



# 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 December 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.

Federal trucking regulators have issued a warning that late next year truck drivers who test positive for drug use will not only be placed on prohibited driving status but will lose their commercial driver licenses and not be issued learning permits until they complete the federal return-to-work process. The notice, issued on November 28<sup>th</sup> by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), will take effect nationwide by November 18, 2024. Individual state driver licensing agencies will be responsible for taking action after a failed driver drug test is registered in the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse maintained by FMCSA.

Movement of blueberries from Peru imports through Miami, Philadelphia, and New York ports of entry via boat expected to decrease seasonally. Trading moderate with prices unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large 26.00-32.00, flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids large 16.00-20.00. Quality is reported as good. Movement of blueberries from Mexico crossings through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to increase. Trading was slow at lower prices. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids mostly 26.00. Flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids mostly 16.00-18.00. Quality is reported as variable, with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments.

Movement of avocados from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was fairly slow early improving to moderate later. Prices 40s-48s were lower with others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 36s-40s mostly 48.25-50.25, 48s mostly 36.25-37.25, 60s mostly 25.25-26.25, 70s mostly 21.25-22.25 and 84s mostly 17.25-18.25. Extra services included.

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading was slow early improving to moderate later, with prices slightly lower on heavy supplies. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 16.95-18.95, large mostly 14.95-16.95, fair quality mostly 14.95-16.95 and ordinary quality mostly 7.95-8.95. Cartons 24s mostly 5.95-7.95 and 36s mostly 8.95-10.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of cucumber from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate at lower prices. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 17.95-18.95, large mostly 15.95-16.95, fair quality mostly 10.95-12.95 and ordinary quality mostly 7.95-

For more information on:

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

8.95. Quality is reported as variable with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate at slightly lower prices. Supply and demand remained about moderate through the week. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 18.00-20.00, fair quality mostly 8.00-10.00. Cartons 24s mostly 6.00. Includes palletizing and precooling.

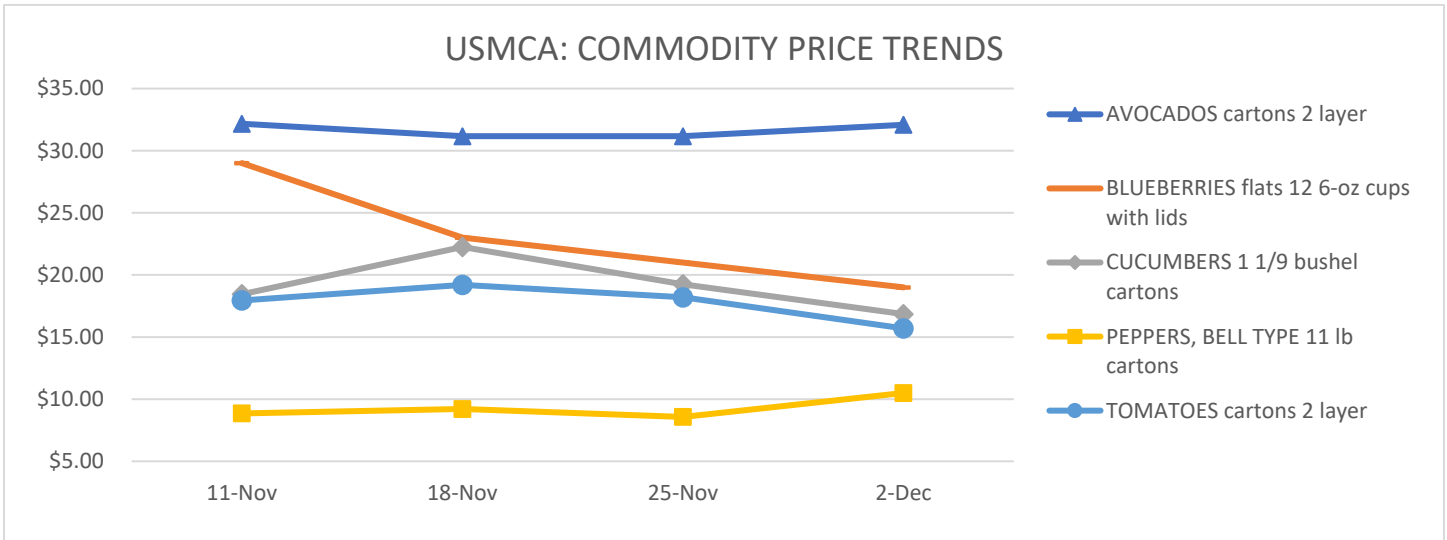
Movement of green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida are expected to continue seasonal increase. Trading moderate at slightly lower prices. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo mostly 14.00, extra-large mostly 12.00, large mostly 10.00, and irregular sized fair quality mostly 10.35-12.85. Supplies moderate with demand fairly light. Includes palletizing and precooling. Quality generally good. Green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California movement is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading of green moderate at lower prices. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green extra-large 18.95-20.95, large mostly 16.95-18.95 and irregular sized fair quality mostly 12.95-14.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Trading was moderate early and slow later, with prices lower to much lower. The first F.O.B. price report has been issued. Prices 1 1/9 bushel cartons jumbo, extra-large and large mostly 12.95-14.95, medium mostly 10.95-12.95, small 8.95, irregular size fair quality mostly 12.95-14.95. Quality is reported as generally good.

Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase. Trading was moderate early and fairly slow later. Prices 5x6 size slightly lower, 6x6 size lower, 6x7 size generally unchanged. 25-pound cartons loose 5x6 size 14.95-16.95, 6x6 size 12.95-14.95, and 6x7 size 10.95-12.95. Demand was reported as good to very good. Extra services included. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading fairly active with prices 5x5-5x6s slightly lower, others slightly higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 16.95-18.95, 5x5-5x6s mostly 14.95-15.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 17.95-19.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes 15.95-16.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Current supplies in too few hands to establish a market. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of December 3. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected to decrease slightly. Trading slow early improving to moderate later, with prices generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 17.95-19.95, 5x5s mostly 16.95-17.95 and 5x6s mostly 16.95. Quality is reported as generally good.

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

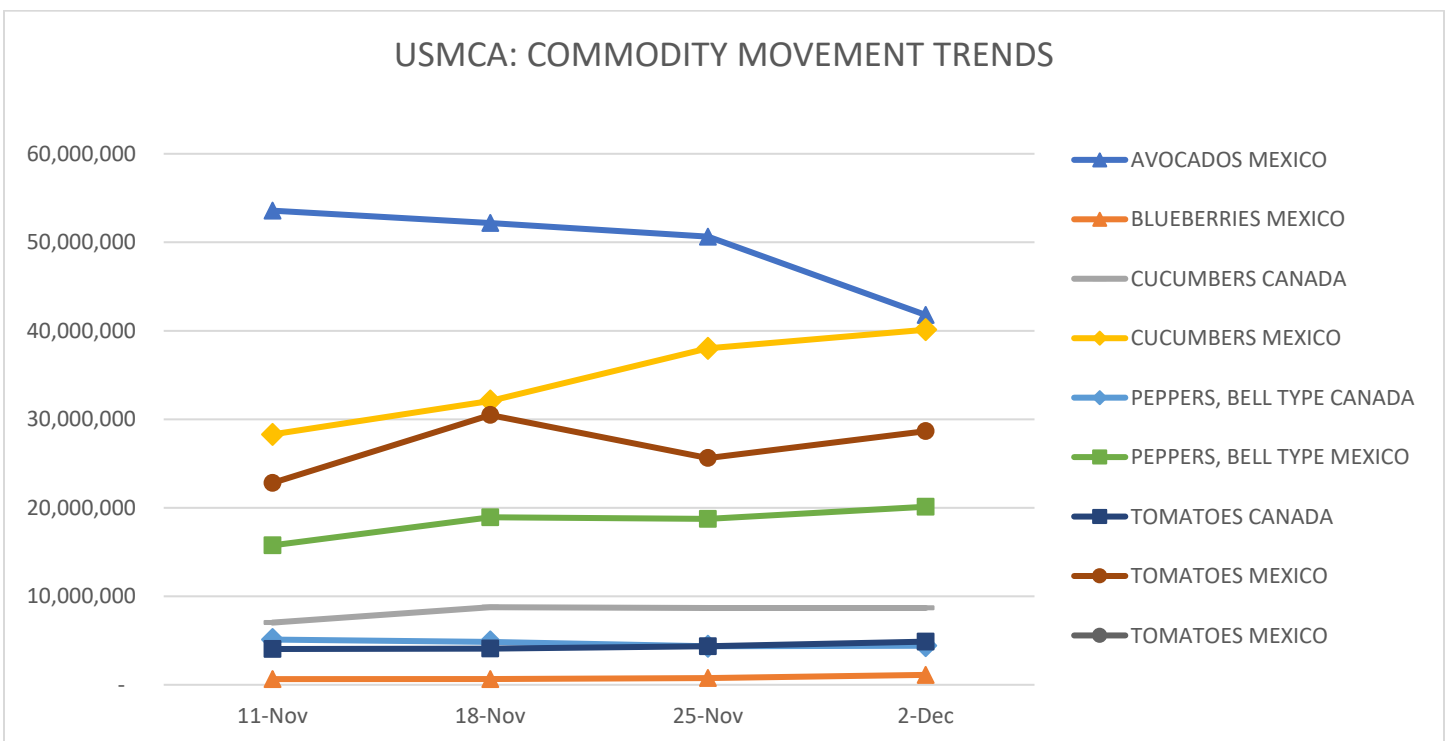
#### Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	2-Dec
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 32.17	\$ 31.17	\$ 31.17	\$ 32.08
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 29.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 19.00
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 18.45	\$ 22.25	\$ 19.25	\$ 16.85
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb cartons	\$ 8.86	\$ 9.21	\$ 8.57	\$ 10.50
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 17.95	\$ 19.20	\$ 18.20	\$ 15.70

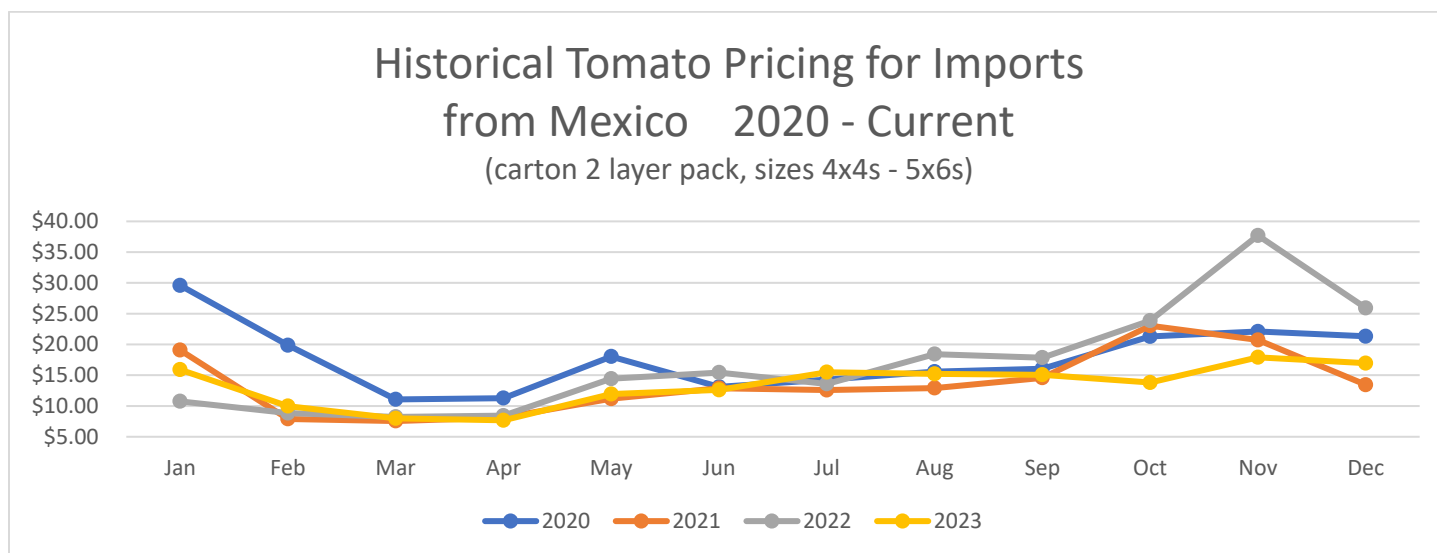


### Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	2-Dec
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	53,577,118	52,181,114	50,639,858	41,792,607
BLUEBERRIES	MEXICO	642,676	646,561	759,728	1,119,915
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	7,027,223	8,766,652	8,685,451	8,680,223
	MEXICO	28,293,407	32,067,827	38,015,959	40,123,121
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	5,108,479	4,839,586	4,353,282	4,414,849
	MEXICO	15,755,867	18,928,121	18,747,936	20,120,072
TOMATOES	CANADA	4,044,131	4,093,928	4,352,670	4,876,629
	MEXICO	22,814,748	30,483,125	25,625,815	28,663,849



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