



Specialty Crops Market News Division U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update

Agricultural Marketing Service

Volume I – Number 24

Issued Weekly

Friday, June 11, 2021

Update for Week of June 6-12, 2021

This report provides trend analysis of the volume and prices of Seasonal Perishable commodities. Volume represents current week and prices represent open (spot) market sales by first handlers on product of generally good quality and condition unless otherwise stated and may include promotional allowances or other incentives. The charts provide graphic representation of the volume and prices of the major commodities this week based on seasonal volume.

Now that more than a year has passed since the official beginning of the pandemic in the United States, somber reports are being issued highlighting just how bad the impact has been on the foodservice industry. A January 2021 *Forbes* report showed an estimated 140,000 U.S. restaurants closed for business in 2020, either by permanently ceasing operations or by temporarily reducing services, switching to delivery or carryout only, or other means. With foodservice and related industries estimated to employ up to 1 in 10 of all employees in the country, the sector was projected to grow up to 10% annually before the pandemic hit but has instead contracted dramatically as all but those employees deemed essential have found themselves struggling to make ends meet. The foodservice sector's hopes are very much pinned on this summer for a strong recovery as workers and customers alike return to everyday life after vaccination.

Asparagus crossings from Mexico movement is expected to remain about the same with moderate trading. Production and prices increased throughout the week until rain in the central growing region late in the week slowed harvesting and tightened supplies. Movement of Peru asparagus is expected about the same as shippers continue to skip ports in an attempt to get back on schedule. With aging product arriving to plentiful competition in the US, trading is slow and prices mixed, with quality and condition by container reported as variable, by air generally good. Movement of asparagus from the Walla Walla District and Lower Yakima Valley Washington is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was moderate early and slow later with a wide range in prices but prices generally unchanged and many present shipments from previous commitments or prior bookings. Movement from Michigan is expected to decrease slightly. Trading was fairly active at higher prices and product has been reported on nearby terminal produce markets.

Movement of avocados from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected to increase slightly now that last week's unconfirmed disturbances seem to be over, with crossing numbers at least back to normal or possibly above normal for this time of year. Prices trended slightly higher with moderate trading and demand. Movement from the South District California is expected about the same. Trading and demand remained fairly active with prices generally unchanged as grower-shippers wait to see what will happen with Mexico and with the upcoming Peru crop arriving soon.

Cucumber crossings from Mexico through Texas movement is expected about the same, with trading active at higher prices. Demand remained strong this week with most available cucumbers reserved for contracts or previous commitments. Movement from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected to experience a sharp seasonal decrease as quality is diminishing and fewer supplies are being shipped. Trading was moderate, with prices medium lower and others generally unchanged. Movement from Mexico crossing through Otay Mesa is expected to increase seasonally. Trading was moderate early and active later with prices slightly higher. Movement from South Georgia is expected to increase, with trading moderate and prices generally unchanged. Quality is reported as generally good.

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
- [Movement Report Details](#)
- [Generating Custom Reports](#)

For assistance please contact: jeff.main@usda.gov

[Custom Average Tool \(CAT\) Graphing tool and aggregated data source.](#)

Movement out of Eastern North Carolina is expected to increase as more producers begin harvest. Currently, no F.O.B. price report is being issued.

Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected about the same. Supplies continue to be light and in too few hands to quote, but demand is fairly good at lower price points. Movement from the Coachella Valley, California is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading and demand were moderate with prices generally unchanged. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease sharply as most shippers are finished for the season. Supplies were in too few hands to establish a market although light crossings of variable quality are expected to continue through June 12. The final price reports of the season have been issued. South Georgia bell pepper movement is expected to increase, with moderate trading at lower prices. High truck rates continue to affect prices and product is available locally on the Atlanta State Farmers Market. Movement out of the San Joaquin Valley, California is expected to increase seasonally. The first price reports were issued this week with moderate trading and demand on generally good quality product. Supplies of green bell peppers from Central and South Florida are in too few hands to establish a market and the last price report for the season has been issued

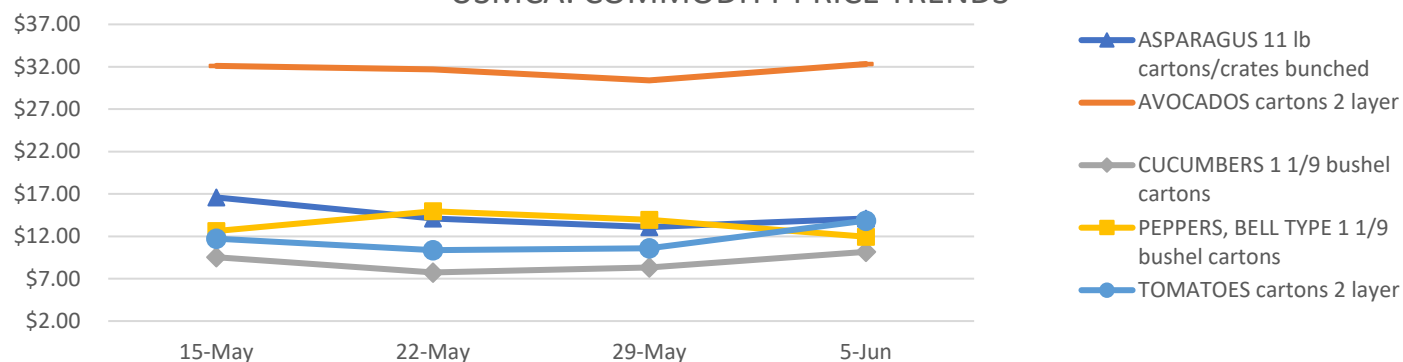
Tomato movement from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected about the same with early trading moderate and active later. Prices were higher with good demand for all sizes and supplies of several sizes in too few hands to establish a market. Most present shipments are from prior bookings or previous commitments. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was active at higher prices. Demand for round tomatoes has continued to increase. This will be the last report of the season for the growing area. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossing through Otay Mesa is expected to continue to increase seasonally. Trading was active on light supplies at higher prices due to less competition from other growing areas. Central District California movement is expected to increase seasonally as light harvest has begun. Current supplies are in too few hands to establish a market. Florida West and South Carolina District movement is expected to increase. Trading and demand were moderate with prices generally unchanged but growers reporting both labor and truck shortages resulting in delays in packing and late pickups. The last price report has been issued from Central and South Florida as growers have finished for the season and supplies are in too few hands to establish a market. Price reports for tomatoes from both the San Joaquin Valley, California and Arkansas are expected soon as volumes increase in both growing areas.

The following table provides a four-week price trend of the highest traded commodities this week.

Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	15-May	22-May	29-May	5-Jun
ASPARAGUS	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 16.58	\$ 14.08	\$ 13.08	\$ 14.08
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 32.11	\$ 31.68	\$ 30.39	\$ 32.32
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 9.52	\$ 7.74	\$ 8.31	\$ 10.16
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 12.62	\$ 14.95	\$ 13.95	\$ 11.95
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 11.74	\$ 10.37	\$ 10.60	\$ 13.85

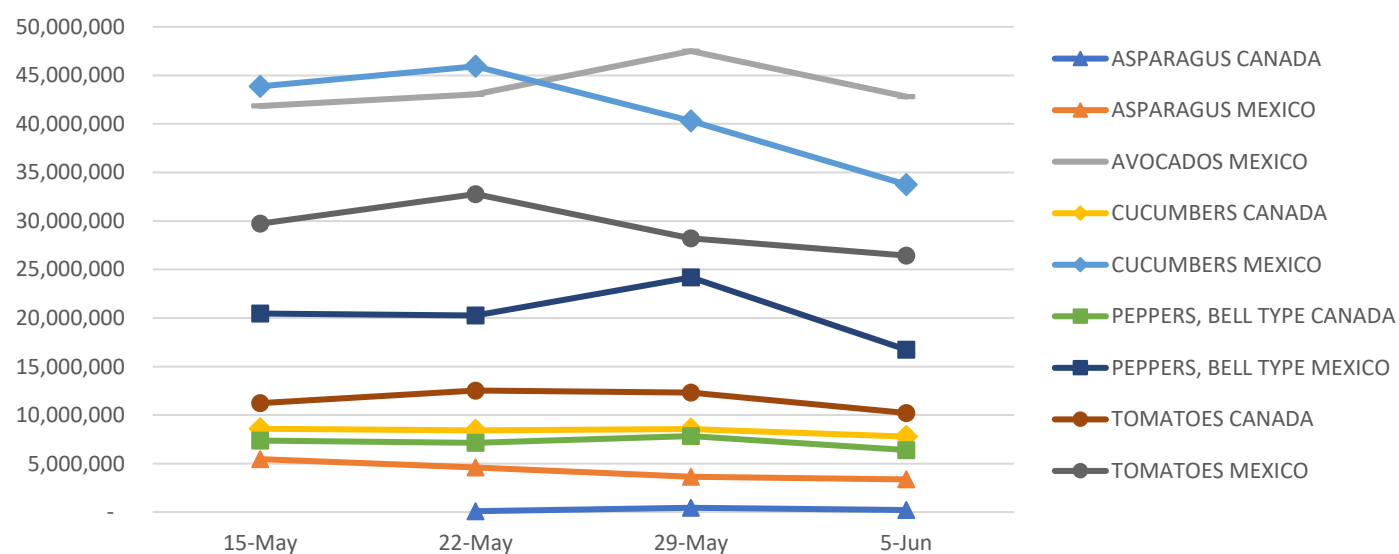
USMCA: COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS



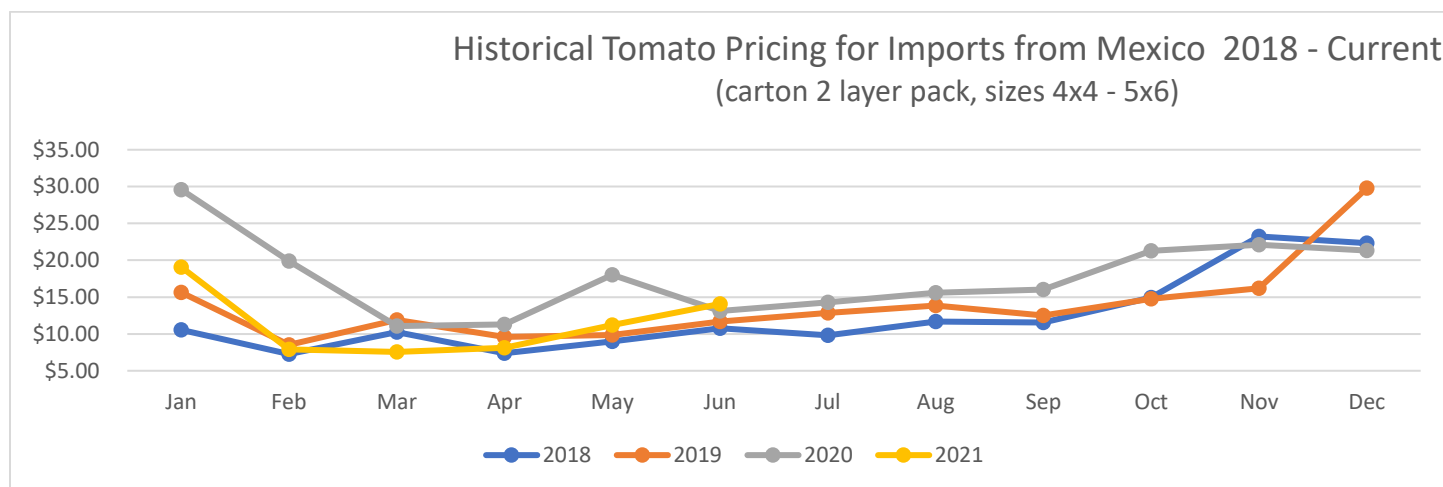
Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	15-May	22-May	29-May	5-Jun
ASPARAGUS	CANADA		93,212	444,469	216,645
	MEXICO	5,457,317	4,593,557	3,649,979	3,366,667
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	41,844,862	43,032,573	47,507,507	42,824,393
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	8,584,477	8,418,714	8,560,115	7,779,743
	MEXICO	43,860,091	45,932,547	40,321,707	33,752,876
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	7,366,344	7,132,318	7,831,186	6,394,111
	MEXICO	20,454,472	20,258,494	24,183,754	16,734,618
TOMATOES	CANADA	11,238,707	12,527,448	12,303,779	10,211,733
	MEXICO	29,733,151	32,768,767	28,199,577	26,430,690

USMCA: COMMODITY MOVEMENT TRENDS



The following chart, *Historical Tomato Pricing for Imports from Mexico*, is a four-year view of Mexican tomato prices at shipping point. Tomatoes are shown as they are the most consistently traded year-round. They have the highest volume of product moving between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, along with a high level of market coverage of tomatoes by USDA Market News.



To be regarded as "seasonal and perishable," agricultural products must meet the following conditions: (1) the products are fresh or chilled products falling under the following HS2002 tariff codes: 0701, 0702, 0703, 0704, 0705, 0706, 0707, 0708, 0709, 0803, 0804, 0805, 0806, 0807, 0808, 0809, 0810; (2) the products are marketed in raw form for consumption without "further processing" ("further processing" refers to e.g. crushing, juicing, canning, or any other process that transforms the product from its raw form); and (3) the products normally are marketed within eight weeks after harvesting.

For information on the imported volume and prices of the remaining Seasonal and Perishable commodities listed below please visit: <https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home>

- Potatoes
- Tomatoes
- Onions, shallots, garlic, leeks, and other alliaceous vegetables
- Cabbages, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale, and similar edible brassicas
- Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and chicory (*Cichorium* spp.)
- Carrots, turnips, salad beets (salad beetroot), salsify, celeriac, radishes, and similar edible roots
- Cucumbers, including gherkins
- Leguminous vegetables, shelled or unshelled
- Other vegetables, fresh or chilled: asparagus, eggplants, celery, mushrooms and truffles, peppers (*Capsicum* or of the genus *Pimenta*), spinach, artichokes, olives, pumpkins, squash, and gourds
- Bananas and plantains
- Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, guavas, mangoes, and mangosteens
- Citrus fruit
- Grapes
- Melons (including watermelons) and papayas (papaws)
- Apples, pears, and quinces
- Apricots, cherries, peaches (including nectarines), plums (including prune plums) and sloes
- Other fruit: strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, loganberries, black, white, or red currants and gooseberries (other than kiwifruit), cranberries, blueberries, and other fruits of the genus *Vaccinium*, kiwifruit, durians, persimmons,
- Other berries; tamarinds