



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 January 14-20, 2024

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.

Although 2024 has barely begun, some analysts are already predicting another challenging year for the trucking industry. The freight shortage experienced in 2023 is expected to continue, according to an article by Smart Trucking. This is creating a domino effect, where the effects are felt by trucking companies, drivers, and ultimately the American consumers of the goods they haul. Several issues are compounding the issue, including lingering disruptions caused by the pandemic, capacity constraints, increasing freight rates, and a shortage of qualified drivers. Fuel prices are down from record levels experienced in the past few years but remain high, further straining the supply chain.

Movement of avocados from Mexico crossing through Texas is expected to increase slightly. Trading fairly active on 60s-84s, others fairly slow. Prices conventional 60s and 84s and organic 60s-70s higher, conventional 36s-48s lower, others generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Hass 32s mostly 46.25-48.25, 36s mostly 40.25-42.25, 40s mostly 35.25-37.25, 48s mostly 33.25-35.25, 60s mostly 32.25-33.25, 70s mostly 22.25-23.25 and 84s mostly 18.25-19.25. Extra services included.

Movement of blueberries from Chile through ports of entry Miami, Philadelphia, and New York area is expected to increase. Trading fairly active. The first F.O.B. price report has been issued, and prices flats 12 1-pint cups with lids mostly 28.00-30.00, flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids mostly 29.00-30.00. 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 generally unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large 28.00-30.00, flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids large 18.00-23.00. Quality is reported as good. Movement of blueberries from Mexico crossings through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to increase. Trading moderate early but fairly slow later, with prices generally unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids mostly 30.00, flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids mostly 18.00. Quality is reported as variable, with many present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments.

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Early trading moderate increasing to active later on light supplies. Prices 24s and 36s higher, others much higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium and large 26.95-30.95, fair quality mostly 24.95-26.95 and ordinary quality mostly 16.95-18.95. Cartons 24s mostly 9.95-11.95 and 36s mostly 12.95-14.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was fairly active early increasing to active later.

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
- [Movement Report Details](#)
- [Generating Custom Reports](#)

For assistance please contact: jeff.main@usda.gov

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

Prices much higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 30.95-32.95, large 22.95-34.95, fair quality mostly 20.95 and ordinary quality mostly 16.95-18.95. Quality is reported as variable with most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement cucumbers from Central America (Honduras) arriving via boat through South Florida ports of entry is expected to remain about the same. Trading active. The first F.O.B. price report has been issued. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium 24.00-28.00, large 16.00, fair quality mostly 20.00-22.00. Carton 24s 12.00. Available supplies currently light and in few hands, with good production reported. Quality and condition are reported as generally good.

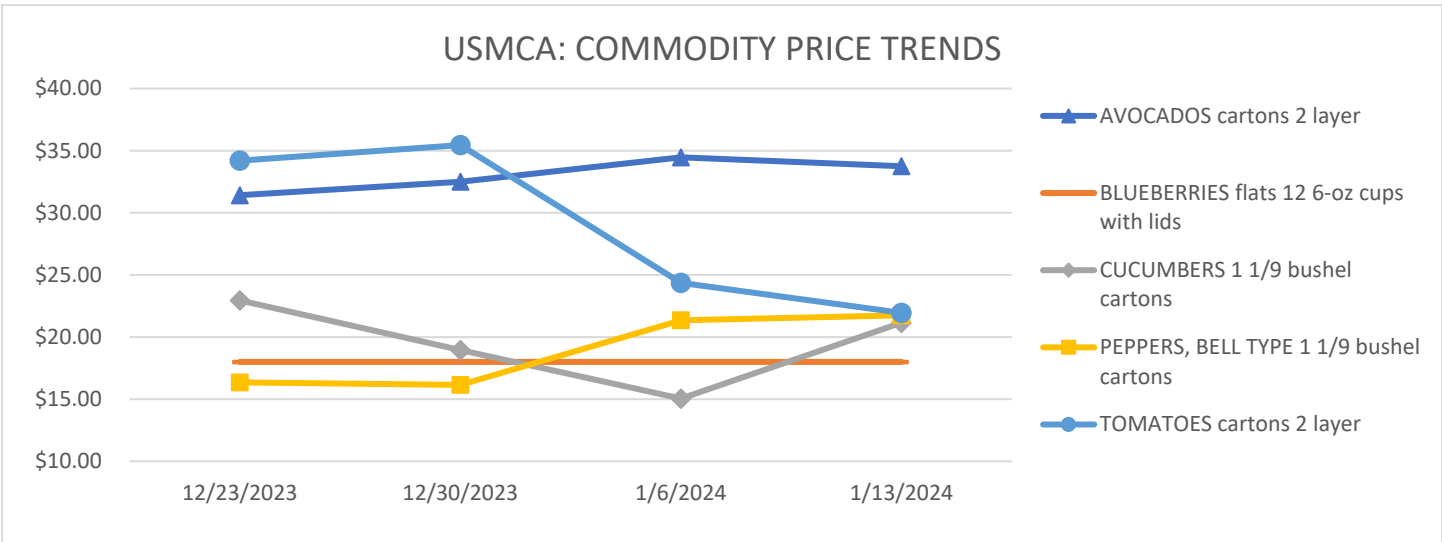
Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Trading moderate at much lower prices. Prices 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large mostly 18.95, large mostly 14.95-16.95, medium mostly 13.95-14.95, small 10.95-13.95, irregular size fair quality mostly 14.95-16.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate on fairly light supplies as winter weather across much of the the country has reduced demand. Prices fair quality slightly lower, others generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo and extra-large mostly 24.35, large mostly 22.35, and irregular sized fair quality mostly 20.35-22.35. Includes palletizing and precooling. Quality is reported as generally good. Green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California movement expected to decrease sharply. Trading fairly active, with supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Quality is reported as generally good for remaining very light supplies.

Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase. Trading was active with supplies fairly light to light as inclement weather has affected crop maturity, delaying some harvest in Central Florida while other growers are moving further south in the state to start new fields. Demand good with 25-pound cartons loose 5x6, 6x6 and 6x7 sizes mostly 26.95-27.00. Demand fairly light, with some harvests curtailed due to inclement weather throughout the week. Extra services included. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading moderate early increasing to fairly active later. Prices much higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-4x5s mostly 26.95-28.95, 5x5-5x6s mostly 24.95-26.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 28.95-30.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes 26.95-28.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Trading moderate at much higher prices. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers 4x4-4x5s 26.95-30.95, 5x5-5x6s 25.95-30.95. Quality is reported as generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected to decrease sharply as the season has come to an end. Cartons 2-layer vine ripers supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Quality is reported as generally good for remaining very light supplies.

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

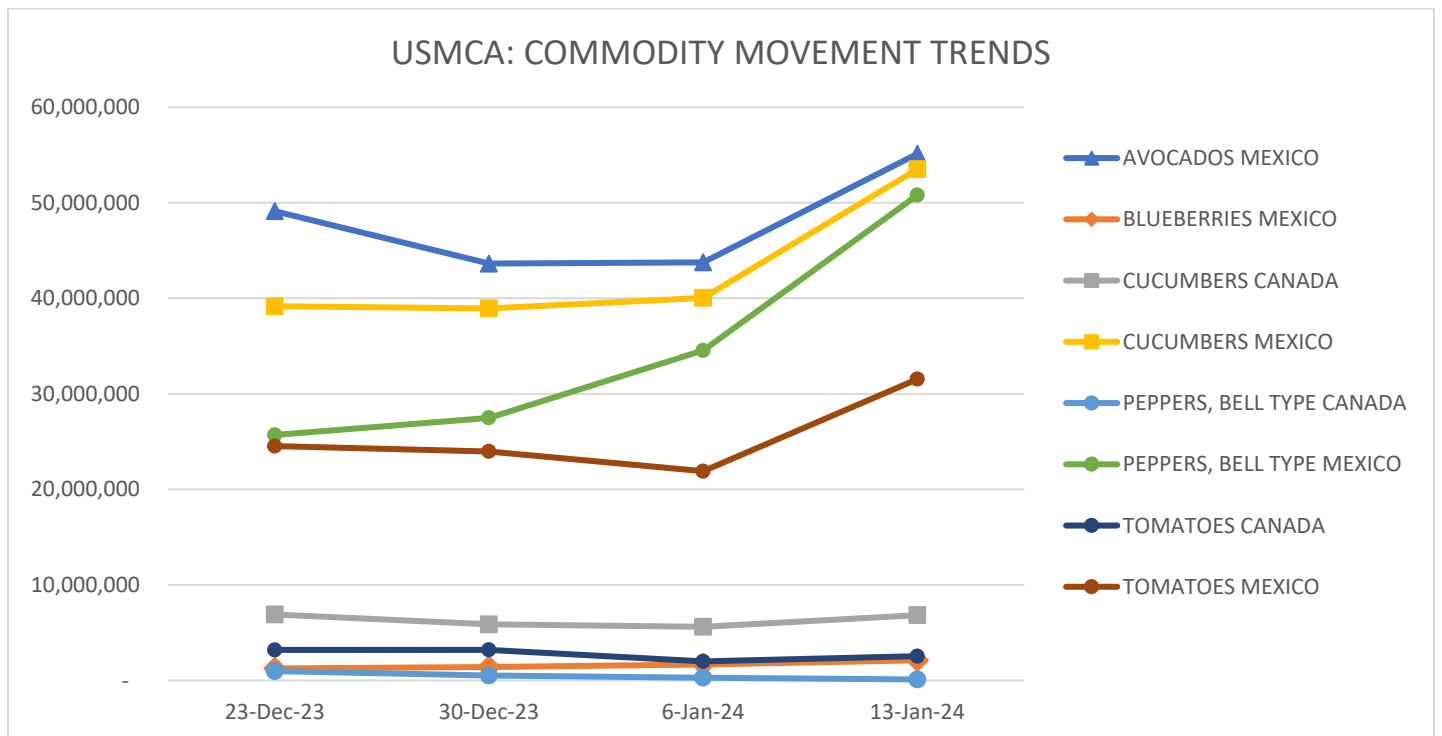
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	12/23/2023	12/30/2023	1/6/2024	1/13/2024
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 31.42	\$ 32.50	\$ 34.46	\$ 33.75
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 22.95	\$ 18.95	\$ 15.05	\$ 21.15
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 16.35	\$ 16.15	\$ 21.35	\$ 21.75
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 34.20	\$ 35.45	\$ 24.37	\$ 21.95

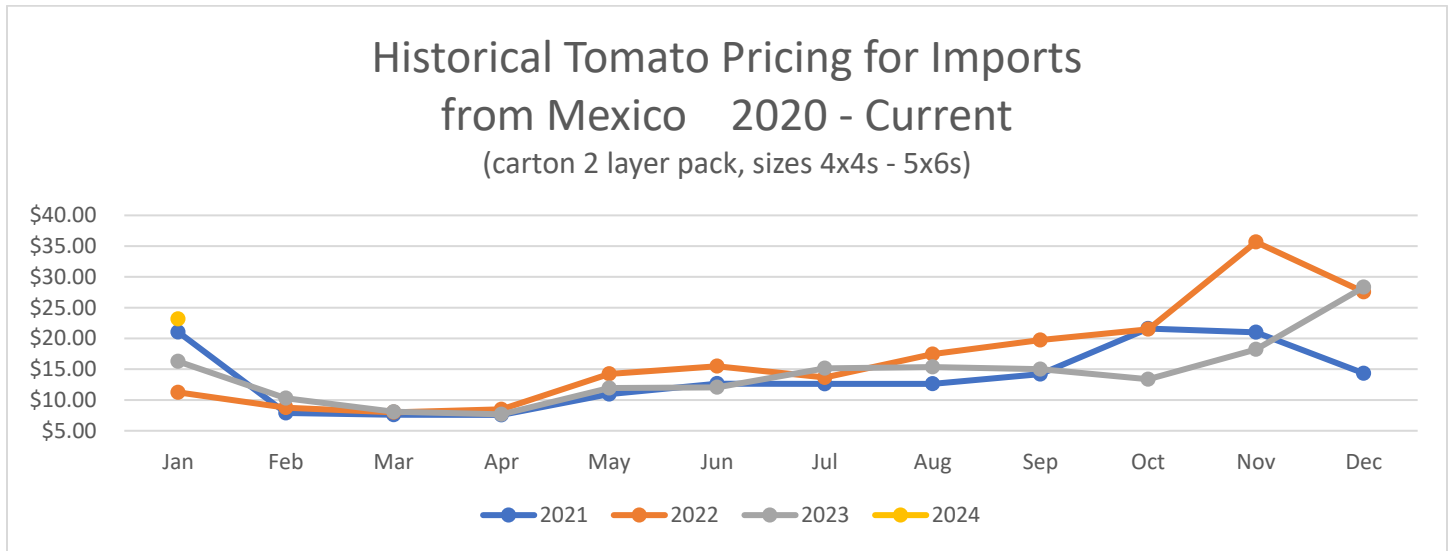


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	23-Dec-23	30-Dec-23	6-Jan-24	13-Jan-24
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	49,122,349	43,639,052	43,759,931	55,120,532
BLUEBERRIES	MEXICO	1,261,125	1,402,066	1,668,955	2,109,828
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	6,905,377	5,873,965	5,614,524	6,838,549
	MEXICO	39,163,781	38,937,094	40,042,173	53,508,900
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	976,666	522,362	285,735	106,153
	MEXICO	25,695,019	27,480,852	34,541,477	50,795,799
TOMATOES	CANADA	3,189,039	3,199,473	1,994,738	2,541,508
	MEXICO	24,532,035	23,965,289	21,902,871	31,540,740



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