



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

Agricultural Marketing Service

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Update for Week of January 2 - 8, 2022

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 the holidays have passed, grower-shippers in most regions are seeing a slight easing of the dramatic truck rate increases of the past few weeks. However, rates remain historically high and continue to rise out of most growing areas. A winter storm snarled transportation along much of the East Coast early in the week, including shutting down and stranding motorists and truck drivers alike on Interstate 95, the main north-south artery through the region, for more than 24 hours in some cases. The post-holiday surge of the Omicron variant has arrived as predicted, with virus rates in many locations higher than have been seen since the beginning of the pandemic. Many wholesale markets are reporting multiple cases among sales and warehouse employees, while shipping point employees are largely back to working remotely from home whenever possible.

Mexican avocado crossings through Texas are expected to decrease slightly. Trading was fairly slow. Prices on 48s higher and others generally unchanged. Trading was limited due to high prices and high freight rates. Shippers report continued difficulty in finding trucks to move product as supplies replenish with the resumption of harvest after the holidays. Supplies of larger sizes continue to be light.

Mexican blueberry crossings through Arizona, California, and Texas movement expected to increase. Trading was moderate early and active later at higher prices as Mexican blueberries gained strength in the market. Quality and condition reported as variable. Movement of Chilean imports of blueberries via boat through both various East Coast and West Coast ports of entry is expected to increase as harvesting increases in Chile, with current supplies in too few hands to establish a market for both coasts. The first F.O.B. price report is expected within the next week. Some shippers report Chile has sent more of its crop than usual to Europe to avoid competition with Peruvian berries. There are also reports of labor shortages at Chilean ports due to the pandemic limiting shipments. Movement of Peruvian imports of blueberries arriving through both the Philadelphia and New York City areas and through Southern California ports via boat is expected to decrease as the season nears its end. Trading was active for light supplies. Prices for conventional pints were higher and others unchanged. Quality is reported as generally good for this late in the season.

Cucumber movement from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase. Trading fairly slow early and moderate later. Prices on 36s were generally unchanged, others higher. Supplies remain fairly heavy with fairly

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.](#)

light to moderate demand as buyers purchase only what is needed to fill orders. Movement and F.O.B. prices continue to be impacted by the truck shortage and by high freight rates. Movement of Mexican cucumber crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was slow early and moderate later with light demand. Prices generally unchanged, with quality reported as variable. Cucumbers out of Central and South Florida supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. The last report has been issued as most Florida shippers have finished for the season. Movement of cucumbers via boat out of Central America into South Florida ports expected to increase slightly but remain light and sporadic due to competition from competing areas' production lasting longer than usual this year. Import movement is being curtailed as a result. Trading was very slow and no F.O.B. price report is currently being issued as supplies out of Honduras are insufficient to quote, though quality is reported as generally good.

Green bell peppers from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona movement expected about the same. Trading was active at higher prices. Demand moderate overall but improving on green bell peppers due to lower volumes. Movement and prices continue to be impacted by the truck shortage and high freight rates. Movement of green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase slightly as truck availability is expected to improve. Trading was moderate at much higher prices. Demand good despite rising truck rates, as yields of most Florida produce remain lighter than usual due to recent cool temperatures. Movement of green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley, California is expected to decrease sharply as most shippers are finished for the season. Trading was slow with supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. The last report has been issued, with light shipments expected to continue through the weekend. Movement of Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was slow early and moderate later with prices lower to much lower. Quality reported as variable. Most shipments are for colored bell peppers.

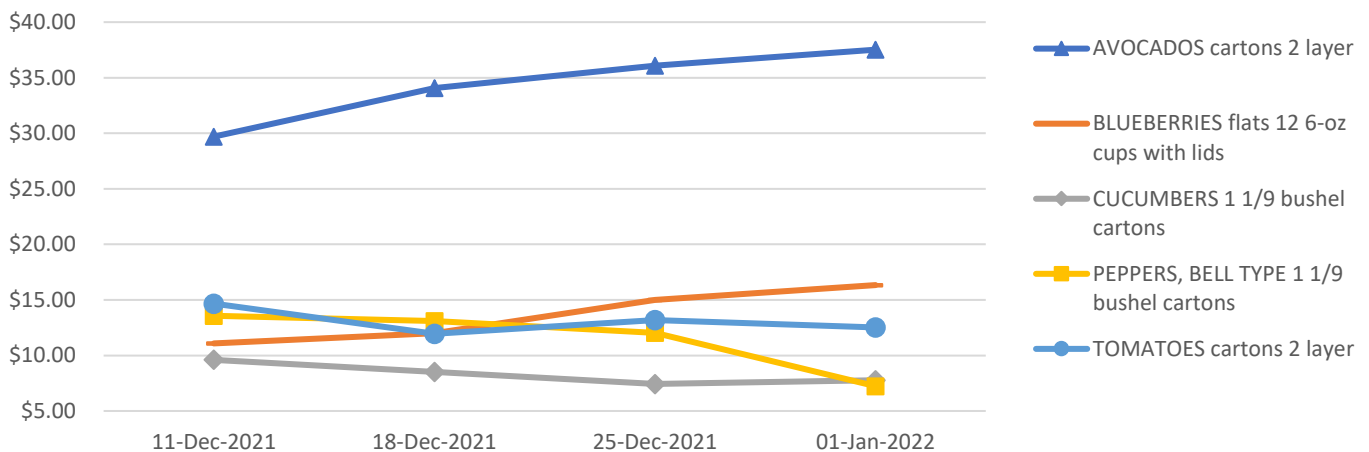
Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase slightly in South Florida, while Central Florida supplies are expected to decrease within the next two weeks as the harvest comes to an end. Trading moderate with prices generally unchanged. Truck availability continues to improve, although at higher rates. Demand improved slightly as cool temperatures have affected crop maturity throughout Florida. Movement of Mexico tomato crossings through Texas expected to increase slightly. Trading was slow early and active later. Prices higher despite light demand, with quality reported as generally good. High truck rates continue to affect movement and F.O.B. prices. Movement of Mexican tomatoes crossing through Nogales Arizona expected to increase seasonally. Trading active early and moderate later. Prices lower with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Demand moderate to fairly good, with larger sizes in more demand than smaller sizes. Quality is reported as generally good, with movement and prices impacted by the truck shortage and high freight rates.

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	11-Dec-2021	18-Dec-2021	25-Dec-2021	01-Jan-2022
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 29.70	\$ 34.07	\$ 36.07	\$ 37.52
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 11.08	\$ 12.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 16.33
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 9.60	\$ 8.52	\$ 7.43	\$ 7.77
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 13.57	\$ 13.10	\$ 12.04	\$ 7.23
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 14.66	\$ 11.95	\$ 13.18	\$ 12.52

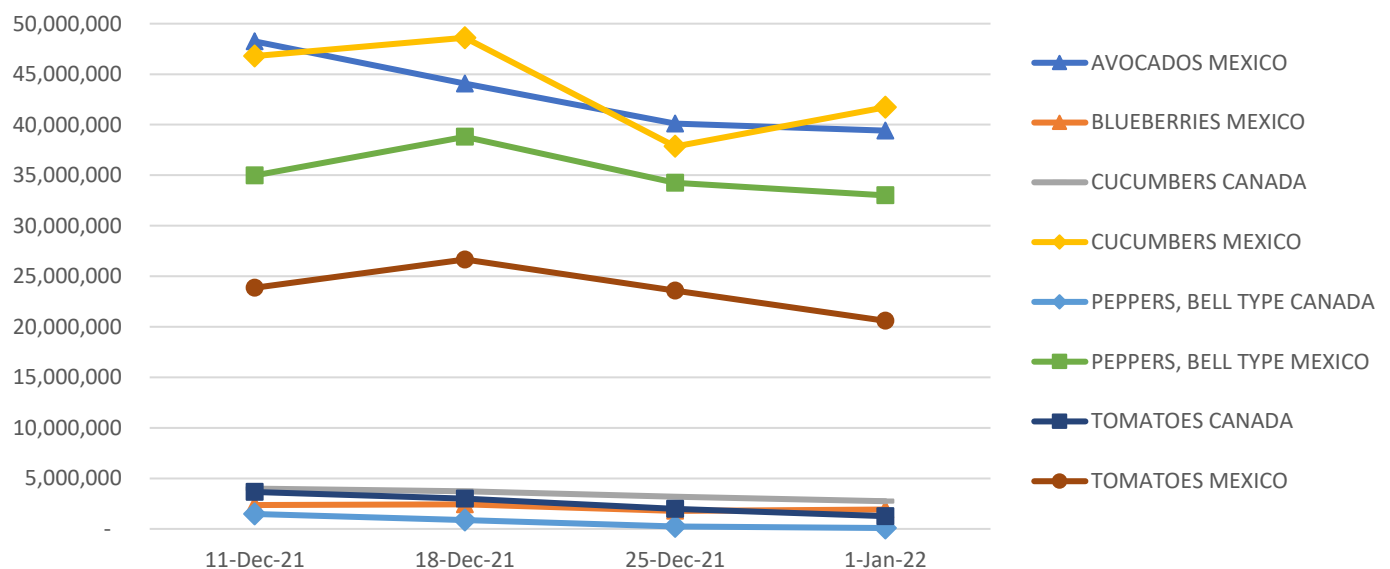
USMCA: COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS



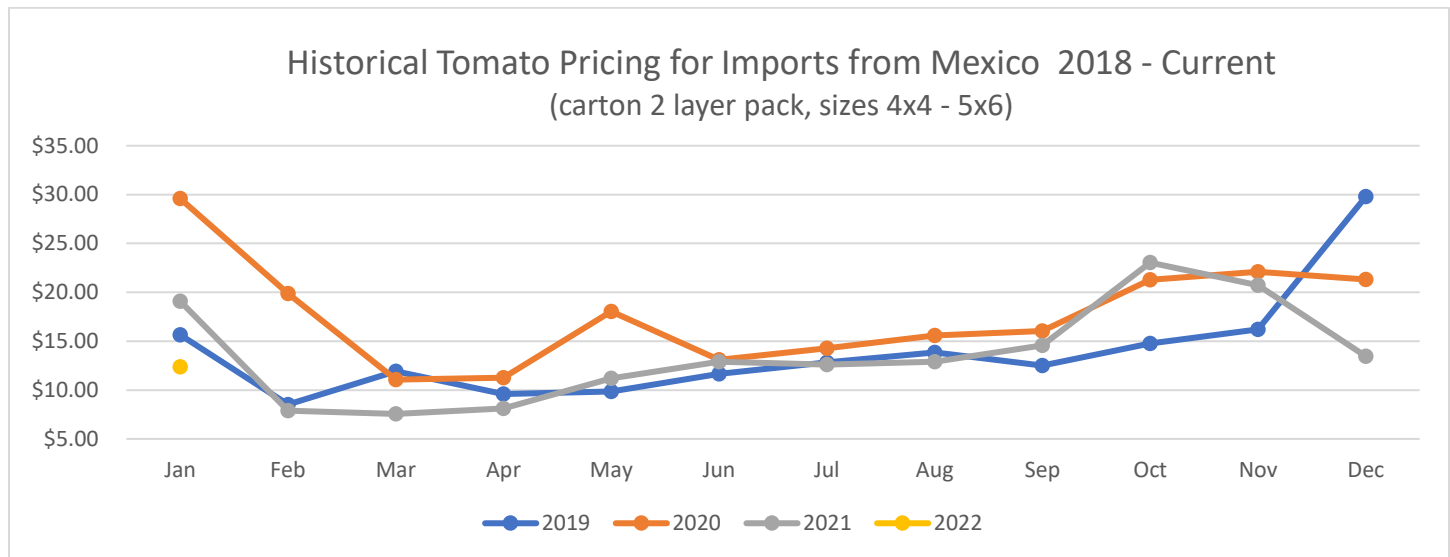
Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	11-Dec-21	18-Dec-21	25-Dec-21	1-Jan-22
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	48,245,088	44,060,916	40,110,624	39,414,967
BLUEBERRIES	MEXICO	2,370,677	2,429,987	1,779,474	1,928,496
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	3,987,877	3,728,495	3,195,855	2,739,967
	MEXICO	46,788,108	48,609,186	37,847,149	41,716,279
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	1,476,449	869,069	240,861	86,686
	MEXICO	34,988,712	38,798,269	34,253,175	33,004,877
TOMATOES	CANADA	3,652,795	2,999,425	1,980,534	1,259,504
	MEXICO	23,851,043	26,660,870	23,583,985	20,592,607

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 alliacious 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