



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 May 1 - 7, 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.

Yet another week of significant increases at the fuel pump has grower-shippers scrambling to cover the costs of transporting their goods to consumers. The weekly U.S. Energy Information Administration Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Update showed a 34.9 cent increase over last week's nationwide average fuel price, the third largest weekly increase since 1994, and the first and second place increases have both taken place within the past two months as well. Now that it is becoming ever clearer that the conflict in Ukraine will not be resolved in the short term, forecasters expect inflation and prices increases to continue. Consumers feeling the pinch on their budgets may turn even more away from perceived luxuries and toward the necessities.

Movement of Mexican asparagus crossing through Arizona, California and Texas expected to increase. Trading was active at higher prices, with most orders being booked at previously committed prices and very few spot market sales. Movement of Peru asparagus through South Florida ports of entry expected to increase seasonally. Trading fairly active at higher prices. Vessel delays continue, keeping supplies relatively light. Trucks are short and with the Mother's Day ad pull over, few new sales are being reported as many buyers are willing to wait for production to start next week out of Michigan, New Jersey, and Canada. Movement of asparagus out of Walla Walla District and Lower Yakima Valley Washington expected to increase slightly but remain light. The first F.O.B. price report expected by May 9. Wide temperature swings and windy conditions have slowed crop progress and delayed harvest from previous estimates. Quality so far is reported as generally good.

Mexican avocado crossings through Texas are expected to increase slightly. Trading was fairly slow at lower prices. Cinco de Mayo demand is over, and shippers are well supplied for the most part, with demand and prices decreasing day by day throughout the week. Avocado movement from Southern California expected to decrease slightly. Trading was moderate with prices on conventional lower, organic higher. Demand slowing throughout the week same as the Mexican market, but shippers report steady movement on most sizes.

Cucumbers crossings from Mexico through Nogales, Arizona movement are expected to decrease seasonally. Trading moderate with prices long seedless higher, others much lower. Supplies heavy. Buying slow due to lack of demand and to market conditions in Mexico, though shippers are hopeful prices can rebound in the near future. Quality is reported

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.](#)

as variable. Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas expected about the same. Trading was fairly slow at much lower prices. Demand moderate, with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Cucumbers from Central and South Florida movement expected to remain about the same. Trading waxed moderate. Prices much lower. Demand overall moderate to fairly good throughout the week. Mexico crossings of cucumbers through Otay Mesa movement expected to increase seasonally. Current supplies in too few hands to establish a market, with the first F.O.B. price report expected the week of May 15. Quality is reported as generally good. The first report has been issued for cucumbers out of South Georgia, with a few shippers expected to begin harvest by the week ending May 7th. No F.O.B. price report is being issued at this time.

Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona expected to decrease seasonally. Trading on green fairly slow at much lower prices. Current quality is reported as generally good but will be something to watch as the season nears its end due to increasing temperatures in growing areas. Prices reflect these quality concerns as well and are expected to continue to decrease. Movement of green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida expected about the same. Trading moderate with prices jumbo and extra-large lower, fair quality much lower. Demand ranged from moderate to fairly light throughout the week on fairly light supplies. A wide range in quality is reported. Movement of green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California expected to increase seasonally. Trading fairly active early, moderate later. Prices large slightly lower, others lower. Quality is reported as variable.

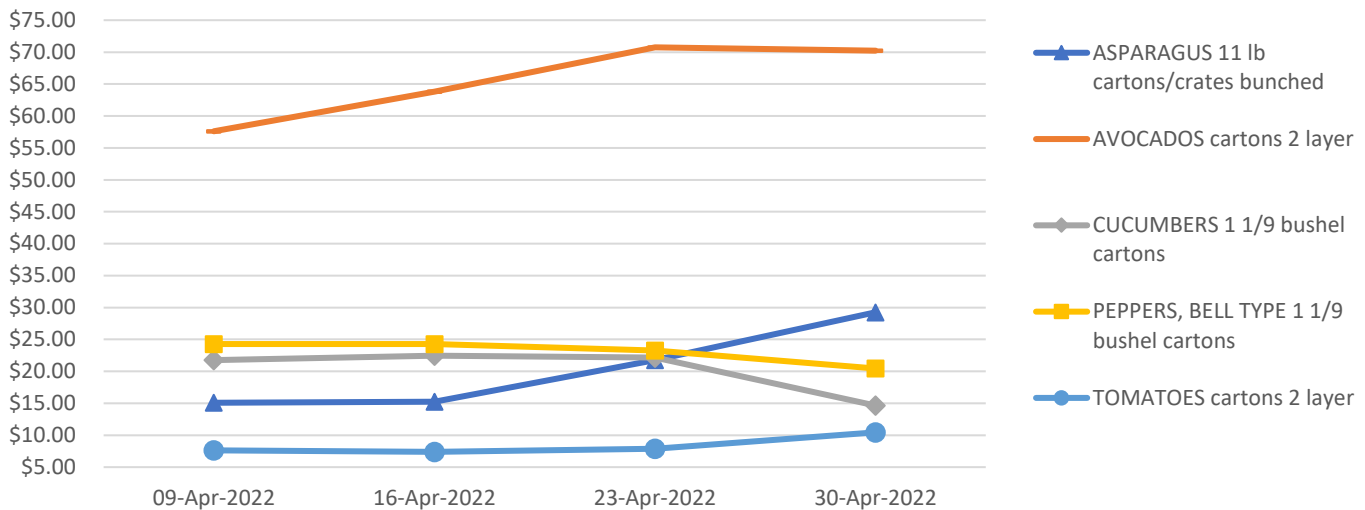
Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida expected to increase. Trading moderate with prices 5x6 size generally unchanged, others lower. Demand and trading moderate but expected to increase by the end of the week. Supplies continue to increase out of Central Florida. Truck shortage and high truck rates continue to curtail some shipping on all tomato varieties. Quality reported as generally good. Movement of Mexico tomatoes crossing through Texas expected about the same. Trading early active, later moderate. Prices 5x5 size slightly higher, 5x6 size generally unchanged, others much higher. Quality reported as generally good. Movement of Mexican tomatoes crossing through Nogales, Arizona expected to decrease seasonally. Supplies 4x4-4x5s light with active trading. Trading 5x5-5x6s moderate. Prices 5x6s lower, others slightly higher. Most being packed in cartons 2-layers vine ripens, with 25-pound cartons loose packed to order only. Larger sized volumes remain light at higher prices, with supplies of smaller sizes heavier at lower prices.

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	09-Apr-2022	16-Apr-2022	23-Apr-2022	30-Apr-2022
ASPARAGUS	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 15.08	\$ 15.25	\$ 21.75	\$ 29.25
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 57.61	\$ 63.82	\$ 70.75	\$ 70.25
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 21.75	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.15	\$ 14.65
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 24.28	\$ 24.28	\$ 23.28	\$ 20.45
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 7.61	\$ 7.40	\$ 7.89	\$ 10.45

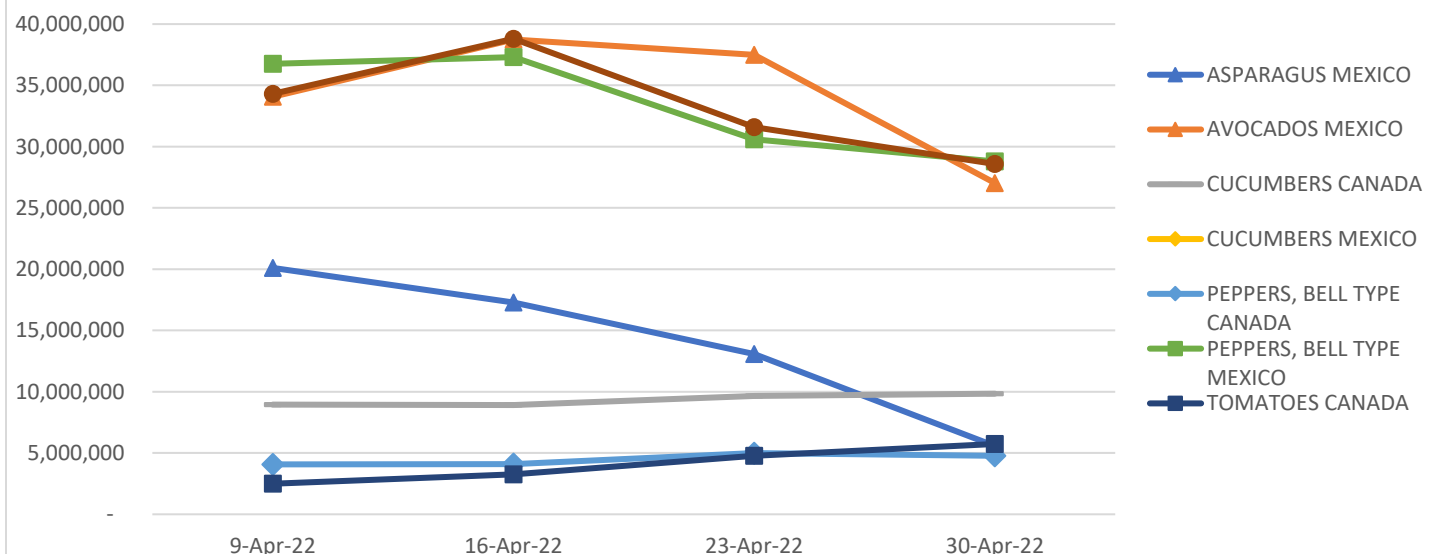
USMCA: COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS



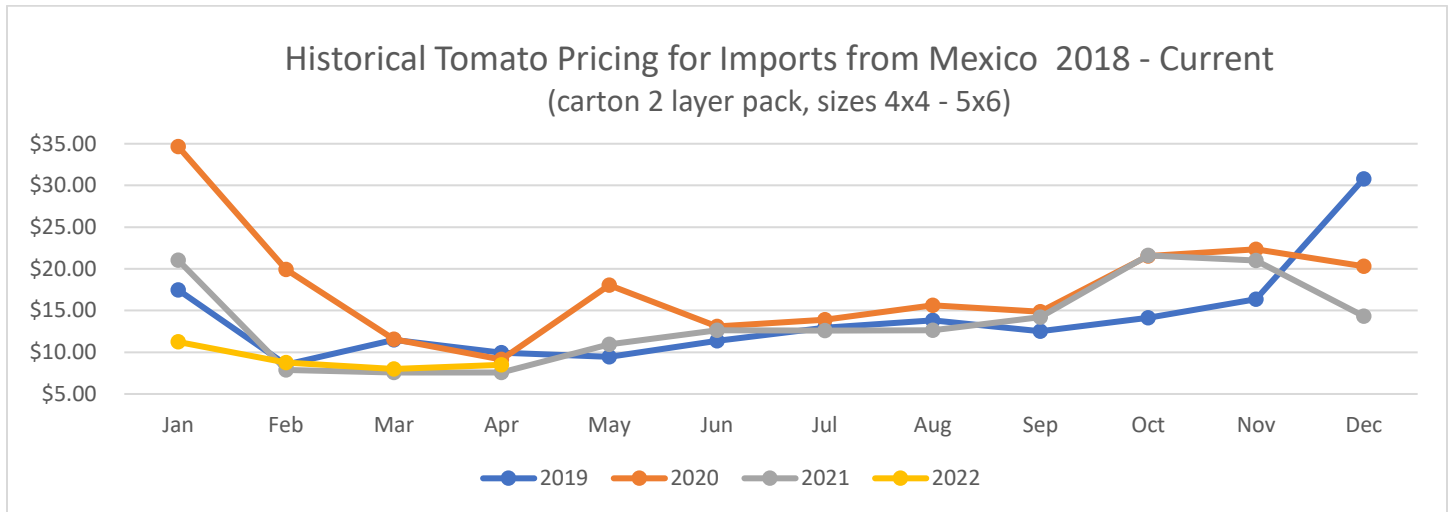
Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	9-Apr-22	16-Apr-22	23-Apr-22	30-Apr-22
ASPARAGUS	MEXICO	20,105,473	17,271,718	13,066,754	5,572,186
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	34,075,576	38,739,769	37,485,080	27,031,494
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	8,947,575	8,915,294	9,651,938	9,842,344
	MEXICO	42,543,280	47,156,791	43,663,326	44,788,922
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	4,073,360	4,102,834	4,996,167	4,775,418
	MEXICO	36,758,448	37,304,160	30,587,252	28,793,129
TOMATOES	CANADA	2,495,778	3,268,127	4,772,077	5,737,963
	MEXICO	34,311,498	38,803,584	31,579,890	28,585,404

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