



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 August 6-12, 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.

A discovery was made on June 6 of nearly 30 invasive fruit flies in the unincorporated area of Stevenson's Ranch in California. This area is located about 30 miles North of Los Angeles, California prompting a produce quarantine. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture, this is the first quarantine ever in the Western Hemisphere for the Tau fruit fly, which is native to Asia, and was likely brought in by a traveler bringing in uninspected produce into California. This produce quarantine is affecting around 79 square miles (204.6 square kilometers) in the Los Angeles County area to try and stop the fly from spreading and hurting California's fruit and vegetable industry. Any produce or plants within 656 feet of another detected Tau fly will be inspected for larvae, county officials said. Around 95,000 traps have now been set throughout the area in an effort to eradicate the fly's population before it spreads. Avocados, tomatoes, and watermelons are just a few of the roughly 100 fruits that can play host to the fly, making it easier to gain a foothold. If it spreads, the fly can destroy crops and prompt farmers to spray more pesticides to maintain their crop yields. For now, the infestation has been contained, but officials from county and state agriculture departments are urging residents not to take their produce, whether grown at their properties or purchased at a market, outside their homes.

Movement of asparagus from Peru imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to remain about the same. Trading standard and small slow, others moderate. Prices jumbo, extra-large and white slightly higher, large, and standard slightly lower. 11-pound cartons bunched green jumbo mostly 44.75, extra-large mostly 42.75-44.75, large mostly 32.95-34.75, standard mostly 28.75-31.00 and small supplies insufficient to quote. White large 32.75-34.75. Many sales of large size and larger product are prorated. Supplies standard moderate, large and white light, while others remain very light due to the effects of the El Nino in the growing regions. Sizing profile remains mostly reported on standard size. The asparagus market remains in very short supply with low demand. Prices remain high, this is adding pressure on buyers to turn away offers, as retailers are looking for bargains. Shippers are reporting that Peru is expected to stay high for the rest of the month as Mexico is finishing up for the season. Growers are still asking for high prices making retail buyers to remain very frugal. Some contacts are out due to meetings and others are on vacation. 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 jumbo 36.75-38.75, large mostly 32.75-34.75 and standard mostly 28.75-30.75. 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 increase as the 2023 crop season is now underway. Trading 32-48s very active, others moderate. Prices cartons 2-layer Hass 32-48s mostly 75.25-76.25, 60s mostly 48.25-49.25, 70s 24.25-26.25 and 84s mostly 20.25-22.25. The first F.O.B. report was issued this week. Extra services included. Movement of avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to decrease as the 2022 crop season is transitioning to the 2023 crop season. Most shippers are now fully underway with the 2023 crop season. The last F.O.B. report was issued this week for the 2022 crop season. Avocado movement out of South District California is expected to decrease. Trading active. Prices 70-84s generally unchanged, others higher. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-48s mostly 76.25-78.25, 60s mostly 48.25-50.25, 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 remain about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices slightly lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 40s supplies in too few hands to establish a market, 48s mostly 33.00-35.00. Supplies and demand remain very light, and market prices are about steady.

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
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For assistance please contact: jeff.main@usda.gov

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

Shippers are reporting lower than expected volumes, very few spot market sales and are concentrating mostly on previous commitments. The season is expected to finish in about a week or two due to declining volumes.

Movement of cucumber from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 14.95-16.95, large mostly 14.95-15.95, fair quality mostly 11.95-12.95 and ordinary quality mostly 9.95-10.95. 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 early fairly active, late moderate. Prices medium and 36s lower, others much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 16.00-18.00, large 12.00-14.00, fair quality 12.00-14.00. Cartons 24s 7.00-8.00 and 36s 9.00. Quality variable. Movement of cucumber out of Western North Carolina is expected about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices lower. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 14.00-14.35 and fair quality 7.00-8.35. 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 12.35-12.85 and fair quality mostly 6.35-7.85. Cartons 24s mostly 6.35-7.85. Cucumber movement out of Western and Central New York is expected to increase slightly. Trading moderate. Prices lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 13.00-15.00 and fair quality mostly 8.00. Quality generally good.

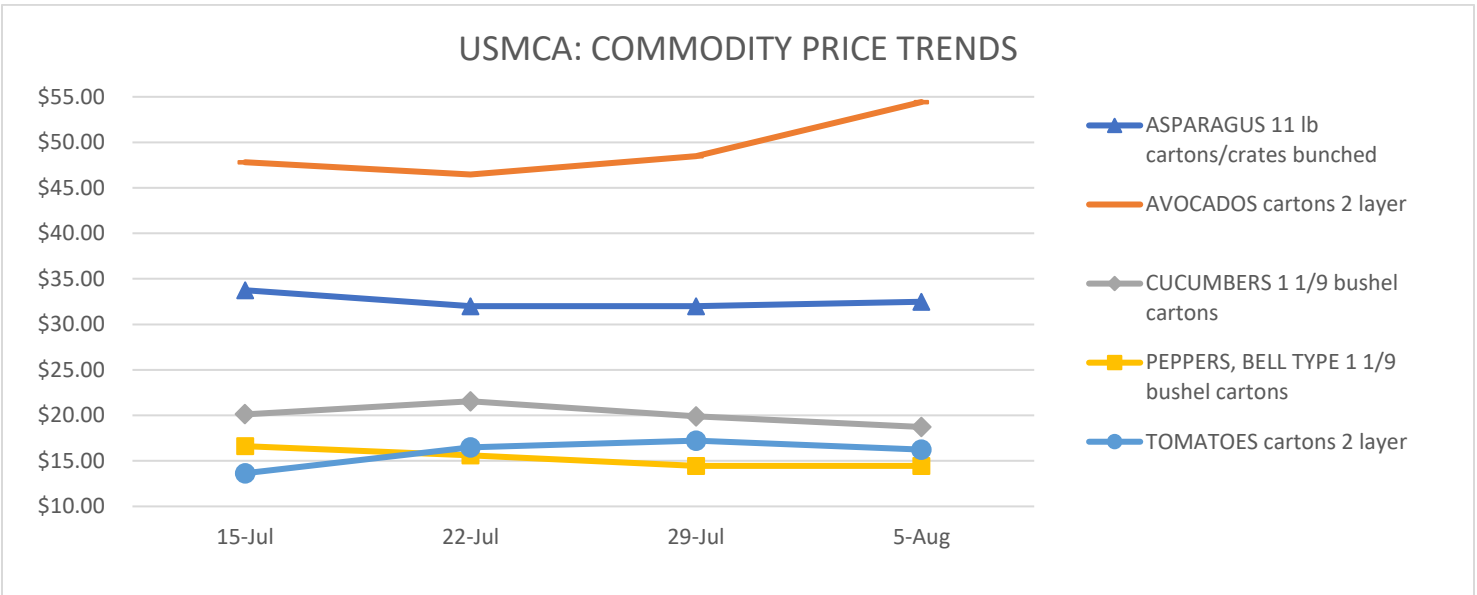
Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large mostly 15.95-16.95, large mostly 13.95-14.95 and medium mostly 11.95-12.95. Quality variable. Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late active. Prices higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo mostly 20.95, extra-large mostly 22.95, large 18.95-20.95, medium mostly 16.95-18.95 and irregular sized fair quality 14.95-16.95. Supplies very light and in few hands. 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 5x5s slightly lower, 4x4-4x5 sizes and 5x5 size lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 14.95, 5x5s mostly 13.95-14.95, 5x6s mostly 11.95-12.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 14.95-15.95, 5x5 size mostly 14.95 and 5x6 size 13.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading early active, late moderate. Prices much lower. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-5x5s mostly 13.00-15.00. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected about the same. Trading jumbo and extra-large active at lower prices, others active. Prices jumbo and extra-large lower, others generally unchanged. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens jumbo (fairly heavy supplies) 7.00-8.00, extra-large mostly 8.00, large and medium mostly 10.00. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to increase. Trading fairly active. Prices higher. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 10.00. Vine ripens jumbo and extra-large 8.00-10.00. Demand was good and prices were higher later in the week. Harvest was curtailed due to rain and wet fields during the week. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia Eastern Shore is expected to increase. Trading moderate. Prices higher. Prices reported are for Friday, August 4th. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 11.00-12.95, 6x6 size mostly 13.00 and 6x7 size mostly 13.00-13.95. Supplies on 5x6 and 6x7 sizes are fairly light. Demand was good and prices were higher later in the week. Harvest was curtailed due to rain and wet fields during the week. 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 ripens U.S. Combination or Better extra-large and large mostly 8.95. Extra services included.

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

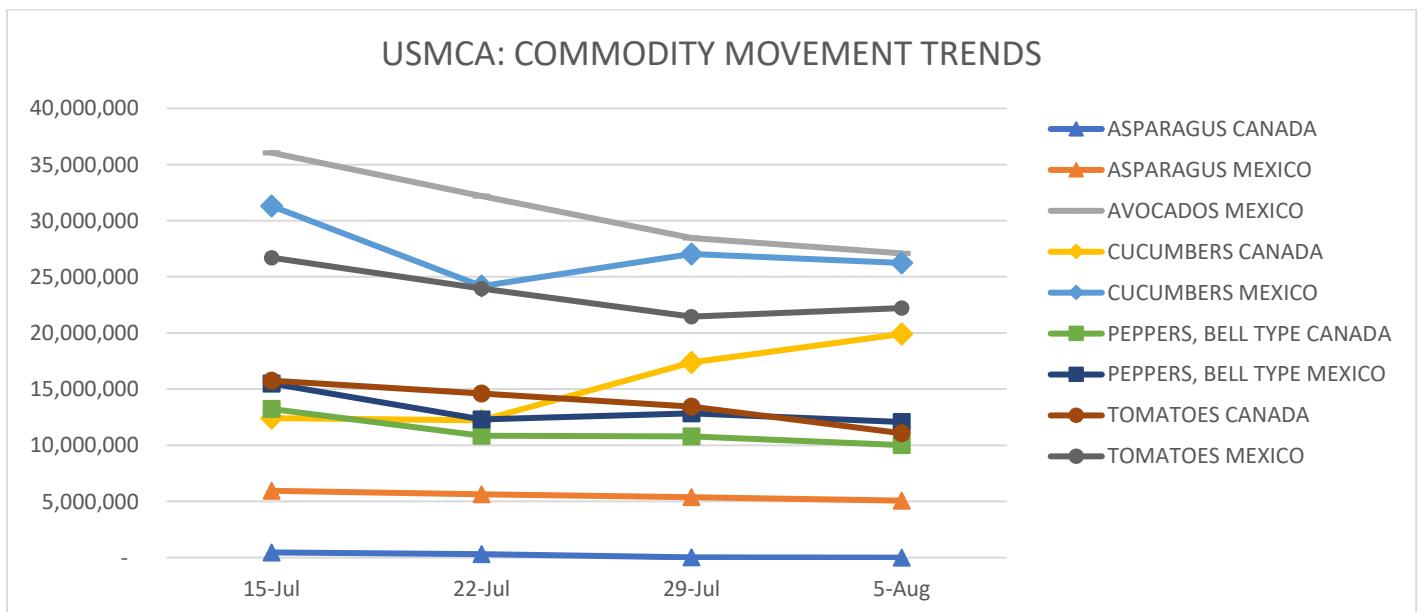
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	15-Jul	22-Jul	29-Jul	5-Aug
ASPARAGUS	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 33.75	\$ 32.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 32.50
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 47.82	\$ 46.46	\$ 48.46	\$ 54.43
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 20.12	\$ 21.55	\$ 19.88	\$ 18.73
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 16.62	\$ 15.62	\$ 14.45	\$ 14.45
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 13.64	\$ 16.48	\$ 17.23	\$ 16.23

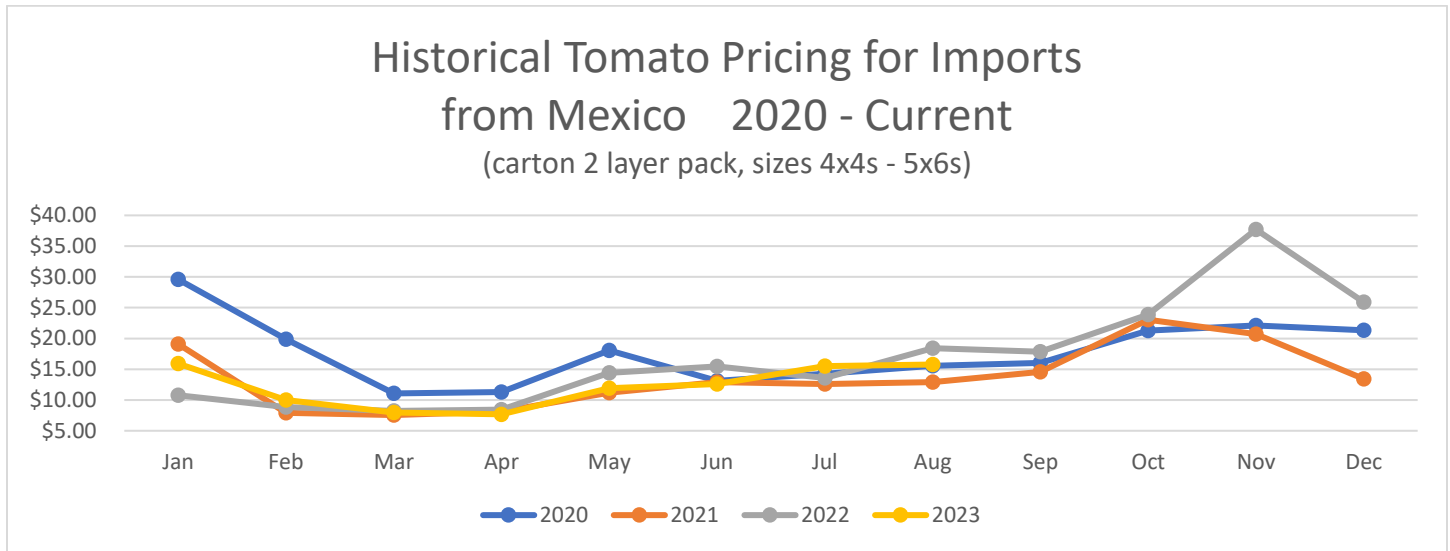


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	15-Jul	22-Jul	29-Jul	5-Aug
ASPARAGUS	CANADA	463,668	302,648	19,383	2
	MEXICO	5,954,212	5,642,847	5,393,456	5,075,232
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	36,051,890	32,196,276	28,470,557	27,094,039
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	12,428,136	12,227,133	17,369,379	19,915,873
	MEXICO	31,301,019	24,176,812	27,048,982	26,232,299
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	13,233,507	10,853,548	10,792,260	10,021,510
	MEXICO	15,506,853	12,293,723	12,852,388	12,079,100
TOMATOES	CANADA	15,761,642	14,627,398	13,436,091	11,077,167
	MEXICO	26,707,676	23,971,908	21,459,796	22,212,718



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