



# 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 September 4 - 10, 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 this hurricane season gets fully underway, it is surprisingly off to a slow start. Traditionally the month of August has been fairly active in the past, but not this year. Earl, which became the second hurricane of the 2022 Atlantic hurricane season, is forecast to become a major hurricane by Thursday. According to the National Hurricane Center, it is expected to pick up speed in the Atlantic Ocean becoming a Category 3 or higher hurricane. Category 3 hurricanes have sustained winds of 111 mph to 129 mph and can cause significant and devastating damage. In the last three years, at least 13 hurricanes have taken center stage and have destroyed communities and farmland across the country. Hurricanes also bring lasting effects on farmers and their production losses for years to come following the aftermath of a hurricane. Farmers are known for their dedication and commitment to the land they love, but they are also defined by their character when faced with enormous challenges brought by a hurricane. They also know that they are at the mercy of uncontrollable weather and stakes are always high. Every year billions of dollars are lost due to weather related events and devastated communities are left to rebuild.

Movement of blueberries through Oregon and Washington is expected to continue to decrease seasonally. Trading early fairly slow, late moderate. Prices slightly higher. Prices on flats 12 1-pint cups with lids medium-large are mostly 19.00-21.50 and 12 6-ounce cups mostly 13.00-15.50. Quality is generally good. Crossings of blueberries from British Columbia Canada through Northwest Washington movement is expected to decrease seasonally as growers begin to finish the fresh harvest. Trading early fairly slow, late moderate. Prices slightly higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids Canada One medium-large mostly 18.00-19.50. All sales are reported in U.S. dollars. Peru imports through various West Coast ports of entry movement is expected to increase seasonally. Supplies light. Trading active with prices higher. Quality is being reported as mostly good. Peru imports through various East Coast ports of entry movement is expected to increase seasonally. Trading early fairly active, late active. Prices higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large range from 26.00-28.00. Quality is mostly good. Blueberries crossings from Mexico through Arizona, California and Texas movement is expected to increase seasonally. Supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Quality variable. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas movement are expected to increase slightly. Trading is fairly slow, and prices are lower. Prices on 32s are mostly 40.25-42.25 and 36s are mostly 37.25-39.25 all other sizes range from 26.25-30.25. Extra services included. Peruvian imports of avocados through Philadelphia and New York City ports of entry movement expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly slow with prices lower. Supplies are light but prices are steady for the week. Cartons 2 layers 32-40s mostly 12.00-13.00 and 48s are mostly 20.00.

For more information on:

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

Cucumbers crossings from Mexico through Otay Mesa, California movement is expected about the same. Trading early fairly active, late active. Prices large much higher, others higher. Quality is generally good. Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Supplies remain light. Trading is active but prices are lower. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Michigan is expected to continue with a seasonal decline as some growers have finished for the season. Trading is moderate with prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 14.00-16.00 and cartons 24s mostly 6.00-8.00. Movement of cucumber from Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Currently, no F.O.B. report is being issued. Central and South Florida movement is expected to begin within 10-14 days with light supplies. Sufficient volume and number of shippers are expected for the first F.O.B. report by the week of October 2<sup>nd</sup>. A first trend report was issued this week.

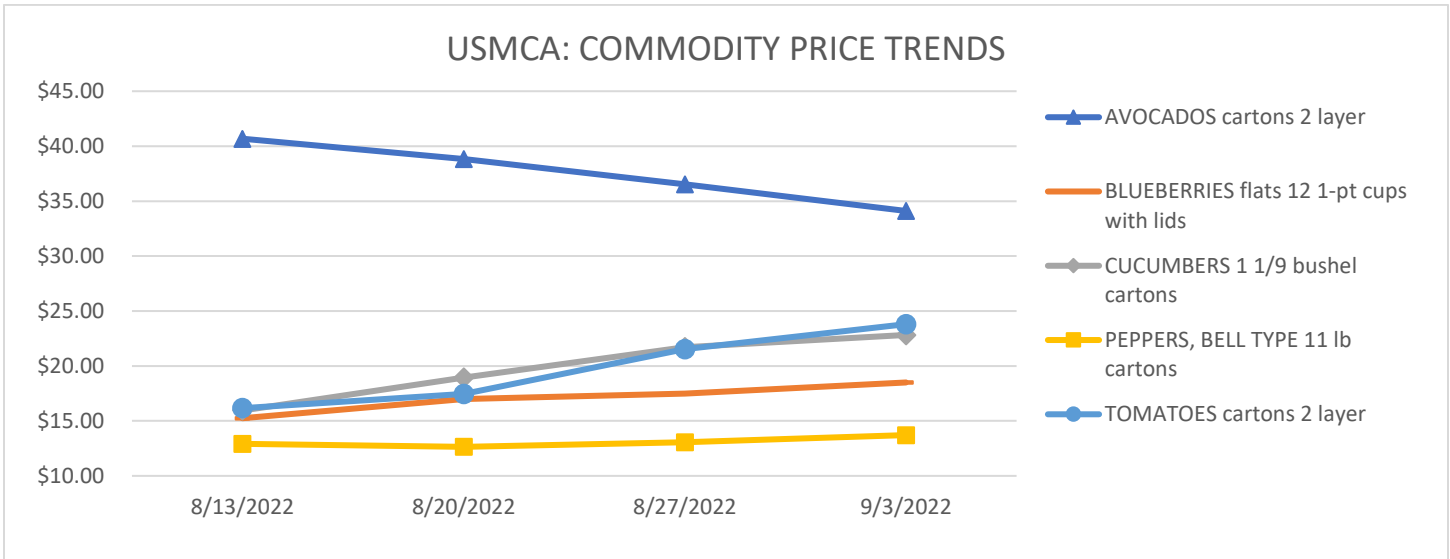
Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected to remain about the same. Trading remains fairly active with prices slightly lower. Overall prices were slightly higher by week's end. Jumbo and extra-large mostly 12.95-13.95 and irregular size are mostly 10.95. Quality is generally good. Movement of green bell peppers out of Michigan is expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active with prices slightly higher. Jumbo and extra-large mostly 14.00-16.00. In Western North Carolina, movement is expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate with prices generally unchanged. Prices on 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large range between 12.00-14.00 and large 10.00-12.00.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading 2-layer active at lower prices and 25-pound cartons loose active. Prices 2-layer lower, loose generally unchanged. Quality is generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to remain about the same. Trading remains active but prices are slightly lower. Quality generally good. Central District California movement of tomatoes is expected to remain about the same. Trading early very active, late fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. Quality generally good. Extra services include. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to decrease slightly. Trading is fairly slow with prices lower. Supplies expected to increase for the next seven days, but demand remains fairly slow. Rain is expected for tonight and for the weekend. Quality generally good. Movement of tomatoes out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia Eastern Shore is expected to decrease. Trading is fairly slow with prices lower. Supplies expected to increase for the next seven days, but demand remains fairly slow to moderate. Rain is expected for tonight and for the weekend. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate with lower prices. Jumbo and extra-large range between 17.95-20.95. Extra services included.

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

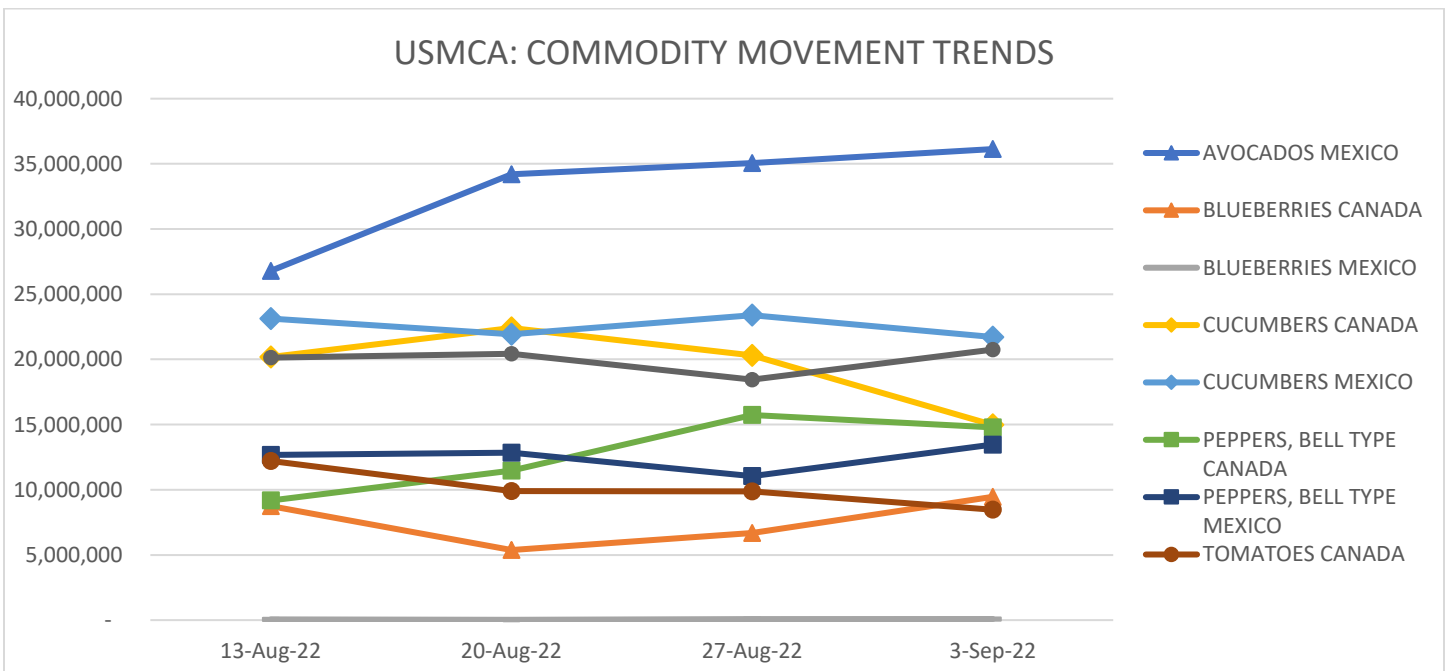
#### Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	8/13/2022	8/20/2022	8/27/2022	9/3/2022
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 40.68	\$ 38.82	\$ 36.54	\$ 34.11
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 1-pt cups with lids	\$ 15.25	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.50	\$ 18.50
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 15.95	\$ 18.95	\$ 21.70	\$ 22.83
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb. cartons	\$ 12.93	\$ 12.64	\$ 13.07	\$ 13.71
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 16.16	\$ 17.45	\$ 21.52	\$ 23.81

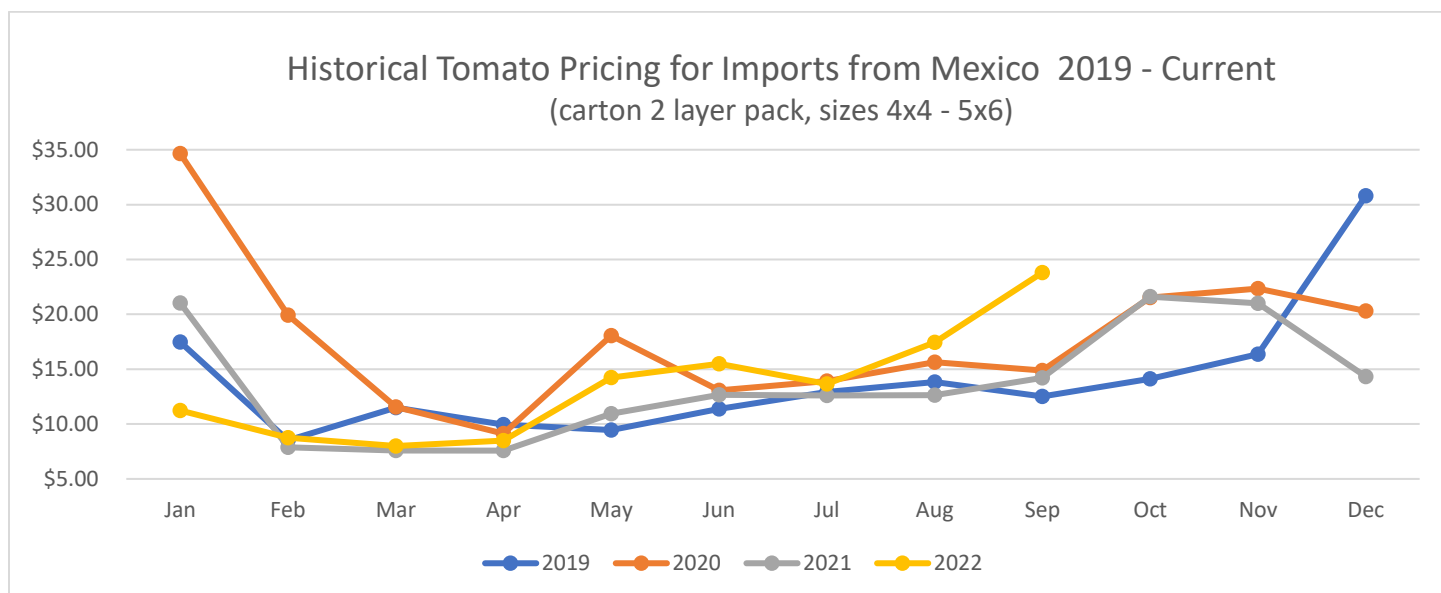


### Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	13-Aug-22	20-Aug-22	27-Aug-22	3-Sep-22
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	26,791,406	34,204,693	35,069,778	36,133,008
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	8,744,061	5,375,848	6,687,349	9,457,591
	MEXICO	46,094	24,159	78,671	84,494
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	20,178,885	22,406,709	20,312,894	14,973,106
	MEXICO	23,128,886	21,918,247	23,388,635	21,714,802
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	9,174,324	11,459,442	15,732,294	14,784,948
	MEXICO	12,672,665	12,834,017	11,042,814	13,467,868
TOMATOES	CANADA	12,207,930	9,895,593	9,871,324	8,466,941
	MEXICO	20,143,642	20,425,979	18,446,591	20,751,607



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