Inventory in the US seems to be good with pricing starting to stabilize. We should see some consistency through Q1. The outlook for the second quarter of the year is for higher pricing.

PANGASIU

Pricing remains high, and inventory on 7-9's is very tight. Inspection of imported product is a slower process, causing delays of products moving out of cold storage.

WHITEFISH COMPLEX

COD: The Atlantic cod quota has been cut 13% or 115,000 tons. The Pacific cod quota has been cut by 80%. We expect the overall market to remain very firm, with short inventory and high prices. We will see price increases in Q1.

POLLOCK: The fishery for Pacific pollock has produced only smaller fish, just 2-4 oz. fillets. This could cause an inventory issue for frozen loins if they don't start catching larger fish. Larger fillets of 4-6 and 6-8 oz. are very tight.

HADDOCK: Pricing on skin-on fillets and skinless loins is starting to see increases. Even with the increases, we are seeing haddock as a great value. As cod goes, so will the haddock market. Things definitely look like they will heat up in the coming weeks. We will see Q1 price increases.

FLOUNDER: Product from China will remain tight, as the catch has been very slow. The Argentine season is underway now, with inventories slowly making their way into the states.

TUNA, YELLOWFIN

(FROZEN STEAKS & LOINS): Tuna is fairly stable in pricing and inventories are good.

SWORDFISH

Swordfish pricing is very stable. Inventory levels are in very good shape.

KING CRAB

(RED & GOLDEN): Product is very short in the marketplace across all sizes. The outlook is for pricing to be higher, with lower inventory.

CRABMEAT

(BLUE & RED, PASTEURIZED): Blue swimming crab pricing is showing signs of weakening, as importers evaluate inventory levels vs. sales. Red swimming crab pricing is seeing a more upward trend. Mexico blue crab season is in full production, with stable pricing. Inventory positions are very good at this time.

SNOW CRAB

ALASKAN: The majority of the 2018 crabbing fleet are on the fishing grounds, with poor results to date. With the cut in the quota, there is still a dark cloud hanging over how much inventory will be available for US consumption. There have been a few loads quoted.

CANADIAN: Fishing in Canada will start in the next few months. Ice flow will be the deciding factor in when the fishermen can go fishing. There is talk of quota cuts in all zones, so time will tell on costs. There seems to be plenty of 5-8 clusters available.

LOBSTER TAILS

NORTH AMERICAN LOBSTER: The Maine season has wrapped up. Tails are in very bad shape. The category as a whole saw limited catch, so they will be an issue now until May/June. We do expect to see pricing surge and inventory firm as we go forward.

LOBSTER TAILS WARM WATER: Supply on warm water tails is in a good place; however, pricing is heating up, as the shortages in the cold water market continue to put pressure on larger-sized warm waters.

LOBSTER MEAT: The Maine season has wrapped up. As inventory depletes, we will see prices rise accordingly. Be careful not to get subpar meat quality. We are seeing some poor quality meat on the market.

PRODUCE

Markets continue to be pretty steady for potatoes and onions. Transportation remains a concern, but it is improving. The banana market will be back to normal starting next week. Bananas arriving at the ports this week are back to full supplies. Limes are seeing major issues, with rain and cold weather hitting the majority of the crop in Mexico. Harvest delays, quality issues, and lime growth are all being affected by the weather in the harvesting fields.

KEY

- ↑ - Anticipating an up market
- ➡ - Anticipating a steady market
- ↓ - Anticipating a down market

VEGETABLES



POTATOES

- ➡ **Russet:** The market on russets is mixed this week. Norkotah variety out of Washington/Oregon is slightly up. Norkotah and Burbank varieties out of Idaho are both down. Transportation remains short but is improving. Good quality and supplies are being reported, with moderate demand.
- ↓ **Reds:** The red potato market is down this week. Product out of both Washington and North Dakota is down.
- ➡ **Yellows:** The markets out of both Florida and California are steady. Quality is good with moderate supply and demand.



CABBAGE ➡

Round Green: The cabbage market is flat this week with supplies steady. Demand is steady, and quality is good.



LEAF LETTUCE

- ➡ **Green Leaf:** The green leaf market is flat this week, with supplies returning to normal. Quality has been good. Demand is steady.
- ➡ **Romaine:** The romaine lettuce market is flat this week. Supplies are right around normal. Demand has been steady. Quality is still average.



ICEBERG LETTUCE ↑

The iceberg lettuce market is up this week. Supplies are lighter due to cold weather.



GARLIC ↑

Chinese peeled garlic pricing is up this week. The West Coast does not have much supply, and containers are arriving at a slower pace. A main factory in China was shut down without warning for environmental issues. This factory supplies about 30 to 40% of the garlic from China coming into the United States. On top of that, all factories in China were shut down for the Chinese New Year holiday. A supply gap is expected over the next 2 to 3 weeks, and could last up to 6 weeks. To cover this shortage, suppliers are looking to Spanish peeled garlic. Demand is steady for California peeled garlic and supply is good.



ONIONS ↓

The jumbo yellow onion market is down this week, including product out of Washington/Oregon, Idaho and Mexico. Good supply and quality are being reported with moderate demand. Transportation is improving.



CHILE PEPPERS ➡

The chile pepper market is steady this week. Supplies continue to be on the lighter side for jalapenos and poblanos. Quality is being reported as good.



CILANTRO ➡

The cilantro market is mixed this week, depending on the growing region. Product out of Imperial, Coachella, Arizona, Mexico, and Oxnard is up. Product out of Texas is down. Demand is moderate.



CUCUMBERS ➡

Cucumbers are flat to down this week. Pricing out of Mexico is down while imports remain flat. Quality is improving now that warmer weather is hitting the growing regions. Florida is looking to start harvesting their own cucumbers around mid-March, which will help inventories.



SQUASH

- ➡ **Yellow Squash:** Squash prices are flat this week. Prices out of both growing regions have balanced out. Quality is a major concern right now, since both growing regions are struggling. Heavy scarring and shorter-than-normal shelf life continues to be an issue. This is mainly due to the heavy winds and thunderstorms the fields have been getting hit with.
- ➡ **Zucchini:** Zucchinis are flat this week. Mexico and Florida are starting to balance out on prices. Quality issues are expected to last another week until new fields can be harvested. Quality of zucchini is better than yellow squash, but it still remains a concern.



GREEN BEANS ➡

The green bean market is mixed this week. Hand-picked and machine-picked product out of Florida is down. There are good supplies and quality out coming out of Florida. Imported haricot verts are steady. Hand-picked green beans out of Mexico are up, with steady supplies and quality.



EGGPLANT ➡

Eggplant prices are flat for the week. The East is dealing with flooding issues in the fields. New crop will start harvesting in 7 to 10 days. The West is seeing increased demand due to the Lent season, but Mexico continues to push out good volume, which is allowing prices to remain flat.



BELL PEPPERS

- ↓ **Green:** Green peppers are down again this week. Supplies continue to improve in both Florida and Mexico, which are both reporting lower prices. Quality continues to be fair, with a couple different issues being reported. Bruising, scarring and thin walls are the major concern.
- ➡ **Red:** Red bell peppers are flat for the week. Supply is meeting demand. There is some heavier volume on small-sized red peppers. Quality remains good.

PRODUCE



TOMATOES

- ➔ **Rounds:** Round tomatoes are flat for the week. Supplies are meeting current demand. Florida and Mexico are very similar in price. Quality has rebounded and now it's trending towards great. The cold weather could impact some of the crop in early March, but it is a wait-and-see mentality, since it was only a brief cold stint.
- ➔ **Cherry:** Cherry tomatoes are flat this week. Florida and Mexico are pushing out good volume. Quality remains excellent.
- ➔ **Grape:** Grape tomatoes are flat for the week. Volume is meeting current demand, which is keeping prices steady. Quality in Mexico also remains strong. Mexico and Florida prices are almost identical.
- ➔ **Romas:** Roma prices are flat for the week. Supply is meeting current demand. Demand for Romas in the East remains kind of sluggish. Mexico and Florida are almost finished with their field transitions. Quality continues to improve and is trending towards excellent.



CARROTS ➔

The jumbo carrot market is mixed this week. Product out of California is down, while product out of Mexico is up. There are good supplies and quality out of California with moderate demand. Supplies are light out of Mexico with good demand.



CELERY ↓

The celery market is down with supplies steady this week. Demand is steady. Quality is good.



GREEN ONIONS ➔

The green onion market is mixed this week. Product out of South Carolina is steady, while product out of Mexico is up on both medium size and small size. Supplies are steady with moderate demand.



CAULIFLOWER ↑

The cauliflower market is up this week. Supplies will be light this week.



ASPARAGUS ➔

The asparagus market is steady this week out of Mexico, with good supplies and lighter demand. The Peruvian season is finishing up.



BROCCOLI ↑

The broccoli market is up with supplies steady this week. The demand and quality has been good.



PINEAPPLES ➔

Pineapple prices are flat for the week. Similar to last week, pineapple volumes remain strong along with sizing. Sizing is trending towards the smaller side, and in the upcoming weeks these volumes will increase. Quality remains strong as well.



BANANAS ➔

Banana prices are flat for the week. Banana supplies continue to improve, and should soon be back to normal. Organics will be tight for a little bit longer. Plantain volumes are improving as well, and should be back to normal soon.



AVOCADOS ➔

Avocado prices are flat for the week. Mexico has reopened some fields, allowing supplies to recover. Farms in Mexico are still battling rain and thunderstorms. #2 volume still remains high, but could tighten up in a few weeks, as harvests move to higher elevations. Quality still remains good, even with all the thunderstorms.



PRODUCE

MELONS



CANTALOUPE ↓

The cantaloupe market is down this week. Demand has been good.

HONEYDEW ↓

The honeydew market is down, with good demand across the board on all sizes. The overall quality has been nice.

BERRIES



RASPBERRIES ↓

Our raspberry crop looks good; however, production is predicted to slow down this week, due to some crops harvesting their last fruit.



STRAWBERRIES ↓

The strawberry market is down. The overall quality of strawberries coming out of California is looking clean. The biggest challenge is wind scarring here and there. The quality of strawberries coming out of Mexico is good, although there are overripe issues due to high temperatures.



GRAPES ↓

The grape market is down this week on all varieties. Product out of Peru, including Crimson Seedless, Flame Seedless, and Black Seedless are all down. Flame and White Seedless out of Chile are also down. Quality and supplies are good with lighter demand.



BLUEBERRIES →

Blueberry quality is looking great with minimal defects.



BLACKBERRIES →

Blackberry quality is good with minimal defects.



CITRUS



LEMONS →

Lemon pricing remains stable, even with Lent happening. Sizing could be an issue, as 165's and smaller sizes remain tight going into D-2 and D-3 fields. Quality is slowly improving as D-3 fields wrap up production. The main issue being seen is clear rot. As the D-3 fields shut down, the clear rot issues will hopefully end.



ORANGES →

Orange pricing remains steady this week. Sizing issues remain the largest challenge for oranges. 88's and smaller-sized fruit continue to be tight, as fields are pushing out larger fruit. This sizing issue will remain until the end of the Navel season. 72's are the main size and they are pushing out good volume. Vendors are working on their plans of harvest for Valencia to help out with the sizing issues. Cara Caras and Blood Oranges are in full production and also have great quality.



LIMES ↑

Lime prices skyrocketed this week. The lime crop is being hit with cold and rainy weather. This is causing harvest delays, which has tightened supplies. The cold weather is also hindering the growth of the fruit. Vendors are trying to harvest in areas without rain, but are having very little luck. Quality is also being impacted heavily with short shelf life, and breakdown of skin is being reported.

HANGING FRUIT



APPLES & PEARS

➔ **Apples:** Red Delicious and Golden Delicious markets are steady to down this week, depending on the growing region. All other varieties are stable. Demand is moderate. Quality is good.

➔ **Pears:** The pear market remains stable. The Northwest pear market is on the small end of sizing. D'Anjou, Red D'Anjou and Bosc are available. Bartlett's, Seckel and Forelle's will finish this month, with small quantities shipping in February.