



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

Agricultural Marketing Service

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Friday, September 8, 2023

## **Update for Week of September 3 - 9, 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 Hurricane Idalia made landfall in the Big Bend area of Florida, it quickly rolled through southern part of Georgia damaging some of the state's fall crops, including pecans. Some produce damage was reported with plastic torn and ripped up in some areas. Sweet corn was reported laying in the field. Hay barns, sheds and other agricultural facilities were reported as mangled or blown down. Also, the Valdosta State Farmer's Market sustained roof damage. Across multiple divisions and programs, the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) licenses and regulates approximately 13,000 businesses located in the area impacted by Hurricane Idalia. "As a 7<sup>th</sup> generation farmer, I know firsthand the devastating impacts severe weather can have not only on our farmers and producers, but on rural communities, local economies, and our state's economy as a whole," Agriculture Commissioner Tyler Harper said in a news release. Growers who experience losses and/or damages due to the hurricane are being advised to contact the Farm Service Agency (FSA), and their local, state, and federal agencies.

Blueberries out of Michigan movement is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading active. Prices higher. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large mostly 28.00-30.00. Wide range in quality. Movement of blueberries from British Columbia Canada crossings through Northwest Washington is expected to decrease seasonally. Flats 12 1-pint and 6-ounce cups with lids Canada One medium-large supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Cartons 8 18-ounce containers with lids medium-large supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Movement of blueberries from Oregon and Washington is expected to decrease seasonally. Flats 12 1-pint and 6-ounce cups with lids medium-large supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Cartons 8 18-ounce containers with lids medium-large supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable.

Movement of avocado crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected to increase. Trading slow. Prices 70s generally unchanged, others lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 40s mostly 64.25-66.25, 48s mostly 47.25-49.25, 60s mostly 30.25-32.25, 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 early fairly slow, late moderate. Prices 48s higher, 84s slightly higher, 60s lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 40s 65.25-68.25, 48s 55.25-58.25, 60s mostly 38.25-40.25, 70s mostly 24.25-26.25 and 84s mostly 18.25-20.25. Extra services included.

Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late slow. Prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium and large mostly 16.95-18.95 and fair quality 14.95-16.95. Cartons 36s 9.95-10.95. Supplies light. Quality variable. Movement of cucumber from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early active, late fairly slow. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 15.95-16.95, large mostly 14.95-16.95, fair quality mostly 12.95-14.95 and ordinary quality mostly 8.95-9.95. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Western and Central New York is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading fairly active. Prices unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel

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cartons medium 18.00-20.00 and fair quality 10.00-18.00. Supplies fairly light and in few hands. Quality generally good. Cucumber movement out of Michigan is expected to remain about the same. Trading active. Prices unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 20.35-20.85 and fair quality 12.35-14.85. Cartons 24s 10.35-10.85. Movement of cucumber out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices medium slightly lower, fair quality slightly higher. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 18.00-20.00 and fair quality 12.00-14.00. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to begin with light shipments within 7-14 days. Expect sufficient volume and number of shippers within the period. The first F.O.B. report is expected by the week of October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices much lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo mostly 13.95-14.95, extra-large mostly 15.95-16.95, large mostly 12.95-14.95 and irregular sized fair quality mostly 10.95-12.95. Demand is fairly light this week when compared to last week. Shipments totals are consistent, and volumes are still pretty good. The season is expected to finish in the coming weeks. Quality generally good. Green bell peppers out of Michigan movement are expected about the same. Trading fairly slow. Prices unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel crates green jumbo and extra-large 10.00 and medium irregular size fair quality mostly 7.00. Green bell peppers out of Western North Carolina movement are expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large 10.00-12.00 and irregular sized fair quality 8.00-10.00.

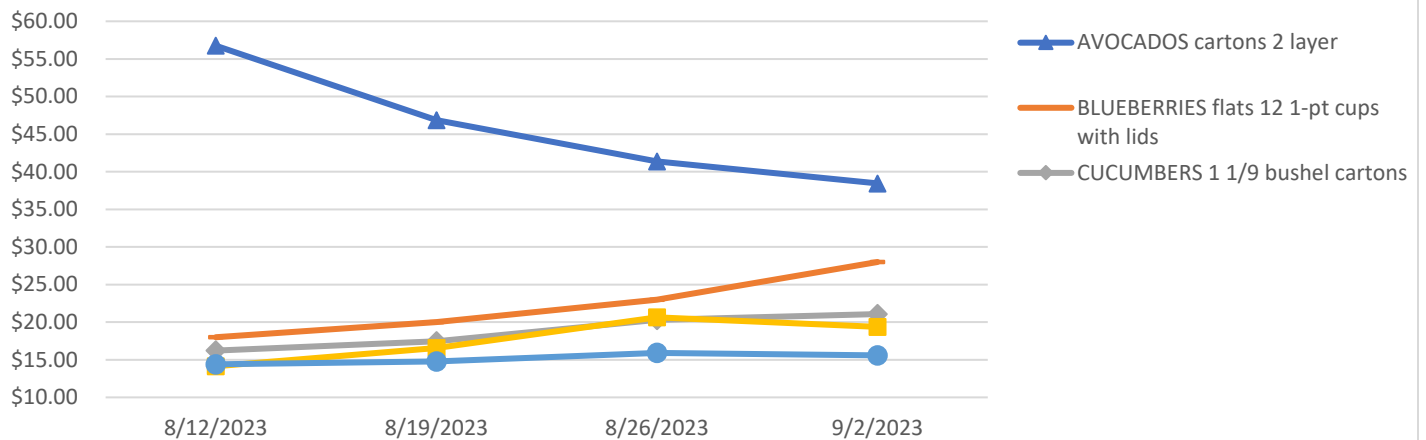
Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading 4x4-5x6s fairly active, others fairly slow. Prices generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-4x5s mostly 16.95, 5x5-5x6s mostly 14.95-15.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 15.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes 13.95-14.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected about the same. Trading active. Prices higher. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens jumbo and extra-large 10.00-12.95, large and medium 16.00-16.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Eastern Tennessee and Virginia Eastern Shore is expected to decrease. Trading 5x6 size fairly slow, others moderate. Prices 5x6 size generally unchanged, others lower. Prices reported are for September 1<sup>st</sup>. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 12.95-14.95 and 6x6-6x7 sizes 17.00-18.95. Tennessee is expecting showers in the late afternoon which could curtail some harvest. Demand remains moderate to fairly light. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading early moderate, late active. Prices generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-5x5s mostly 14.00-16.00. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Alabama is expected to remain about the same. Trading large moderate, others fairly slow. Prices 5x6 size lower, others generally unchanged. 25-pound cartons loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6 size 9.00-10.00. Vine ripers jumbo and extra-large 8.00-10.00 and large 12.00. Alabama is expecting showers in the late afternoon which could curtail some harvest. Demand remains moderate to fairly light. Prices remain about steady later in the week. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices slightly lower. 25-pound cartons loose vine ripers U.S. Combination or Better jumbo mostly 8.95, extra-large 7.95-9.95 and large 7.95. 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	8/12/2023	8/19/2023	8/26/2023	9/2/2023
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 56.75	\$ 46.85	\$ 41.35	\$ 38.45
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 1-pt cups with lids	\$ 18.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 28.00
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 16.23	\$ 17.46	\$ 20.33	\$ 21.08
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb cartons	\$ 14.14	\$ 16.57	\$ 20.64	\$ 19.36
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 14.40	\$ 14.79	\$ 15.91	\$ 15.60

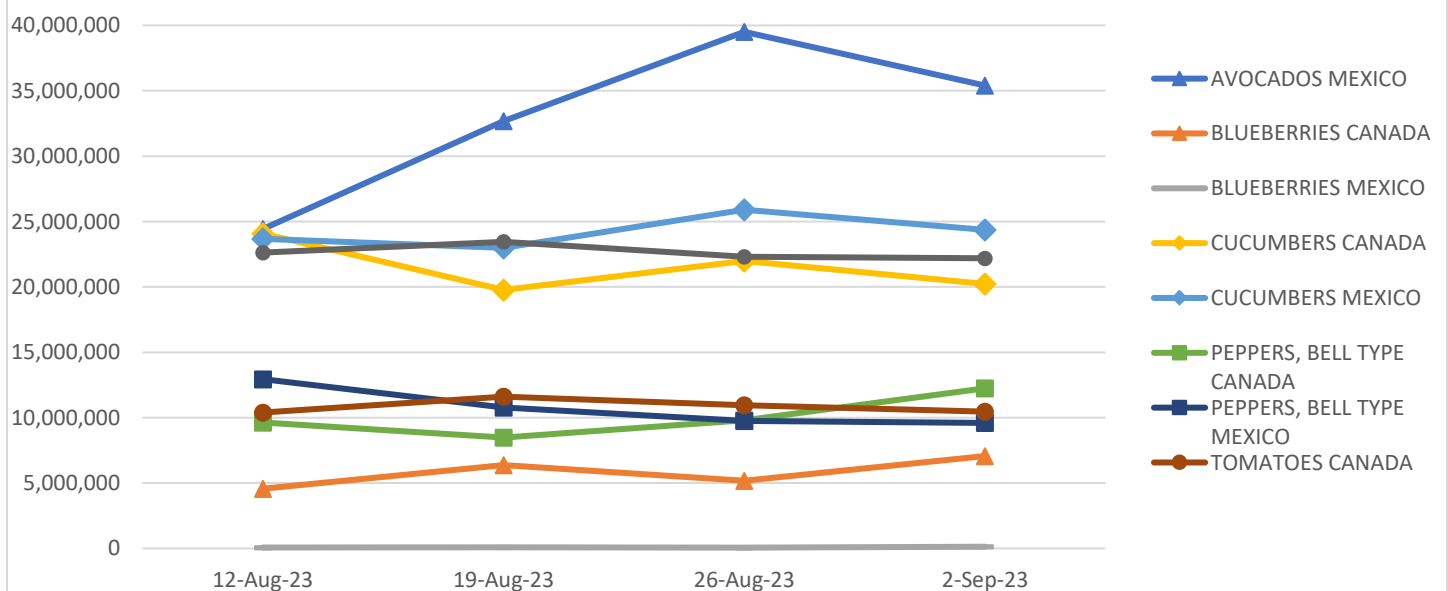
## USMCA: COMMODITY PRICE TRENDS



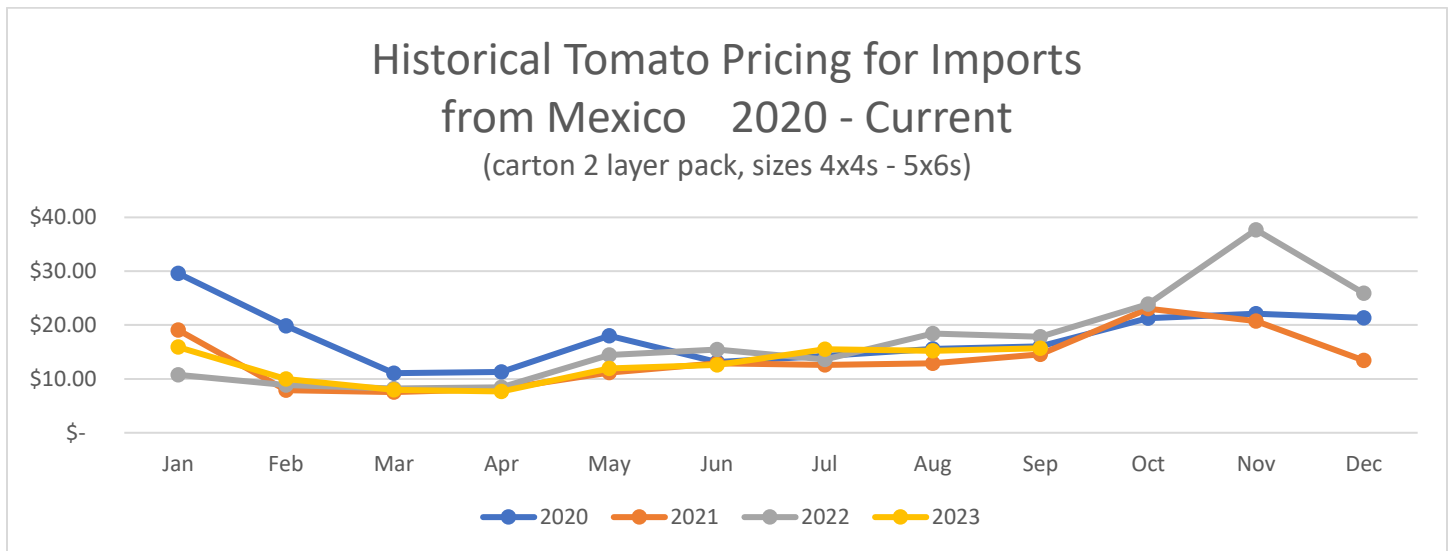
## Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	12-Aug-23	19-Aug-23	26-Aug-23	2-Sep-23
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	24,430,254	32,675,897	39,508,631	35,397,900
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	4,566,695	6,377,284	5,184,390	7,066,327
	MEXICO	69,977	78,567	72,758	131,172
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	24,071,527	19,772,447	21,978,824	20,236,526
	MEXICO	23,688,663	22,986,829	25,902,716	24,357,463
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	9,626,733	8,480,583	9,812,679	12,244,375
	MEXICO	12,944,123	10,782,927	9,749,277	9,599,604
TOMATOES	CANADA	10,395,631	11,607,775	10,959,268	10,455,429
	MEXICO	22623628	23447837	22303575	22192704

## 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 alliacious 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