



# 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 August 14-20, 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.

As the new school year begins and students return to the classroom, families can't help but notice all the changes that are happening all around them. Families are paying more for everyday items such as back-to-school supplies, clothes, shoes, and transportation costs just to name a few. According to the National Retail Federation, most families are expected to spend \$864 on back-to-school supplies, up \$15 from last year and up \$167 from 2019. As inflation lingers on, most Americans have tough decisions to make. Most people concentrate on items related to school and pay little to no attention to produce or any other tangible items. This puts the produce industry in a tough situation with trying to move product in any way possible. This is the time of year, that is extremely hard for the produce industry because it is the peak of produce season in most parts of the country. There are a lot of local deals going on and backyard gardens are full of vegetables and fruits. The prices that locals offer is very reasonable with plenty of supplies available for the public. Welcome to "the dog days of summer".

Movement of blueberries through Oregon and Washington is expected about the same. Trading early fairly slow, late moderate with prices slightly higher. Prices on flats 12 1-pint cups with lids medium-large are mostly 15.50-18.50 and 12 6-ounce cups mostly 10.50-12.50. Quality generally good. Blueberries out of Michigan movement is expected to continue a seasonal decline as most growers are finished for the season. Most present shipments are from prior commitments. Trading is slow and prices are lower. Wide range in quality is being reported. Crossings of blueberries from British Columbia Canada through Northwest Washington movement is expected to decrease as harvest has passed its peak. Trading early fairly slow, late moderate with prices slightly higher. All sales are reported in U.S. dollars. Peru imports through various West Coast ports of entry movement is expected to increase as the 2022 crop harvesting season begins. A first report was issued this week. Peru imports through various East Coast ports of entry movement is expected to increase as the 2022 crop harvesting season gets fully underway. A first F.O.B report is expected to be issued this week.

Avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas movement are expected to increase. Trading remains slow except for 84s. Prices on 84s are higher, 70s generally unchanged, others lower. Extra services are also included. Peruvian imports of avocados through Philadelphia and New York City ports of entry movement expected to remain about the same. Trading remains moderate but moving at lower prices. Cartons 2 layers 32s and 36s are mostly 14.00-15.00, 40s are mostly 16.00-20.00 and 48s are mostly 24.00-28.00.

Cucumber crossings from Mexico through Otay Mesa, California movement is expected about the same. Trading early slow, late moderate with prices slightly higher on all sizes. Quality generally good. Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading remains active due to light supplies. Prices on medium slightly higher and large higher. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality

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

variable. Cucumber movement out of Michigan is expected about the same. Trading early active, late fairly active with prices generally unchanged from the previous week. Movement of cucumbers from Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Supplies remain light. Currently, no F.O.B. price is being issued.

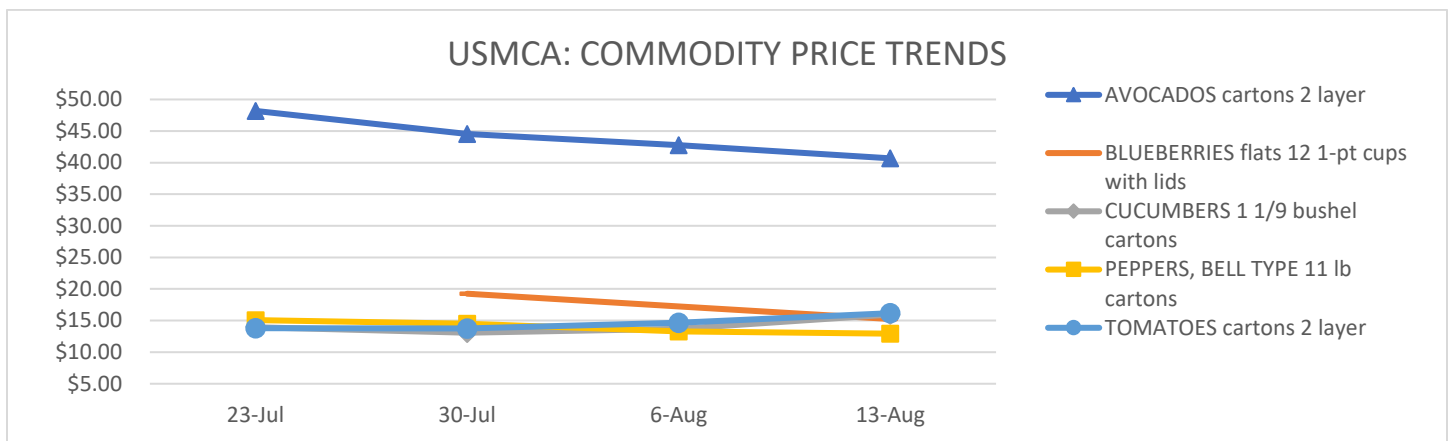
Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected about the same. Trading is active, but prices are lower. Jumbo and extra-large are between 15.95-16.95 and irregular size are mostly 12.95-14.95. Quality is generally good. Movement of green bell peppers out of Michigan is expected to increase as more growers get fully underway. Supplies remain light. Trading is moderate with prices slightly lower for the week. In Western North Carolina movement is expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate with prices slightly higher. Prices on 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large are between 15.00-16.00 and large are mostly 14.00-15.00.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading remains moderate with prices generally unchanged. Quality is being reported as generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected about the same. Trading is very active with prices on 5x6s slightly higher, others higher. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality generally good. Central District California movement of tomatoes is expected about the same. Trading early active, late very active. Prices on large slightly higher, others generally unchanged. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to increase. Trading is active with prices higher. Supplies continued to be light to very light. Some wet fields are being reported in growing areas and this has helped increase demand and contribute to higher prices. Quality is being reported as generally good. Movement of tomatoes out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia's Eastern Shore is expected to increase. Trading is active, but prices remain generally unchanged. Prices are expected to increase due to very light supplies. A lot lighter supplies are being reported in Virginia's Eastern Shore for the next 7-10 days with fewer growers harvesting. Overall demand is good, and prices are trending higher. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading remains moderate with prices slightly higher. All sizes range between 12.95-16.95. Extra services included.

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

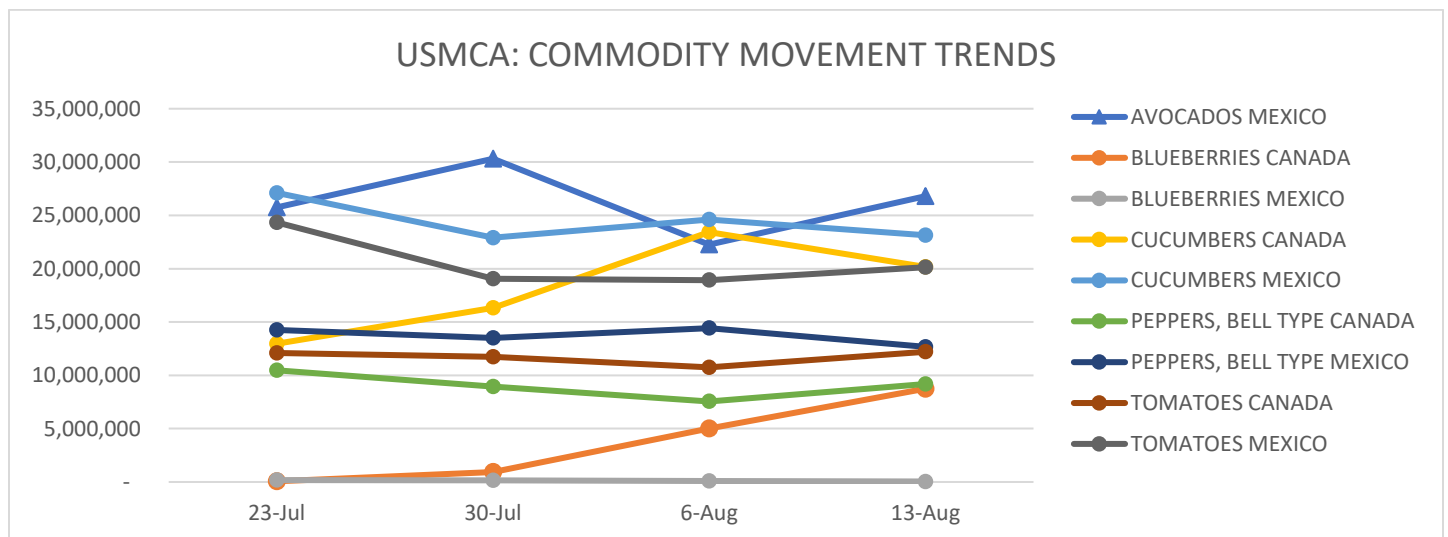
**Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars**

Commodity	Package	23-Jul	30-Jul	6-Aug	13-Aug
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 48.18	\$ 44.54	\$ 42.75	\$ 40.68
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 1-pt cups with lids		\$ 19.25	\$ 17.25	\$ 15.25
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9 bushel cartons	\$ 13.95	\$ 13.08	\$ 13.70	\$ 15.95
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb cartons	\$ 15.07	\$ 14.50	\$ 13.29	\$ 12.93
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 13.82	\$ 13.75	\$ 14.66	\$ 16.16

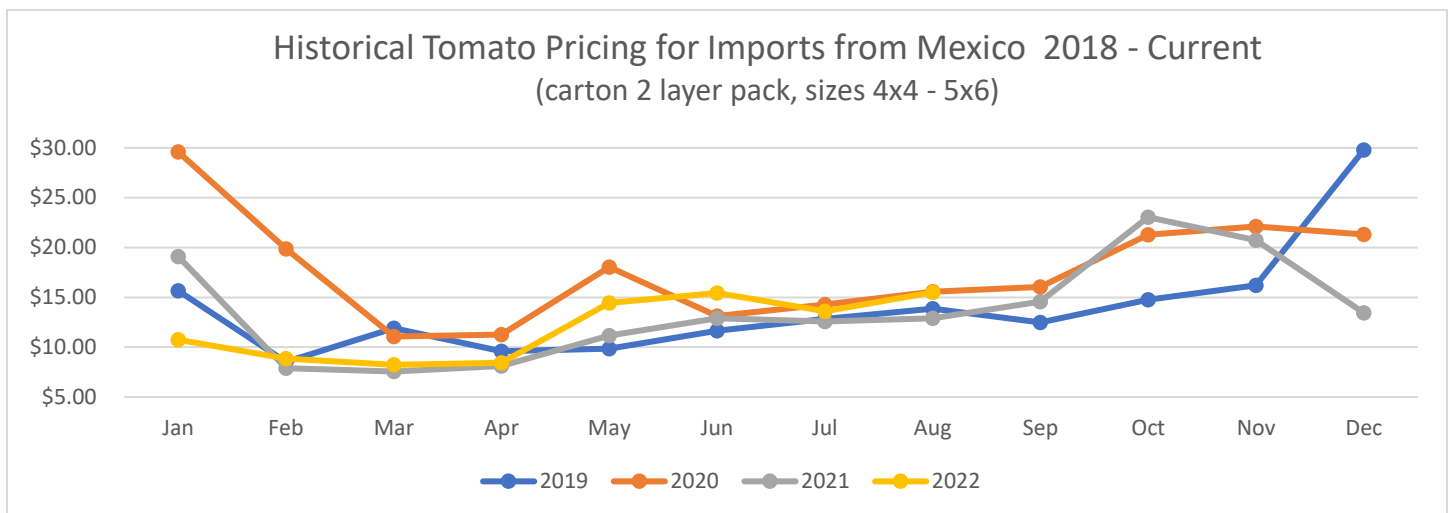


#### Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	23-Jul	30-Jul	6-Aug	13-Aug
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	25,763,120	30,311,299	22,258,424	26,791,406
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	63,594	927,337	5,006,417	8,744,061
	MEXICO	177,532	141,551	83,342	46,094
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	12,965,391	16,337,533	23,428,785	20,178,885
	MEXICO	27,110,384	22,911,155	24,613,149	23,128,886
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	10,472,714	8,942,454	7,549,264	9,174,324
	MEXICO	14,263,078	13,490,457	14,424,326	12,672,665
TOMATOES	CANADA	12,089,563	11,749,809	10,749,525	12,207,930
	MEXICO	24,340,105	19,053,034	18,922,441	20,143,642



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