



# 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 June 19 - 25, 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.

The month of May saw many ports recording record numbers of imports as last year's unloading backlogs and arrival delays have largely been resolved. The Port of Los Angeles, the nation's busiest, saw its third-highest volume on record, while the Port of Oakland, the Northwest Seaport Alliance (covering Seattle and Tacoma), Port Houston, and the Ports of Savannah, Charleston, and Virginia likewise reported record numbers including some all-time records. Many of these ports have spent the last year or more focused on increasing capacity and especially on improving facilities to better accommodate ever-larger modern vessels.

Movement of Peruvian asparagus through South Florida ports of entry expected to remain about the same this week before increasing slightly next week for the July 4 retail promotional ad pull. Trading jumbo active, extra-large fairly active, others moderate. Prices standard higher and others much higher. Supplies of white remain in too few hands to establish a market; supplies jumbo and extra-large green also very light, others moderate. Production continues to shift to northern Peru. Demand for the European market remains strong on larger sizes. Demand has improved to moderate to good due to short supplies and decreasing competition from domestic growing areas. Movement of Mexican asparagus crossing through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading standard size moderate, others fairly active. Prices higher as supplies have tightened up and the market is strengthening, but most shipments continue to be booked at previously committed prices. Movement of asparagus from Michigan expected to decrease seasonally. Trading active at higher prices.

Mexican avocado crossings through Texas are expected to remain about the same. Trading very active at higher prices representing few open market sales. Growers waiting to harvest some new crop fruit until the dry-matter percentage is more consistent. Volumes currently light with demand exceeding available supplies. The first report has been issued on Peru imports of avocados through ports of entry in the Philadelphia and New York City areas. The first F.O.B. price report was also issued this week. Avocado movement from Southern California expected to decrease. Trading was very active at higher prices. Demand good as growers continue to harvest heavily.

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas expected about the same. Trading early was moderate increasing to active at much higher prices. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Mexico crossings of cucumbers through Otay Mesa, California movement expected to increase seasonally. Trading early moderate and very active later for light supplies expected to increase to a peak this week. Prices slightly higher to higher with very good demand as quality out of the region is reported as good and competing growing areas finish for

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the season. Movement in South Georgia expected to decrease as hot weather and lack of rain affect local growing conditions. Trading moderate with prices generally unchanged. Quality is being reported as generally good. Cucumber crossings from Mexico through Nogales, Arizona expected to decrease sharply as the season comes to an end. Trading moderate early and active later with prices medium much higher and others higher due to light supplies. Most sales being made to nearby customers to fulfill local commitments due to end of season variable quality and condition. Movement of cucumbers from Eastern North Carolina is expected about the same. Trading fairly active at higher prices. The first report has been issued for cucumbers out of Western North Carolina, with movement expected to begin within the next week. No F.O.B. price report is currently being issued.

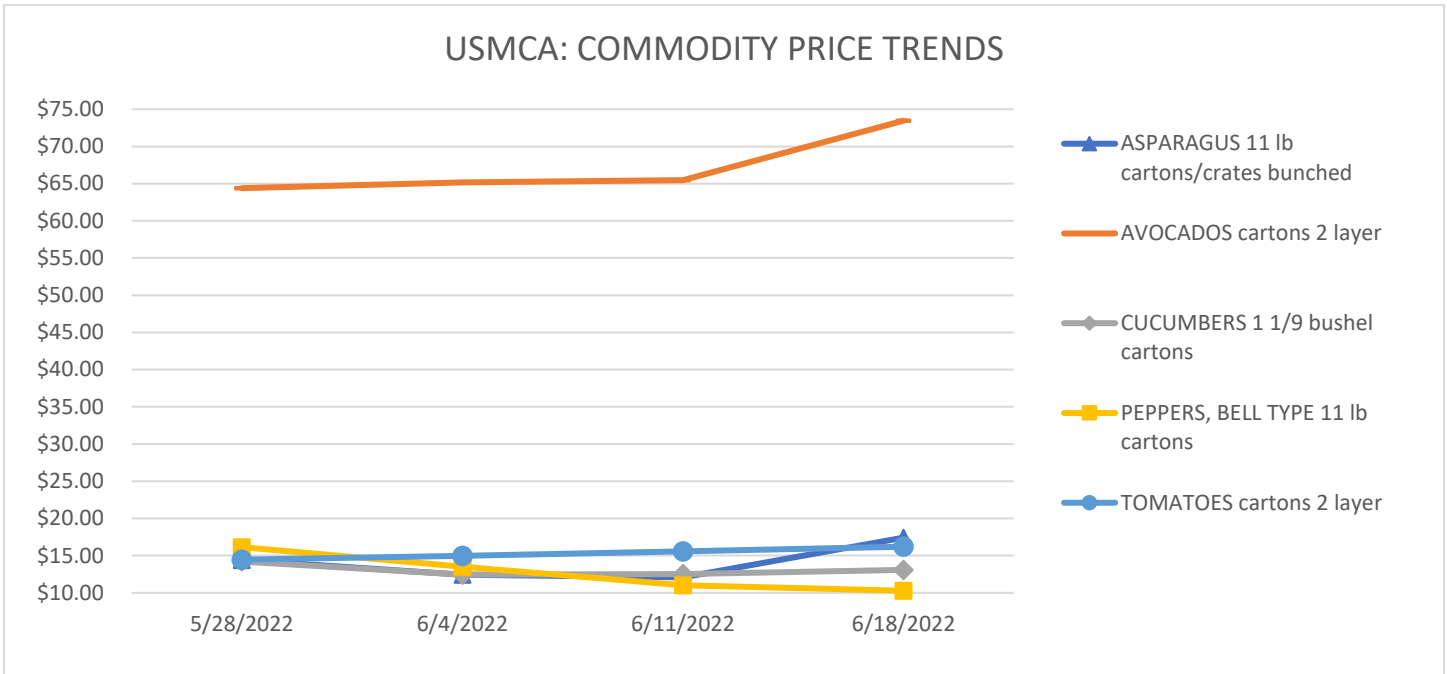
South Georgia movement of green bell peppers is expected to remain about the same. Growers are watching the weather, with heat and dry weather potentially bringing the vegetable growing season to an early end. Trading moderate with prices on large steady and others higher. Quality reported as generally good. Volumes of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California expected to increase seasonally. Trading reported as fairly active with prices generally unchanged. Demand fairly good as more shippers have begun harvest on green bell peppers. Quality is being reported as generally good. Movement of green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California expected to decrease seasonally as most shippers have finished and are transitioning into new growing areas. Most remaining supplies are for red bell peppers. Trading active at slightly lower prices and quality is reported as variable. Light movement out of Eastern North Carolina has been reported and is expected to increase seasonally. The first report has been issued, but no F.O.B. price report is currently being issued.

Tomatoes out of Florida West and South Carolina District movement expected to slightly decrease as growers in both states begin to finish for the season within the next week. Trading and demand moderate at lower prices remaining steady through the week. Quality reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active early and moderate later. Prices 5x6s slightly lower, others generally unchanged. Quality reported as generally good. Tomato crossings from Mexico through Nogales, Arizona movement expected to decrease sharply. Trading moderate at slightly lower prices. Supplies are in few hands and crossings are getting lighter by the day. Quality remains generally good, and product is moving well for this time of year. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California expected to increase seasonally. Supplies 5x5-5x6s light. Trading active at slightly lower prices, with smaller sizes moving slightly better than larger. Demand decreased to moderate by midweek as volumes increased due to more shippers getting underway. The first report has been issued for tomatoes out of Central District California, with movement expected to increase seasonally. Trading active on light supplies, with demand and prices lower by mid-week. The first F.O.B. price report has been issued. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Southeastern Arkansas expected to increase slightly. The first F.O.B. price report has been issued. Trading fairly active and demand fairly good at slightly higher prices.

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

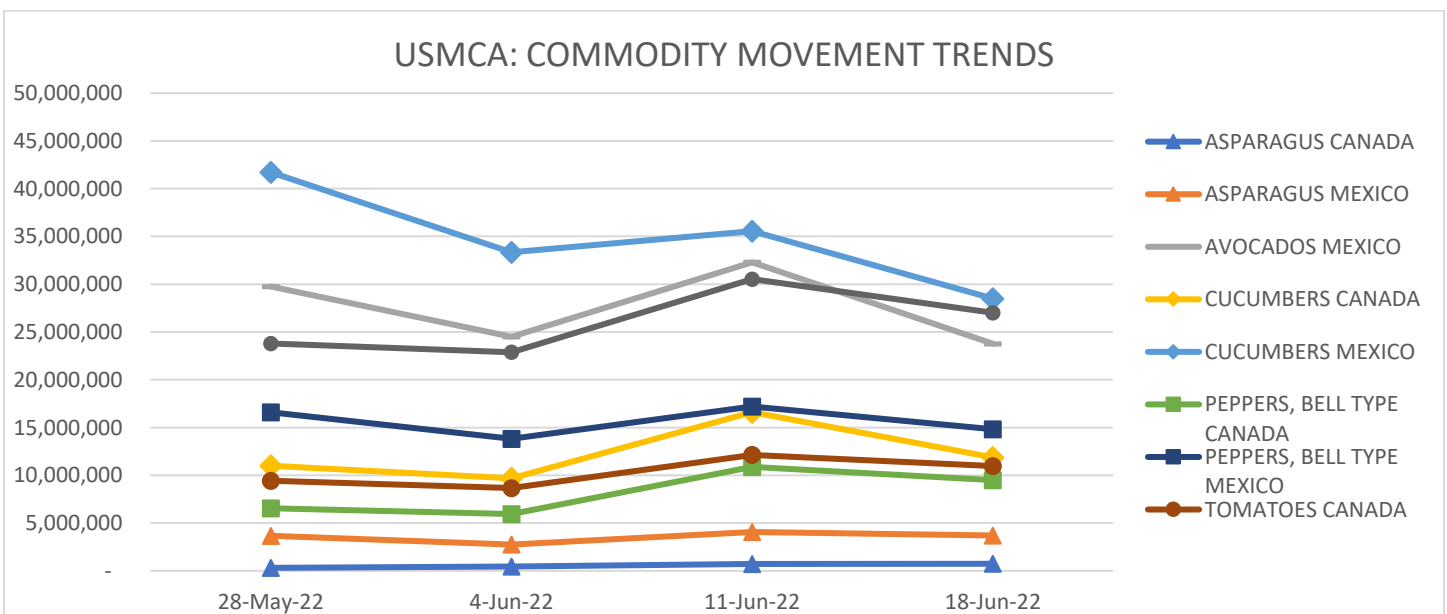
#### Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	5/28/2022	6/4/2022	6/11/2022	6/18/2022
ASPARAGUS	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 14.42	\$ 12.42	\$ 12.08	\$ 17.42
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 64.39	\$ 65.18	\$ 65.46	\$ 73.46
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 14.20	\$ 12.45	\$ 12.52	\$ 13.09
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb. cartons	\$ 16.14	\$ 13.50	\$ 11.00	\$ 10.29
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 14.46	\$ 14.96	\$ 15.56	\$ 16.20

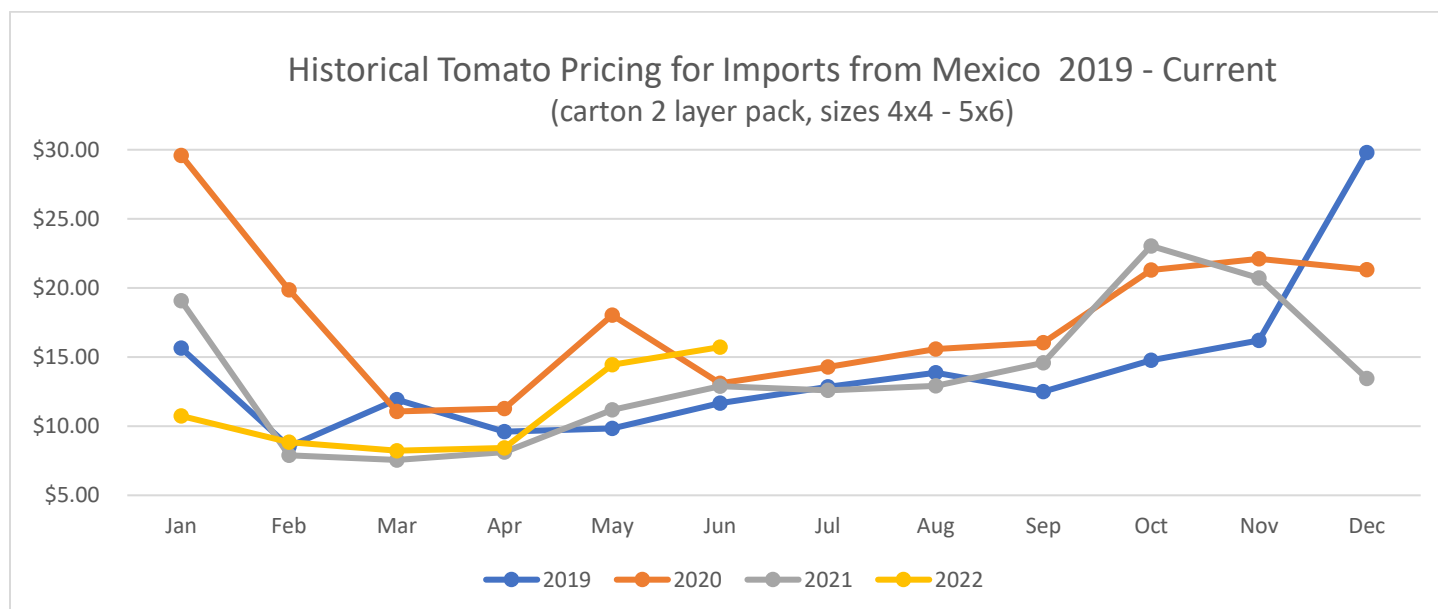


### Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	28-May-22	4-Jun-22	11-Jun-22	18-Jun-22
ASPARAGUS	CANADA	314,125	449,556	733,756	737,586
	MEXICO	3,655,262	2,749,257	4,064,377	3,691,391
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	29,771,885	24,501,095	32,290,770	23,768,421
	CANADA	11,011,607	9,682,870	16,602,144	11,860,010
CUCUMBERS	MEXICO	41,712,360	33,344,481	35,536,053	28,499,175
	CANADA	6,538,773	5,945,577	10,878,935	9,503,648
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	MEXICO	16,595,525	13,822,512	17,198,517	14,818,375
	CANADA	9,432,765	8,667,071	12,126,722	10,954,316
TOMATOES	MEXICO	23,781,127	22,875,699	30,531,799	27,025,494



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