



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

Agricultural Marketing Service

Issued Weekly

Friday, August 25, 2023

Update for Week of August 20-26, 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. Blueberries have replaced asparagus, as the supplies from the various growing areas shipping blueberries peaks while supplies of asparagus are traditionally light in late summer. This list will be revisited regularly to maintain an accurate representation of the current trade situation affecting shippers of perishable commodities in North America.

Blueberries out of Michigan movement is expected to decrease slightly. Trading moderate. Prices unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large mostly 18.00-20.00. Some later varieties are going into C.A. storage. Quality variable. Movement of blueberries from Oregon and Washington are expected to decrease due to unseasonably warm temperatures and smoke from wildfires in Washington. Trading moderate. Prices higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids medium-large mostly 20.00-22.00, 6-ounce cups with lids medium-large mostly 14.00-16.00. Cartons 8 18-ounce containers with lids medium-large mostly 20.00-22.00. Prices include palletizing and cooling. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Movement of blueberries from British Columbia Canada crossings through Northwest Washington is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids Canada One medium-large mostly 20.00-22.00, flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids medium-large mostly 17.00-19.00. Cartons 8 18-ounce containers with lids medium-large mostly 20.00-22.00. Prices include palletizing and cooling.

Movement of avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to increase. Trading slow. Prices lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-36s supplies insufficient to quote, 40s mostly 72.25-74.25, 48s mostly 60.25-62.25, 60s mostly 36.25-38.25, 70s 20.25-22.25 and 84s mostly 16.25-18.25. Extra services included. Avocado movement out of South District California is expected to decrease. Trading moderate. Prices lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32-40s supplies insufficient to quote, 48s mostly 70.25-72.25, 60s mostly 43.25-45.25, 70s 25.25-27.25 and 84s mostly 18.25-20.25. Extra services included. Movement of avocado from Peru imports through Philadelphia and New York City area ports of entry 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 shipments are expected through the end of the week. The last F.O.B. report was issued this week.

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 mostly 20.95-23.95, large mostly 19.95-21.95, fair quality mostly 16.95-17.95 and ordinary quality mostly 11.95-12.95. 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 moderate. Prices large much higher, others slightly higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 16.95-18.95, large mostly 16.95 and fair quality 14.95-16.95. Cartons 24s 7.95-8.95 and 36s 9.95-10.95. Supplies light. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Western and Central New York is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 15.00-16.00 and fair quality mostly 7.00-8.00. Supplies in few hands. Quality generally good. Cucumber movement out of Michigan is expected to remain about the same. Trading

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moderate. Prices slightly higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 18.35-18.85 and fair quality 10.35-10.85. Cartons 24s 8.35-8.85. Movement of cucumber out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices higher. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 15.85-16.00 and fair quality 8.35-8.88.

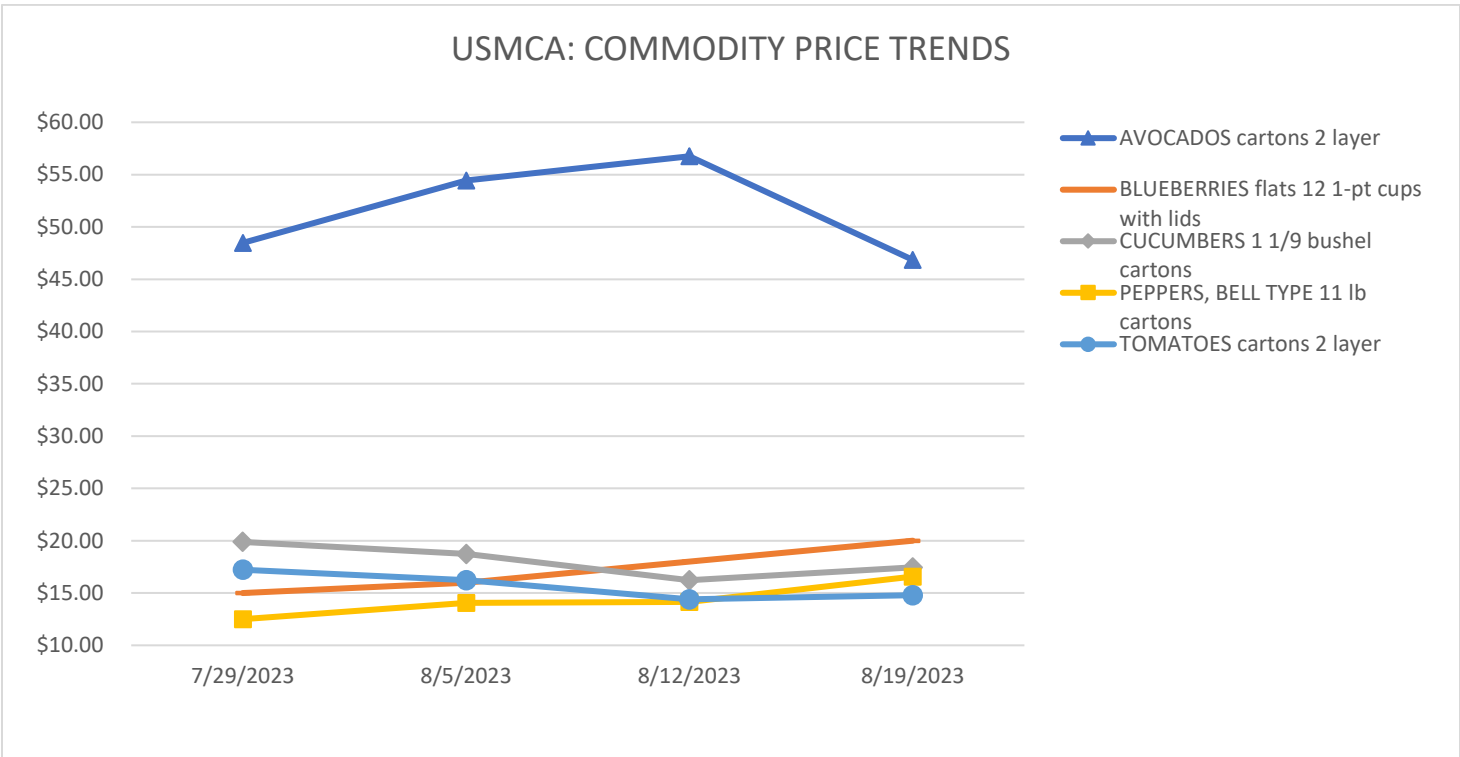
Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected about the same. Trading extra-large very active and large active at slightly lower prices. Prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large mostly 20.95-21.95 and large 18.95-20.95. Supplies are very light and in few hands. The season is expected to finish in the coming weeks. Quality generally good. Green bell peppers out of Michigan movement are expected to increase as harvest gets fully underway with few growers. Trading fairly active. Prices unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel crates green jumbo 12.00, extra-large 12.00-14.00 and medium irregular size fair quality mostly 9.00. Green bell peppers out of Western North Carolina movement are expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices jumbo generally unchanged, extra-large higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo mostly 10.00-11.00, extra-large 12.00-12.85 and irregular sized fair quality mostly 10.00-10.35. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Texas 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. Remaining supplies consist of red, yellow and orange bell peppers. A last report is expected to be issued for green bell peppers due to supplies remaining very light. Quality variable.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices 4x4-4x5s slightly higher, 5x5 size lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-5x5s mostly 14.95-16.95, 5x6s mostly 14.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 16.95, 5x5 size 13.95 and 5x6 size 16.95. Supplies of 5x5 sizes are fairly heavy. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected about the same. Trading moderate. Prices higher. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens jumbo and extra-large 8.00-9.95, large and medium 10.00-12.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia Eastern Shore is expected to remain about the same. Trading 5x6 size fairly slow, others active. Prices 5x6 size lower, others generally unchanged. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 10.95-12.95 and 6x6-6x7 sizes mostly 16.95. In Tennessee, 5x6 size supplies remain heavy, demand is moderate and good on other sizes. The lack of smaller sizes has caused the price to remain higher. Larger sizes are more than enough, and the prices continue to be lower. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading early active, late moderate. Prices higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-5x5s 15.00-17.00. Supplies are very light. Harvest and crossings curtailed due to Hurricane Hillary. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to remain about the same. Trading large active, others fairly slow. Prices large generally unchanged, others lower. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 9.00. Vine ripers jumbo and extra-large 8.00-10.00, large 10.00-12.00. The lack of smaller sizes has caused the price to remain higher. Larger sizes are more than enough, and the prices continue to be lower. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices slightly higher. 25-pound cartons loose vine ripers U.S. Combination or Better extra-large 9.95-10.95 and large 9.95. Extra services included.

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

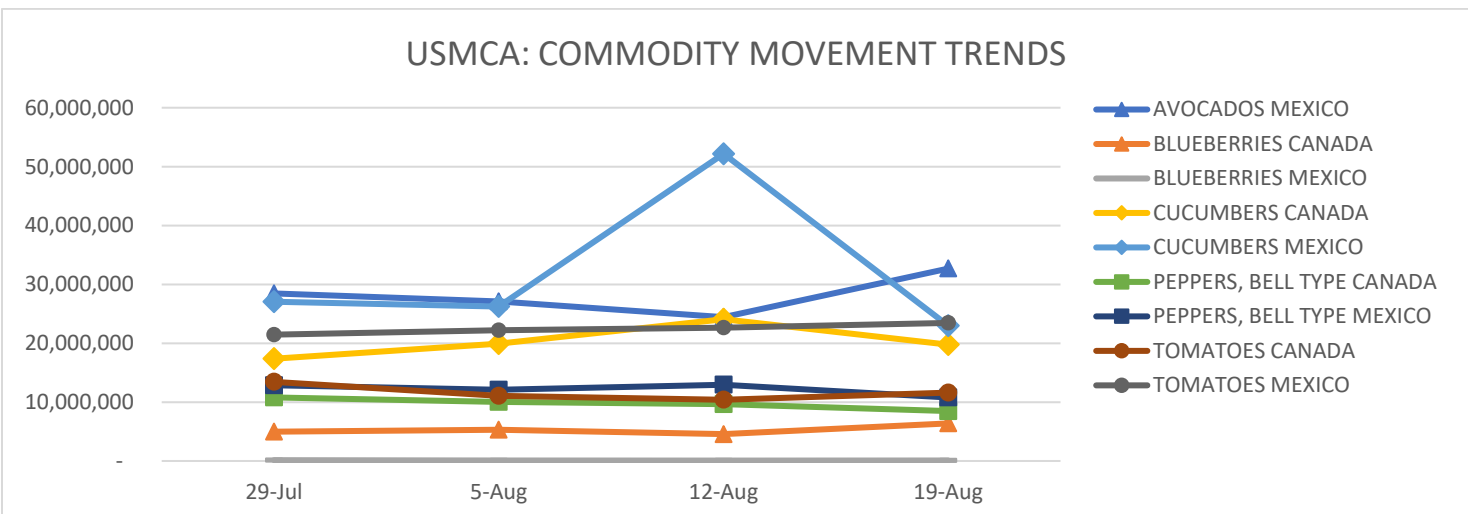
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	7/29/2023	8/5/2023	8/12/2023	8/19/2023
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 48.46	\$ 54.43	\$ 56.75	\$ 46.85
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 1-pt cups with lids	\$ 15.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 20.00
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 19.88	\$ 18.73	\$ 16.23	\$ 17.46
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb cartons	\$ 12.50	\$ 14.07	\$ 14.14	\$ 16.57
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 17.23	\$ 16.23	\$ 14.40	\$ 14.79

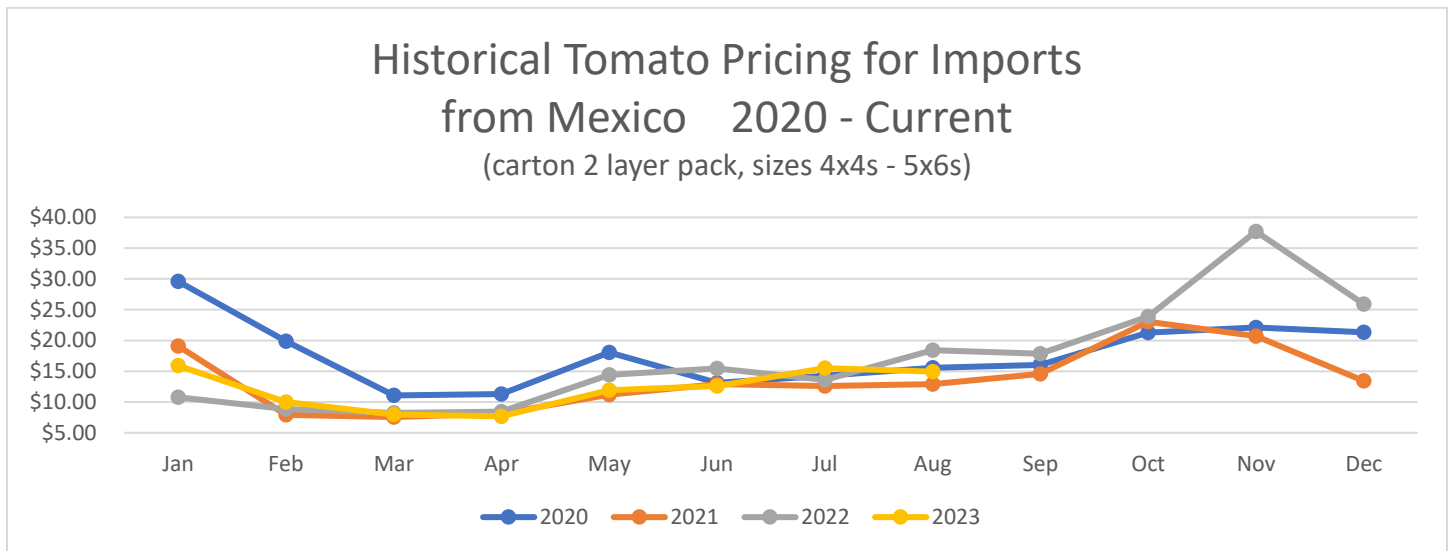


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	29-Jul-23	5-Aug-23	12-Aug-23	19-Aug-23
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	28,470,557	27,094,039	24,430,254	32,675,897
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	4,985,868	5,291,342	4,566,695	6,377,284
	MEXICO	137,778	74,265	69,977	78,567
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	17,369,379	19,915,873	24,071,527	19,772,447
	MEXICO	27,048,982	26,232,299	52,177,506	22,986,829
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	10,792,260	10,021,510	9,626,733	8,480,583
	MEXICO	12,852,388	12,079,100	12,944,123	10,782,927
TOMATOES	CANADA	13,436,091	11,077,167	10,395,631	11,607,775
	MEXICO	21,459,796	22,212,718	22,623,628	23,447,837



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