



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 May 21-27, 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.

As Memorial Day approaches and the summer harvest season begins in the U.S., most growers are optimistic and hopeful for a good and favorable season. The transportation industry will play a significant role in the transportation of all produce products. The produce industry relies heavily on the trucking industry year after year for a successful outcome. The start for this year's season is almost the same as last year, but for different reasons. Last year, there was lack of rain and this year there is too much rain depending on what part of the country you live in. Transportation costs are expected to be reasonable due to the late start and lighter volumes expected in the beginning of the growing season. Also impacting trucking rates, are lower fuel prices when compared to a year ago. All these factors are good for the consumer in the form of lower prices at the grocery store. The beginning of the grilling season has begun, and a wide variety of fresh fruits and vegetables are available at your favorite grocery store or your local family-owned farm.

Movement of asparagus from Peru imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to remain about the same. Trading jumbo and extra-large moderate, others fairly slow. Prices lower. 11-pound cartons bunched green jumbo mostly 26.50-27.00, extra-large mostly 23.00-24.85, large mostly 19.00-23.50, standard mostly 18.00-19.00 and small 14.00-15.00. Supplies on jumbo and extra-large light, others moderate. White supplies are insufficient to quote. Quality and condition are reported as variable but generally good. Movement of asparagus out of Walla Walla District and Lower Yakima Valley Washington is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices 28-pound bunched lower, 11-pound cartons generally unchanged. 28-pound pyramid cartons bunched Washington extra fancy large and standard mostly 54.00-56.00. 11-pound cartons large and standard mostly 22.00-24.00. Shipments are moderate. Quality variable. Movement of asparagus crossings from Mexico through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to increase. Trading active. Prices 11-pound cartons/crates bunched green large mostly 24.75 and standard mostly 22.75. Supplies are light. Extra services included. Quality is generally good.

Movement of avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices 32-60s higher, 70s lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-36s mostly 26.25-28.25, 40s mostly 27.25-29.25, 48s mostly 30.25-31.25, 60s mostly 27.25-29.25, 70s mostly 23.25-25.25 and 84s mostly 17.25-18.25. Extra services included. Avocado movement out of South District California is expected to increase. Trading moderate. Prices 60-70s lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-36s mostly 31.25-33.25, 40-48s mostly 32.25-34.25, 60s mostly 29.25-31.25, 70s 24.25-27.25 and 84s mostly 18.25-20.25. Extra services included.

Movement of cucumber from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late active. Prices higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 14.95-16.95, large mostly 10.95-12.95, fair quality mostly 10.95-12.95 and ordinary quality mostly 7.95-8.95. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease slightly. Trading early moderate, late fairly active. Prices medium and small much higher, others slightly higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 14.95-16.95, large mostly 10.95, fair quality mostly 12.95 and small 8.95-10.95.

For more information on:

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

Cartons 24s 6.95 and 36s mostly 7.95-8.95. Supplies fairly light. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to decrease. Trading moderate. Prices medium generally unchanged, others lower. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 12.35-14.35 and fair quality mostly 6.35-7.35. Cartons 24s mostly 4.00-5.00. Some harvest was curtailed due to rain and wet fields. Supplies are very light and insufficient to establish a market. Most shippers in Florida have finished for the season. Includes palletizing and pre-cooling. Quality generally good. Movement of cucumber out of South Georgia is expected to increase seasonally. Trading moderate. Prices lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons/crates medium mostly 12.85 and fair quality mostly 7.85. Cartons 24s mostly 5.85. Rain is expected in the growing areas. Prices are expected to go slightly lower. Quality generally good.

Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading very slow. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 14.95-16.95, large 12.95 and irregular size fair quality 7.95-10.95. Quality variable. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices 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 variable. Green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida movement are expected to decrease. Trading fairly slow. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 16.35-18.35, large too few sales reported to establish a market and irregular sized fair quality mostly 10.35-12.35. Some harvest was curtailed due to rain and wet fields. Supplies are very light and insufficient to establish a market. Most shippers in Florida have finished for the season. Includes palletizing and precooling. Quality generally good. Green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California movement are expected to increase seasonally. Trading extra-large fairly active at slightly lower prices, others fairly active. Prices extra-large slightly lower, others generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo 22.95-24.95, extra-large mostly 23.95-24.95, large mostly 20.95-22.95 and irregular sized fair quality 12.95-14.95. Quality generally good.

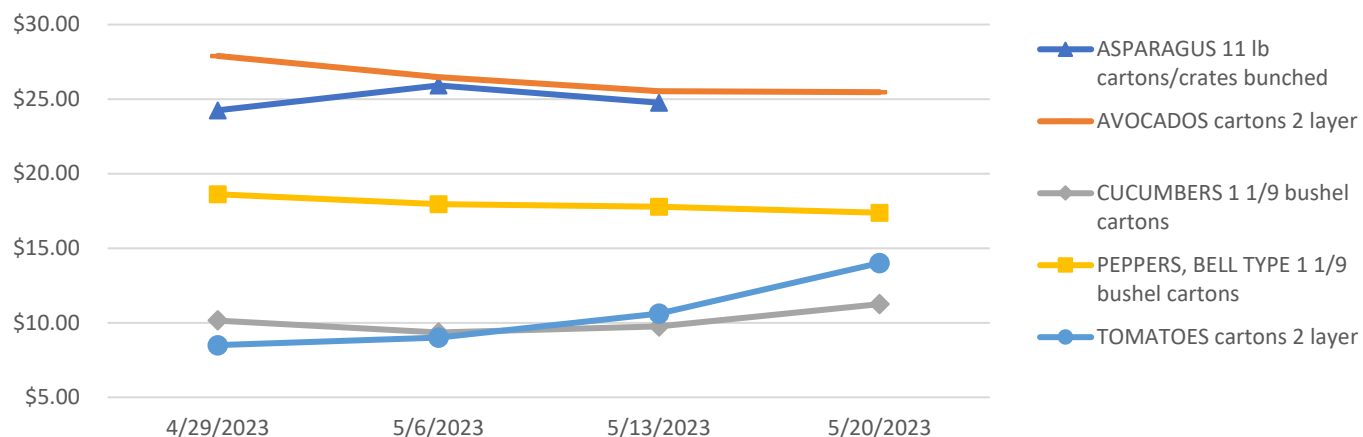
Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading active. Prices 5x5-5x6s and 5x5-5x6 sizes much higher, others higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 16.95, 5x5s mostly 14.95, 5x6s mostly 12.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 14.95-16.95, 5x5 size 12.95-14.95 and 5x6 size 10.95-12.95. Quality generally good. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late fairly active. Prices higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s 16.95-18.95, 5x5s mostly 14.95-16.95 and 5x6s mostly 12.95-14.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase. Trading active. Prices generally unchanged. Prices reported are for Friday, May 19th. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens 85% U.S. number one or better 5x6-6x6 sizes mostly 16.95-17.00 and 6x7 size 14.95-16.95. Supplies continue to decrease in Central Florida. Some harvest curtailed due to rain and wet fields. Cooler night temperatures are causing delays with tomato maturity. During the week demand remained good to very good and prices were higher. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Florida West and South Carolina Districts is expected to start within 14 days with light harvest. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. The first F.O.B. report is expected within 21 days. Quality is expected to be generally good. Tomato movement out of Southeastern Arkansas is expected to begin within 7-10 days with light volume as few shippers are getting underway. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of June 4th. Quality is expected to be 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	4/29/2023	5/6/2023	5/13/2023	5/20/2023
ASPARAGUS	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 24.25	\$ 25.92	\$ 24.75	
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 27.89	\$ 26.46	\$ 25.54	\$ 25.46
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 10.15	\$ 9.35	\$ 9.75	\$ 11.25
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 18.62	\$ 17.95	\$ 17.78	\$ 17.38
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 8.50	\$ 9.00	\$ 10.62	\$ 14.01

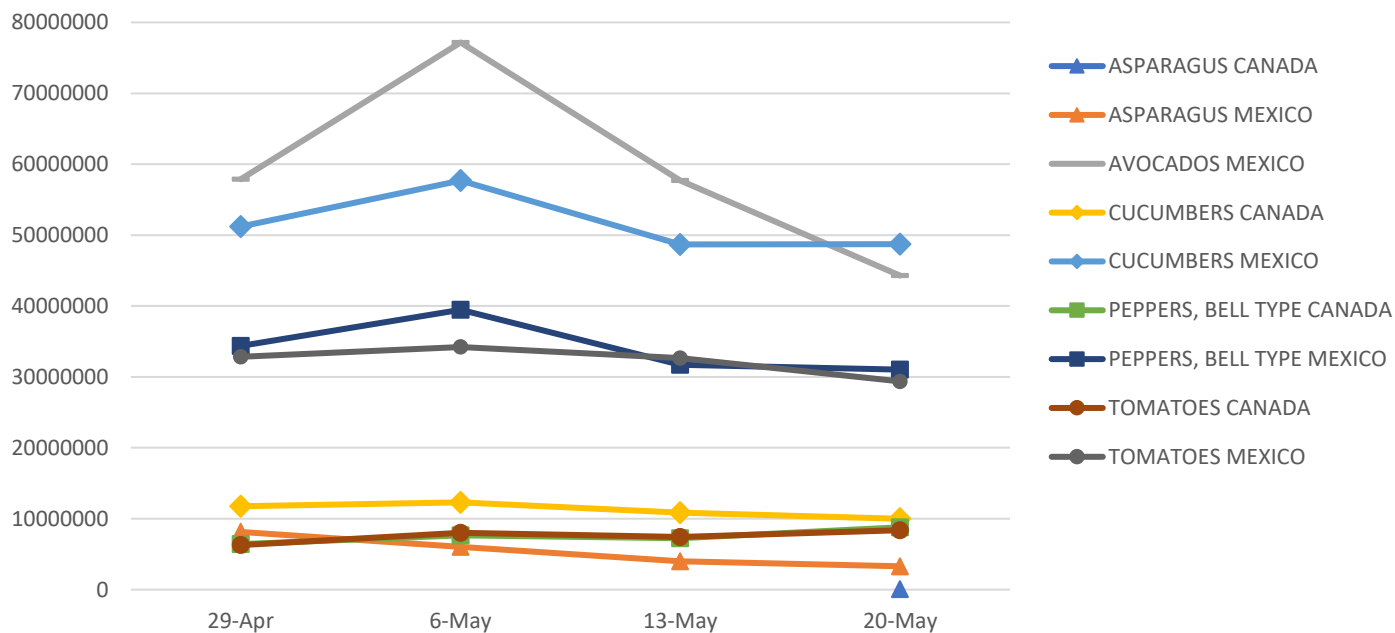
USMCA: COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS



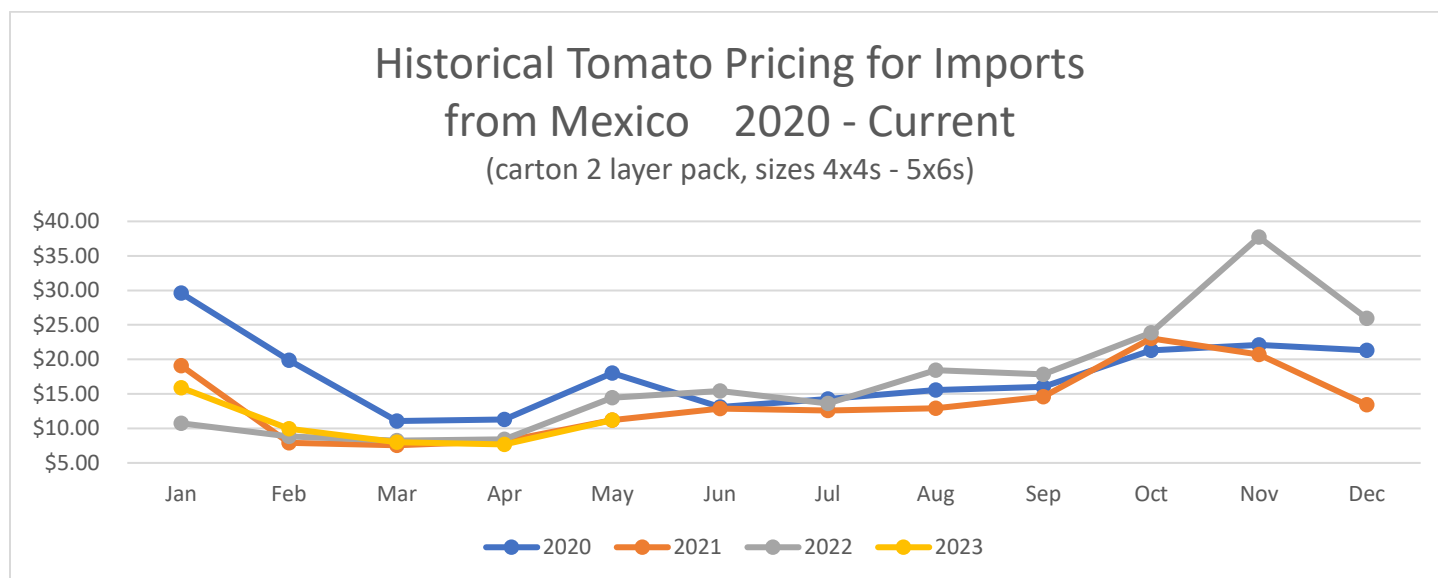
Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	29-Apr-23	6-May-23	13-May-23	20-May-23
ASPARAGUS	CANADA				53,771
	MEXICO	8,137,718	6,024,709	4,002,496	3,295,703
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	57,909,989	77,169,610	57,711,296	44,293,175
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	11,776,714	12,308,967	10,874,989	9,994,734
	MEXICO	51,190,198	57,692,722	48,689,679	48,730,928
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	6,421,497	7,671,485	7,243,447	8,794,708
	MEXICO	34,394,985	39,470,539	31,705,062	31,032,199
TOMATOES	CANADA	6,281,437	7,997,424	7,414,245	8,381,829
	MEXICO	32,853,790	34,216,364	32,679,357	29,371,050

USMCA: COMMODITY MOVEMENT TRENDS



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