



Specialty Crops Market News Division U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update

Agricultural Marketing Service

Issued Weekly

Friday, May 5, 2023

Update for Week of April 30-May 6, 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.

Seasonal changes have led to a shift in the commodities of interest for this report. Asparagus has replaced blueberries, as the number of both domestic and international growing areas shipping asparagus continues to grow while blueberries out of production areas in the southeastern U.S. are winding down for the season. This list will be revisited regularly to maintain an accurate representation of the current trade situation affecting shippers of perishable commodities in North America.

Mexico crossings of 2022 crop asparagus through Calexico California, San Luis Arizona and Arizona are expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate at slightly higher prices, and light harvest has begun in the Obregon Mexico growing region. Prices 11-pound cartons/crates bunched green jumbo mostly 26.75-28.75, large mostly 26.75, standard mostly 22.75. Extra services included. Movement of Peru imports 2023 crop through South Florida ports of entry expected to increase slightly as production increases and more shippers resume harvest. Trading was fairly slow with fairly light demand. Prices on green were slightly lower to lower and supplies of white insufficient to establish a market. Light supplies expected until after Mothers' Day, with fewer retail promotions than usual due to high F.O.B. prices the past few weeks. Prices 11-pound cartons bunched green jumbo mostly 26.75-27.75, extra-large and large mostly 24.75-25.75, standard mostly 23.75-24.85, small mostly 15.00-16.00. Quality and condition are reported as variable but generally good. Movement of 2023 crop asparagus out of Walla Walls District and Lower Yakima Valley Washington is expected to increase seasonally as more shippers begin harvest. The first F.O.B. price report is expected to be issued the week of May 7. Quality is currently reported as variable. No F.O.B. report is being issued yet for asparagus out of New Jersey, but product is now available on local wholesale markets and movement is expected to increase seasonally.

Movement of 2022 crop avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to decrease. Trading was moderate with prices on 48s and organic generally unchanged, others lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-40s mostly 27.25-29.25, 48s mostly 28.25-30.25, 60s mostly 29.25-31.25, 70s mostly 25.25-27.25 and 84s mostly 18.25-19.25. Extra services included. Avocado movement of 2023 crop out of South District California is expected to increase. Trading continued moderate with prices on 70s lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-40s mostly 34.25-36.25, 48s 36.25-38.25, 60s 34.25-36.25, 70s 28.25-30.25 and 84s mostly 20.25-22.25. Extra services are included.

Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading was moderate with prices on small and 24s generally unchanged, others slightly to much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 8.95-10.95, large mostly 7.95-10.95, fair quality mostly 6.95-8.95. Cartons 24s 4.95-6.95 and 36s 5.95-7.95. Quality is reported as variable. Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading was moderate at slightly lower prices. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 12.95, large mostly 10.95, fair quality mostly 9.95-10.95 and ordinary quality mostly 7.95. Supplies fairly light and most present

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.](#)

shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality is reported as variable. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to remain about the same before decreasing when more South Florida growers finish for the season. Trading on waxed moderate with prices on carton 24s higher, waxed slightly lower. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 14.35-16.35 and fair quality mostly 7.35. Cartons 24s mostly 5.35-6.35. Quality is reported as generally good. No F.O.B. report is being issued yet for cucumbers out of Georgia, but product is now available on locally and is expected on nearby wholesale markets soon with movement expected to increase seasonally.

Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading moderate for light available supplies. Prices fair quality generally unchanged, others slightly higher to higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 20.95-22.95, large 14.95-18.95, medium fair quality 8.95-10.95. Quality is reported as generally good, with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was moderate with prices on extra-large slightly lower, others generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large mostly 20.95-22.95, large mostly 18.95-19.95 and medium mostly 9.95-10.95. Quality is reported as variable.

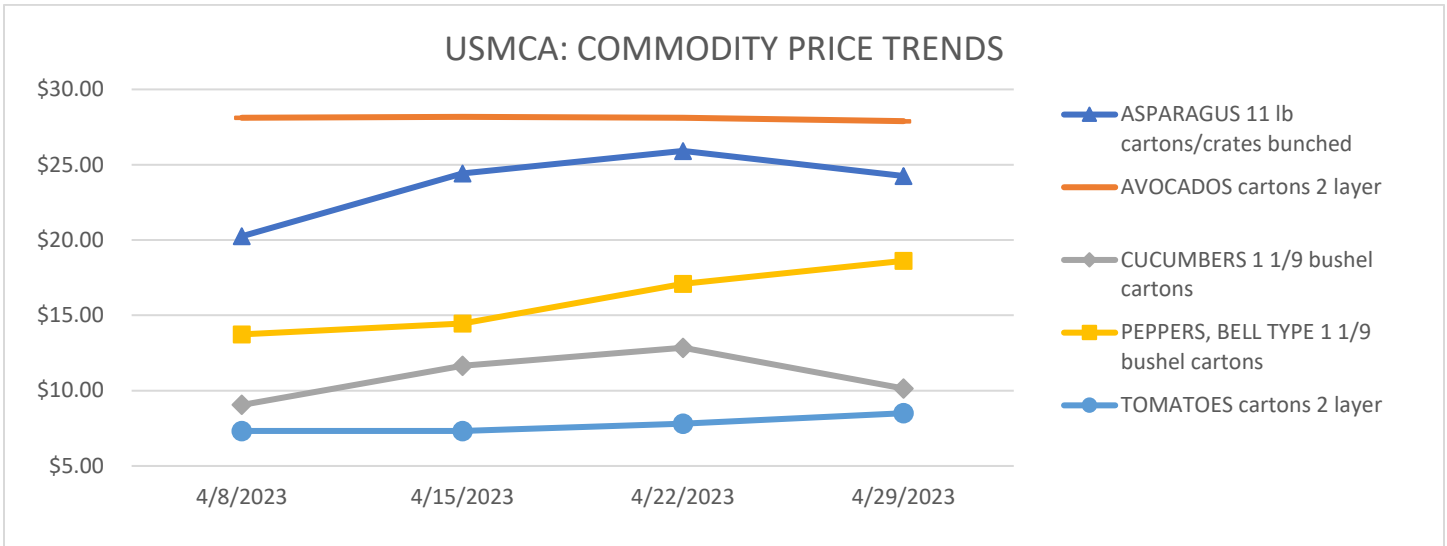
Green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida movement expected to decrease slightly as more growers finish the season out of South Florida. Trading was fairly active for light supplies and good demand. Prices were slightly higher to higher through the week as a result. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 16.35, large mostly 14.35 and irregular sized fair quality mostly 12.35-14.35. Quality is reported as generally good. Coachella Valley California green bell pepper harvest has begun, and the first F.O.B. price report has been issued. Movement is expected to continue to increase seasonally. Trading was fairly active. Prices 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large 24.95-26.95, large 22.95-24.95; irregular sized fair quality 12.95-16.95. Quality is reported as generally good.

Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to remain about the same. Trading was moderate. Lighter demand this week meant lower prices despite some harvest being curtailed early in the week due to wet fields. Some coloring issues are being reported out by Central Florida growers. Prices reported are for April 28, 2023. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens 85% U.S. number one or better 5x6 size 11.95, 6x6-6x7 sizes 10.95. Extra services included. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading 4x4-4x5s and 4x4-4x5 sizes fairly active at much higher prices, others moderate with prices generally unchanged. Volumes of small sizes are high which is reflected in higher prices on larger sizes. Cartons 2-layer vine ripe 4x4-4x5s mostly 10.95-12.95, 5x5-5x6s mostly 7.40 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 10.95-12.95, 5x6 size mostly 8.30. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading was moderate with prices on 4x4-4x5s higher, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripe 4x4-4x5s mostly 8.95-10.95, 5x5s mostly 7.13-7.95 and 5x6s mostly 6.64-7.10. Quality is reported as generally good.

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

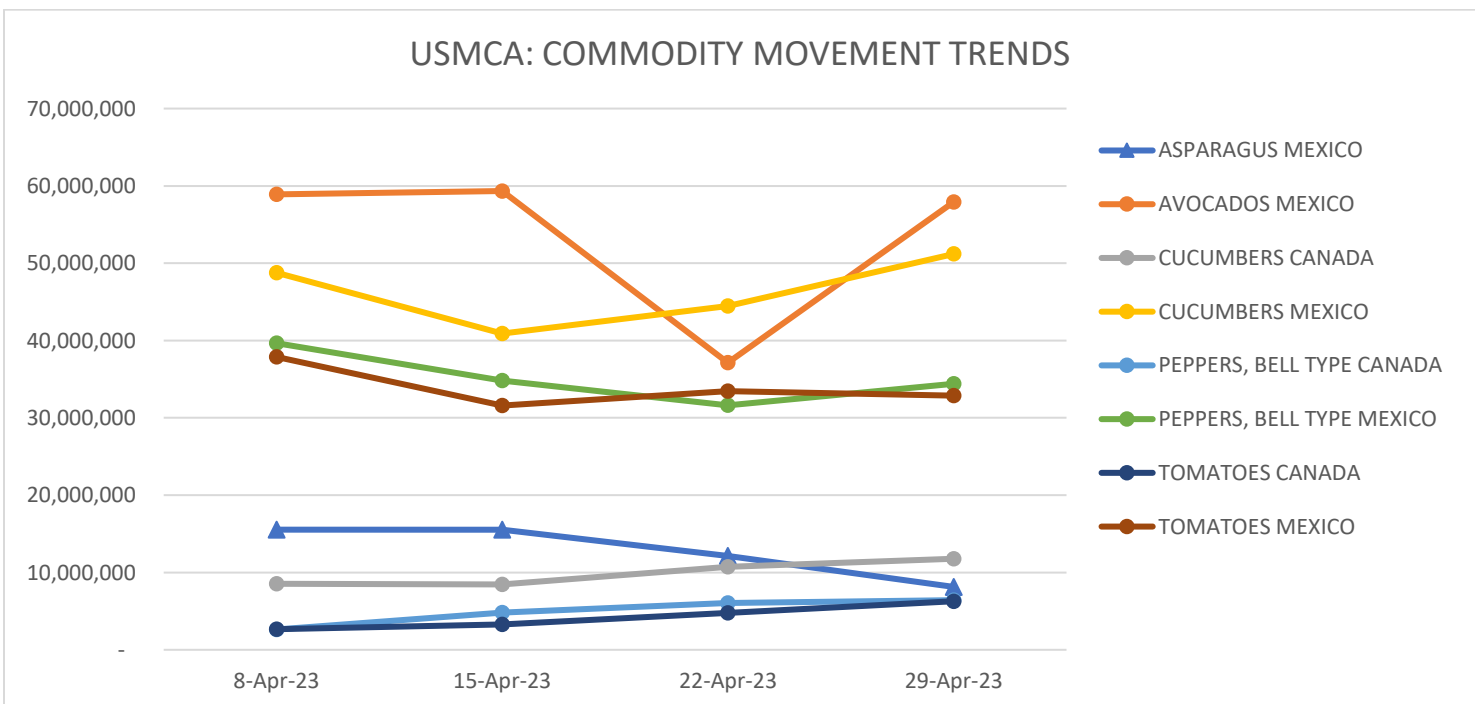
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	4/8/2023	4/15/2023	4/22/2023	4/29/2023
ASPARAGUS	11 lb cartons/crates bunched	\$ 20.25	\$ 24.42	\$ 25.92	\$ 24.25
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 28.11	\$ 28.18	\$ 28.11	\$ 27.89
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 9.05	\$ 11.65	\$ 12.85	\$ 10.15
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 13.74	\$ 14.45	\$ 17.09	\$ 18.62
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 7.32	\$ 7.32	\$ 7.81	\$ 8.50

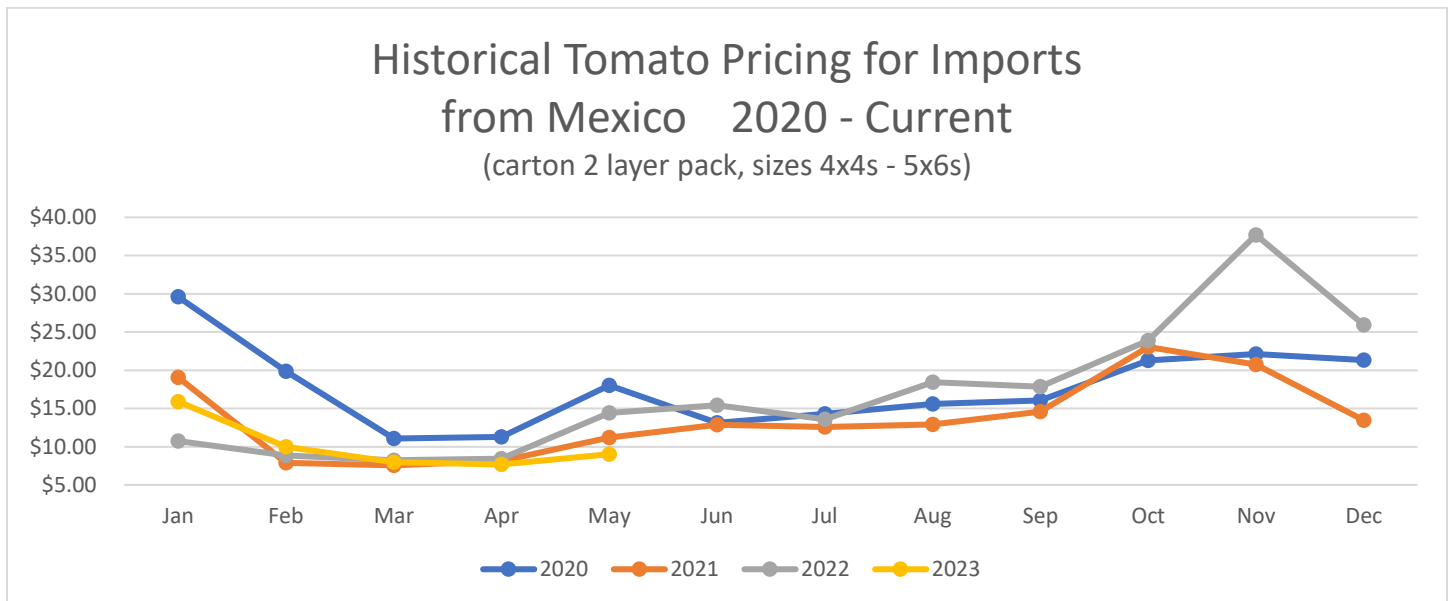


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	8-Apr-23	15-Apr-23	22-Apr-23	29-Apr-23
ASPARAGUS	MEXICO	15,541,157	15,524,994	12,142,118	8,137,718
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	58,904,806	59,338,734	37,131,566	57,909,989
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	8,528,998	8,455,754	10,742,710	11,776,714
	MEXICO	48,746,286	40,904,141	44,481,175	51,190,198
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	2,631,790	4,829,136	6,048,919	6,421,497
	MEXICO	39,657,824	34,805,305	31,617,569	34,394,985
TOMATOES	CANADA	2,665,331	3,267,828	4,763,426	6,281,437
	MEXICO	37,876,961	31,592,292	33,433,088	32,853,790



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