



# 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 July 30-August 5, 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 the new school year approaches and students return to school, nutrition is back on the menu. One of the challenges for students is how to maintain a healthy balanced diet during the school year. One way to maintain a healthy lifestyle is by incorporating the five food groups, including fresh fruits and vegetables. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly half of American children ages 1 to 5, (49%) do not eat vegetables daily. In addition, nearly 1 in 3 young children, (32%) do not eat fruit daily. Nutritionists generally say a diet that regularly includes fruits and vegetables provides needed nutrients that give children a healthy start for growth and development. Some schools are being proactive and providing free meals to students, to ensure the students have access to nutritious meals. For more information and in-depth nutritional tips for parents and consumers, you can visit the website [MyPlate.gov](https://www.MyPlate.gov). Remember that good eating habits start at home and should begin in early childhood.

Movement of asparagus from Peru imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to remain about the same. Trading standard fairly slow at slightly higher prices, others moderate. Prices extra-large, large and standard slightly higher, others slightly lower. 11-pound cartons bunched green jumbo and extra-large 38.75-44.75, large mostly 32.95-34.75, standard mostly 30.75-32.75 and small supplies insufficient to quote. White large 32.75. Many sales of large size and larger product are prorated. Supplies standard and white are moderate, while others are very light due to the effects of the El Nino in the growing regions. Supplies are expected to be very short until the end of September. Demand remains light, but costs are high, and growers know that the market is high. Currently, shippers are concerned with filling orders for retail, foodservice and other wholesalers. Mexico is expected to be finished by mid-August. Quality and condition variable but generally good. Movement of asparagus crossings from Mexico through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading slow. Prices generally unchanged. 11-pound cartons/crates bunched green large mostly 33.75-36.75 and standard mostly 29.75-30.75. Prices represent very few spot market sales. Wide range in quality. Extra services included.

Movement of avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to decrease. Trading 32-60s active, others moderate. Prices 32-48s higher, 60-84s lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-36s mostly 70.25-73.25, 40-48s mostly 67.25-70.25, 60s mostly 43.25-45.25, 70s mostly 24.25-26.25 and 84s mostly 19.25-21.25. Extra services included. Avocado movement out of South District California is expected to decrease. Trading active. Prices 32-60s higher, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-48s mostly 64.25-66.25, 60s mostly 44.25-45.25, 70s 28.25-30.25 and 84s mostly 22.25-24.25. Extra services included. Movement of avocado from Peru imports through Philadelphia and New York City area ports of entry is expected to increase seasonally. Trading fairly slow. Prices generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 40s supplies in too few hands to establish a market, 48s mostly 35.00-36.00. Supplies and demand remain very light, and market prices are steady. Shippers are reporting lower than expected volume, very few spot market sales and

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
- [Movement Report Details](#)
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[Custom Average Tool \(CAT\) Graphing tool and aggregated data source.](#)

are concentrating mostly on previous commitments. The season is expected to finish in the coming weeks due to declining volumes and not enough shippers.

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 22.95-24.95, large mostly 21.95-22.95, fair quality mostly 16.95-18.95 and ordinary quality mostly 13.95-14.95. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices medium slightly higher, others generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium and large 18.00-20.00, fair quality 16.00-17.00. Cartons 24s 9.00-10.00 and 36s 10.00-12.00. Quality variable. Movement of cucumbers out of Western North Carolina is expected about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices lower. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 18.00-18.35 and fair quality 14.00-14.35. Cucumber movement out of Michigan is expected to increase seasonally as the season gets fully underway. Trading moderate. Prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 18.85 and fair quality mostly 13.85. Cartons 24s mostly 8.85. Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease sharply as most shippers are finished for the season. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Lighter crossings are expected to continue through August 12. The last F.O.B. report was issued this week. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Western and Central New York is expected to increase as harvest gets fully underway. Trading moderate. Prices 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 14.00-17.00 and fair quality 8.00-10.00. The first F.O.B. report was issued this week.

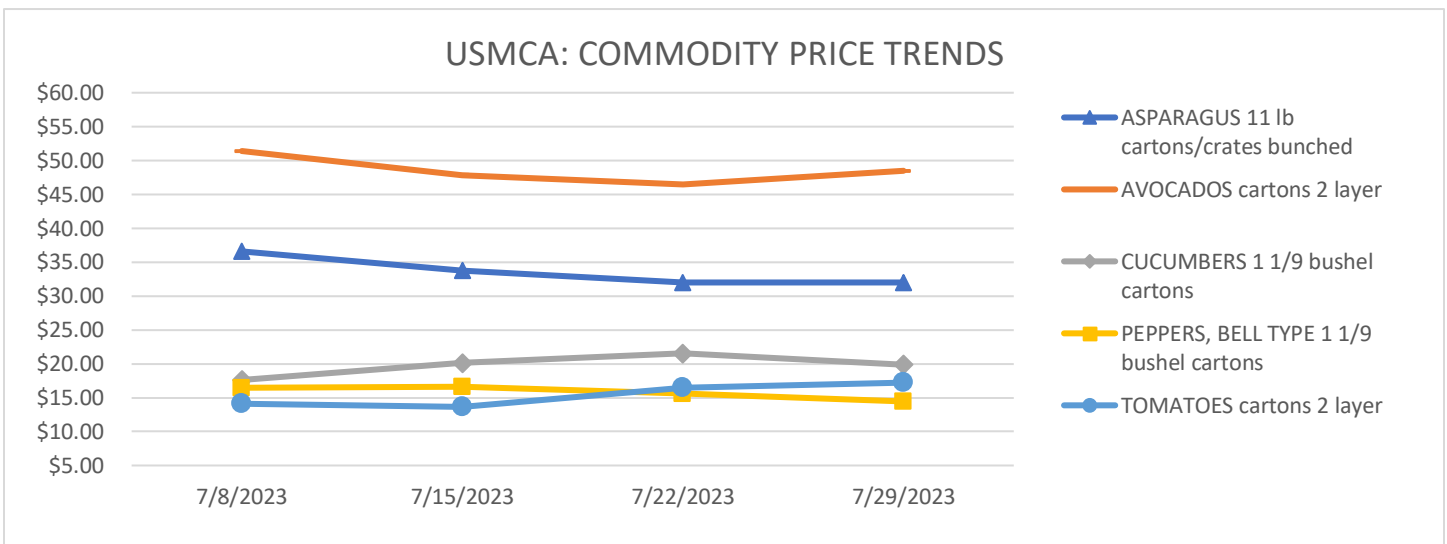
Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large mostly 15.95-16.95, large mostly 13.95-14.95 and medium mostly 11.95-12.95. Quality variable. Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices slightly higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green medium mostly 14.95-15.00 and irregular sized fair quality 14.00-14.95. Quality generally good. Green bell peppers out of Western North Carolina movement are expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 12.00-12.35 and irregular sized fair quality 10.00-10.35.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early active, late moderate. Prices 4x4-4x5s and 4x4-4x5 sizes lower, 5x5-5x6 sizes slightly lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-4x5s mostly 14.95-16.95, 5x5s mostly 14.95-15.95, 5x6s mostly 11.95-12.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 16.95-18.95, 5x5 size mostly 16.95 and 5x6 size 13.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading active. Prices generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-5x6s 17.00-19.00. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected to increase seasonally. Trading active at lower prices. Prices lower. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens jumbo 8.00, extra-large, large and medium mostly 10.00. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to decrease. Trading slow. Prices lower. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 6.00-8.00. Vine ripers jumbo and extra-large 6.00-8.00. Demand increases to moderate, and prices were slightly higher later in the week. Growers are harvesting more tomatoes than there is demand. Harvest curtailed due to rain and wet fields. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia Eastern Shore is expected to decrease. Trading fairly slow. Prices lower. Prices reported are for Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 12.00-14.00, 6x6 size mostly 13.00-15.95 and 6x7 size mostly 11.00-12.00. Demand increases to moderate, and prices were slightly higher later in the week. Growers are harvesting more tomatoes than there is demand. Harvest curtailed due to rain and wet fields. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices lower. 25-pound cartons loose vine ripers U.S. Combination or Better extra-large and large mostly 9.95. Extra services included.

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

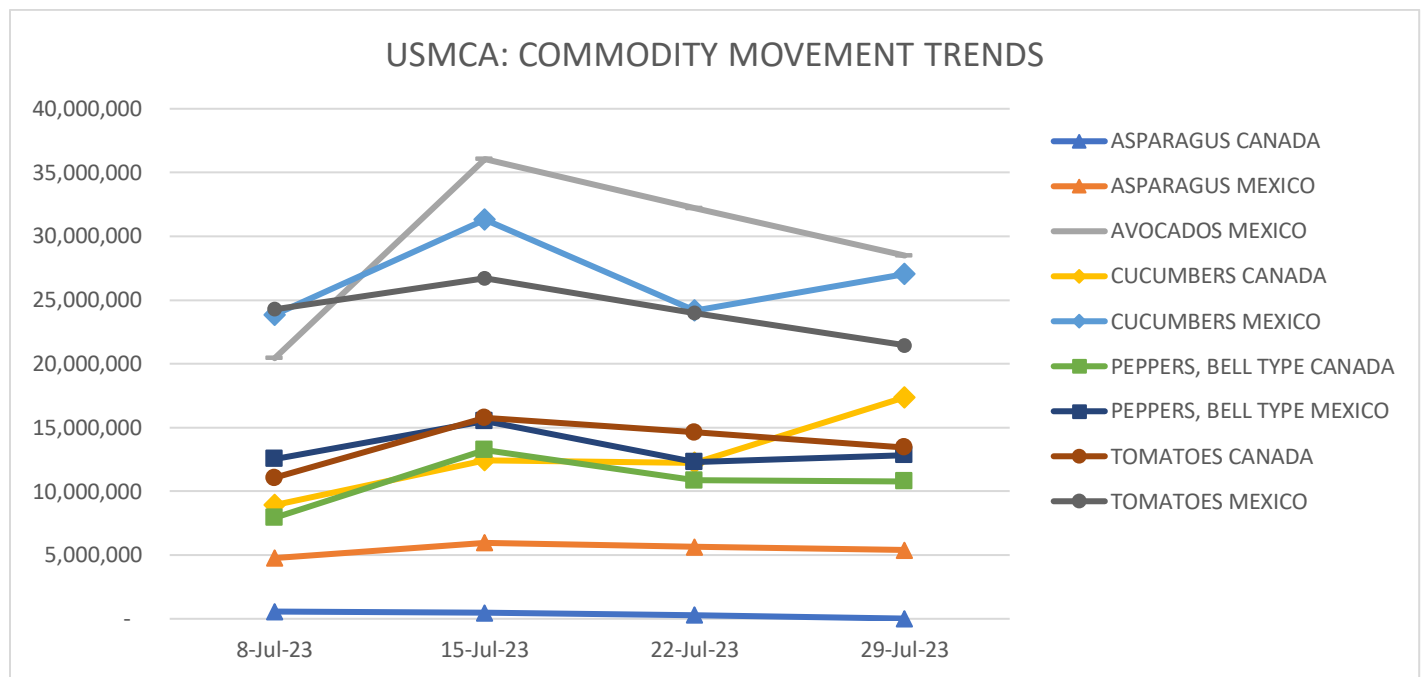
**Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars**

Commodity	Package	7/8/2023	7/15/2023	7/22/2023	7/29/2023
ASPARAGUS	11 lb cartons/crates bunched	\$ 36.58	\$ 33.75	\$ 32.00	\$ 32.00
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 51.39	\$ 47.82	\$ 46.46	\$ 48.46
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 17.62	\$ 20.12	\$ 21.55	\$ 19.88
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 16.45	\$ 16.62	\$ 15.62	\$ 14.45
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 14.14	\$ 13.64	\$ 16.48	\$ 17.23

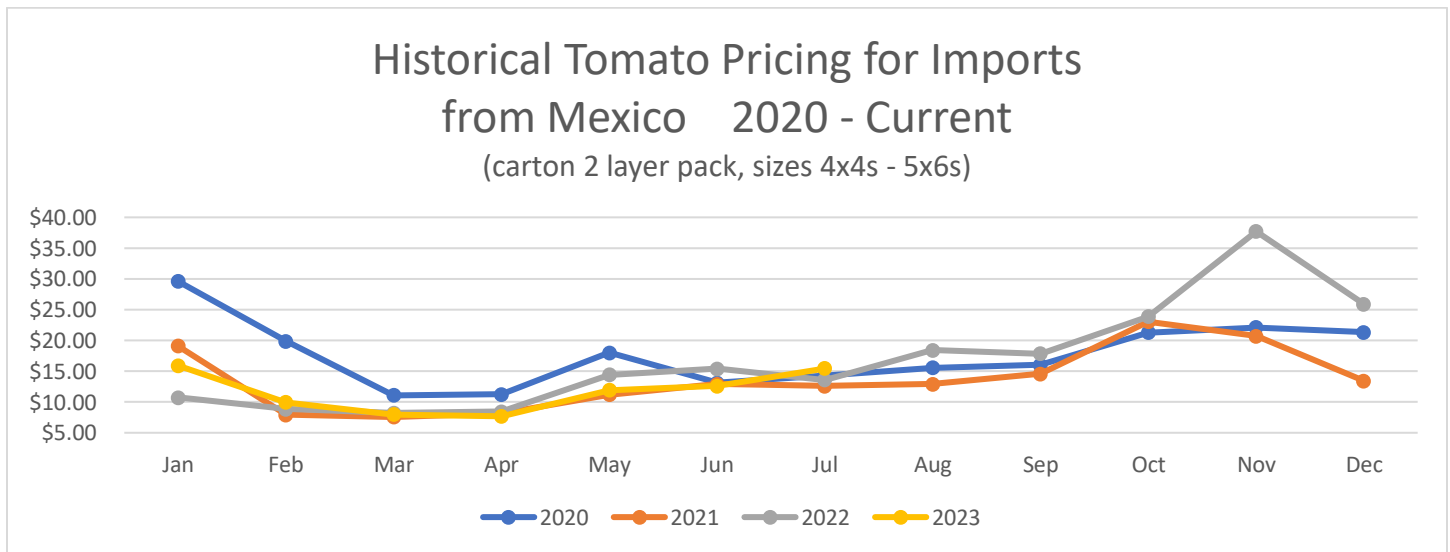


**Four Week Movement in Pounds**

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	8-Jul-23	15-Jul-23	22-Jul-23	29-Jul-23
ASPARAGUS	CANADA	568,322	463,668	302,648	19,383
	MEXICO	4,763,977	5,954,212	5,642,847	5,393,456
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	20,436,802	36,051,890	32,196,276	28,470,557
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	8,921,045	12,428,136	12,227,133	17,369,379
	MEXICO	23,854,400	31,301,019	24,176,812	27,048,982
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	7,925,843	13,233,507	10,853,548	10,792,260
	MEXICO	12,532,870	15,506,853	12,293,723	12,852,388
TOMATOES	CANADA	11,069,948	15,761,642	14,627,398	13,436,091
	MEXICO	24,276,617	26,707,676	23,971,908	21,459,796



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