



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 February 26 – March 4, 2023

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 global population is expected to increase by 2.2 billion people by the year 2050. This means that the world's farmers will have to grow about 70% more food than what is now produced. According to the America's Diverse Family Farms 2020 edition, in the United States, about 2 million farms dot the American rural landscape. Also, about 98% of all farms are operated by families, individuals, family partnerships or family corporations. This means that 86% of all U.S. agricultural products are produced on family farms. One acre of land can grow a variety of crops, including 50,000 pounds of strawberries or 2,784 pounds (46.4 bushels) of wheat. One U.S. farm feeds an average of 166 people annually in the U.S. and abroad. Americans enjoy a food supply that is abundant, affordable and among the world's safest, thanks in large part to the efficiency and productivity of America's family farms. Of the 10% disposable income Americans spend on food each year, 46% is for food eaten at home and 54% is for food eaten away from home. Americans also throw away about 25% of the food they purchased for at home consumption. Unfortunately, a whopping 40% of all food grown and produced in the U.S. is never eaten.

Movement of blueberries through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to increase. Trading fairly active. Prices slightly higher. Flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids mostly 16.00. Production in other regions is weighing down the markets. Many present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality generally good. Chile imports of blueberries through various east coast ports of entry movement expected to decrease as some growers have finished for the season. Trading moderate. Prices generally unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large mostly 22.00-24.00. Some loads shipped open to terminal markets. Quality variable. Peru imports of blueberries through Philadelphia and New York City area ports of entry movement expected to decrease seasonally as most shippers are finished for the season. Trading fairly active with prices higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large mostly 26.00-28.00. Some blueberries are priced lower depending on quality, and a few higher with previous program sales. Quality variable. Movement of blueberries from Central and North Florida is expected to increase as harvest gets underway. Initial harvest will begin with a few leader berries followed by some early varieties. Expect the first F.O.B. report and week ending shipments within the period. A first report has been issued.

Movement of avocado crossing from Mexico through Texas is expected to decrease. Trading active. Prices 84s generally unchanged, others higher. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-48s mostly 31.25, 60s mostly 26.25, 70s mostly 22.25-24.25 and 84s mostly 18.25. Extra services included.

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.](#)

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices medium lower, large much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 18.95-19.95, large mostly 17.95-18.95, fair quality 14.95-15.95 and ordinary quality mostly 12.95-13.95. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices 36s generally unchanged, 24s higher, others lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 18.95, large mostly 18.95, fair quality mostly 16.95, cartons 24s 8.95-10.95 and 36s 10.95-12.95. Demand remains moderate to fairly active during the week. Quality variable. Movement of cucumber from Central America imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to decrease slightly. Trading fairly slow. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 20.00, large 11.00-12.00, fair quality mostly 16.00-17.00 and ordinary quality 12.00. Supplies are moderate and in few hands. Production has started in other areas making it more competitive. Quality is becoming more variable with wider price ranges. Prices are trending lower, and demand is slow, even though supplies are fairly light. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable.

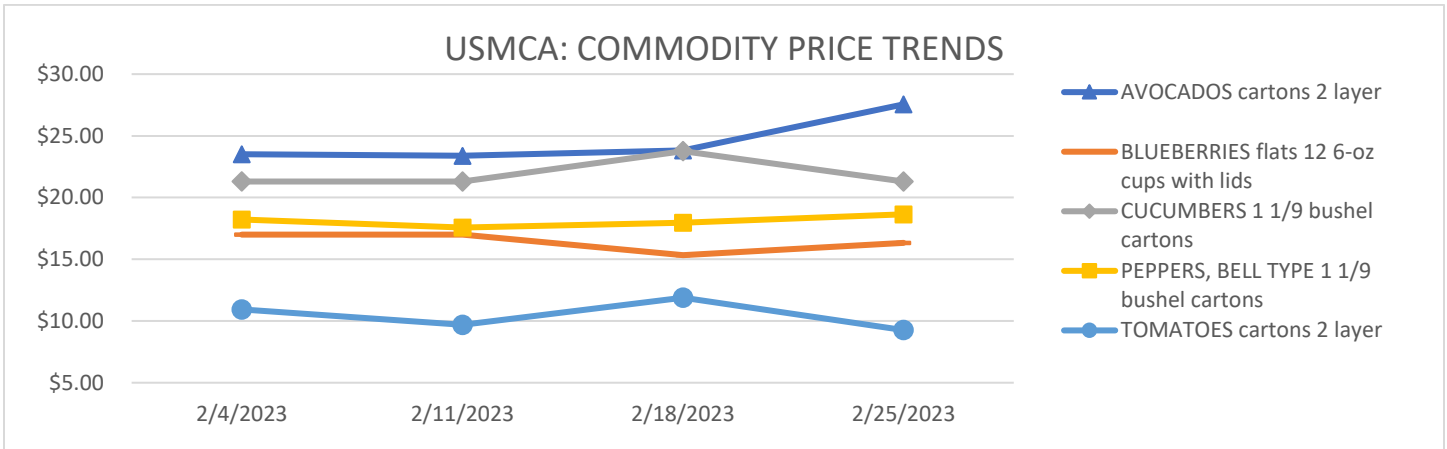
Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 18.95-20.95, large mostly 16.95-18.95, medium mostly 14.95-16.95 and irregular size fair quality 12.95-14.95. Prices are higher this week due to unseasonably cooler weather in the growing regions. Quality generally good. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices much higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large mostly 20.95-22.95, large mostly 17.95-18.95 and medium mostly 13.95-14.95. Quality variable. Green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida movement are expected to increase slightly. Trading active. Prices much higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 18.35, large mostly 14.35-16.35 and irregular size fair quality mostly 14.35. Demand remains active with prices slightly higher, except on irregular size fair quality product. Quality generally good.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late slow. Prices 4x4-4x5s lower, others much lower. Vine ripers cartons 2-layer 4x4s mostly 7.37, 4x5s mostly 7.39 and 5x5-5x6s mostly 7.13. Quality generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late slow. Prices lower. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4s mostly 7.37-7.95, 4x5s mostly 7.39-7.95 and 5x5s 7.13-7.95. Demand is moderate and prices are holding steady at the minimum levels. Crossings and shipments are expected about the same. Quality is variable to generally good. Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida expected to decrease. Trading fairly slow. Prices 6x7 size lower, others generally unchanged. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens 85% U.S. number one or better 5x6-6x6 size 14.95-15.00 and 6x7 size 10.95-11.00. Demand remains fairly light and about steady pricing. Supplies are expected to increase within 14 days as the crop matures. Quality generally good.

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

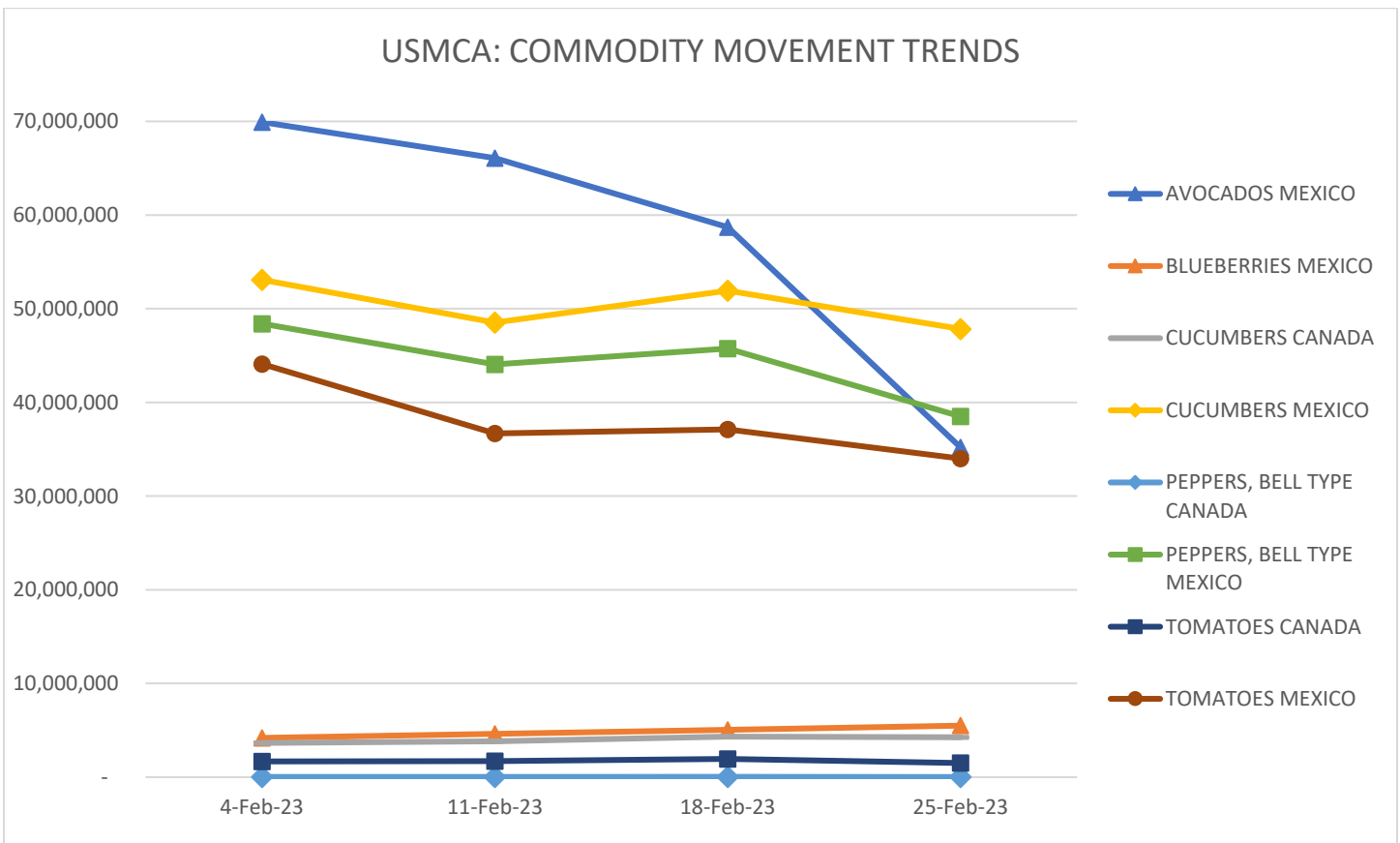
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	2/4/2023	2/11/2023	2/18/2023	2/25/2023
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 23.50	\$ 23.39	\$ 23.82	\$ 27.55
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 15.33	\$ 16.33
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 21.30	\$ 21.30	\$ 23.76	\$ 21.30
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 18.22	\$ 17.57	\$ 17.96	\$ 18.64
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 10.94	\$ 9.69	\$ 11.89	\$ 9.27

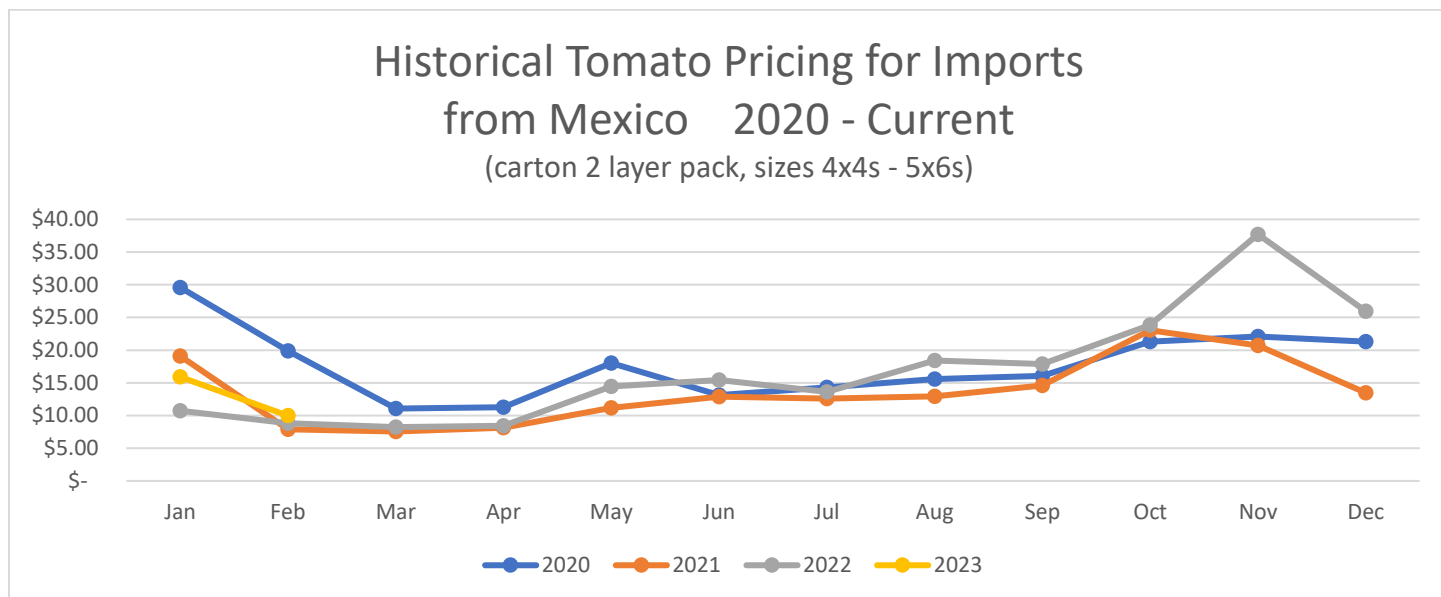


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	4-Feb-23	11-Feb-23	18-Feb-23	25-Feb-23
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	69,926,039	66,086,915	58,720,829	35,195,104
BLUEBERRIES	MEXICO	4,192,876	4,612,384	5,049,685	5,499,594
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	3,655,161	3,840,496	4,327,794	4,244,980
	MEXICO	53,089,714	48,524,783	51,925,889	47,844,355
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	25,780	26,515	37,662	17,837
	MEXICO	48,409,418	44,075,084	45,736,682	38,506,011
TOMATOES	CANADA	1,676,381	1,728,822	1,946,820	1,509,368
	MEXICO	44,106,191	36,693,620	37,109,436	34,007,655



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