



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 April 21-27, 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.

Jalisco seeking to expand export markets for their Mexican avocados. Clayton Swart, (FreshPlaza.com) on April 23, 2024, reported that Mexico's Jalisco 2024 avocado production is expected to increase year-round exports by approximately 5% to the more than 30 countries they currently serve. Jalisco's main buyers include the U.S., Canada, Japan and E.U. with hopes to expand exports to India, Korea, China Malaysia, and Chile. The increased availability is from new orchards coming into full production.

Seasonal changes have led to a shift in the commodities of interest for this report. Cucumbers replaced asparagus, as the number of growing areas for shipping asparagus declined while demand for cucumbers is traditionally steady in the spring. This list will be revisited regularly to maintain an accurate representation of the current trade situation affecting shippers of perishable commodities in North America.

Avocado shippers are busy filling Cinco-de-Mayo contracts and commitments as Cinco de Mayo has become one of the most important dates for marketing fresh produce in the United States. It is the second highest consumption date of the year for avocados, surpassed only by the Super Bowl. Mexico supplies of large size (32-48s) spot market fruit are moving exceptionally well at strong prices, leaving little available for spot market sales. There are plenty of small fruit (70-84s) supplies available, creating a more competitive lower priced market. Avocado movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to remain about the same. Trading early of organic 60s-70s was fairly slow at higher prices, others are fairly slow; trading late of 32-48s is fairly active, others are fairly slow. Prices of organic are generally unchanged, conventional 32-48s are higher, others are lower. Cartons 2-layers Hass 32s are mostly 48.25-51.25, 36s are mostly 48.25-51.25, 40s are mostly 48.25-50.25, 48s are mostly 48.25-50.25, 60s are mostly 41.25-42.25, 70s are mostly 34.28-36.25, 84s are mostly 26.25-27.25; organic 48s are mostly 52.25-54.25, 60s are mostly 50.25-52.25, 70s are mostly 43.25-45.25. Extra services are included. Movement from South District California is expected to remain about the same. Trading early was fairly slow, late is moderate. Prices of conventional 60s-84s are lower, others are generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layers Hass 32-48s are mostly 46.25-48.25, 60s are mostly 44.25-46.25, 70s are mostly 36.25-38.25, 84s are mostly 29.25-32.25; organic 48s are mostly 55.25-57.25. Extra services are included.

Cucumber markets continue to see steady demand, with slightly better interest in large sizes. Movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices of small are slightly higher, 24s and 36s are generally unchanged, others are slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are 12.95-14.95, fair quality are mostly 10.95, ordinary quality are 6.95-7.95; small are 8.95-10.95; large are mostly 12.95; carton 24s are 5.95-6.95, 36s are 6.95-8.95. Quality is variable. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices of large are slightly higher, medium are higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are mostly 17.95-19.95, fair quality are mostly 14.95-16.95, ordinary quality are mostly 10.95-11.95, large are mostly 20.95-21.95. Quality and condition are variable. Many present shipments are from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to increase seasonally. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Quality is generally good. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of May 19. Movement from Central and South Florida is expected to slightly increase. Trading is fairly active. Prices of fair quality are lower; others are slightly higher. Prices include palletizing and precooling. 1 1/9-bushel cartons waxed medium are mostly 18.35, fair quality are mostly 10.35. Carton 24s are mostly 7.35. Quality is generally good.

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.](#)

Green Bell Pepper movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons of extra-large are 12.95-14.95, large are 10.95-12.95, medium are 8.95-10.95, irregular size fair quality are 6.95-10.95. Quality and condition are variable. Movement from Central and South Florida is expected to slightly decrease. Trading is fairly slow. Prices of fair quality are slightly lower, others are generally unchanged. Prices include palletizing and precooling. 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large are mostly 16.35, large are mostly 14.35, irregular sized fair quality are mostly 10.35-12.35. Quality is generally good. Harvest from Imperial and Coachella Valleys, California began the week of April 21. Growing conditions, quality, and initial production are looking good, with good color peaking on larger sizes. Harvest of red bell peppers is about a month away with production of both green and red expected to run into early June. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of April 28.

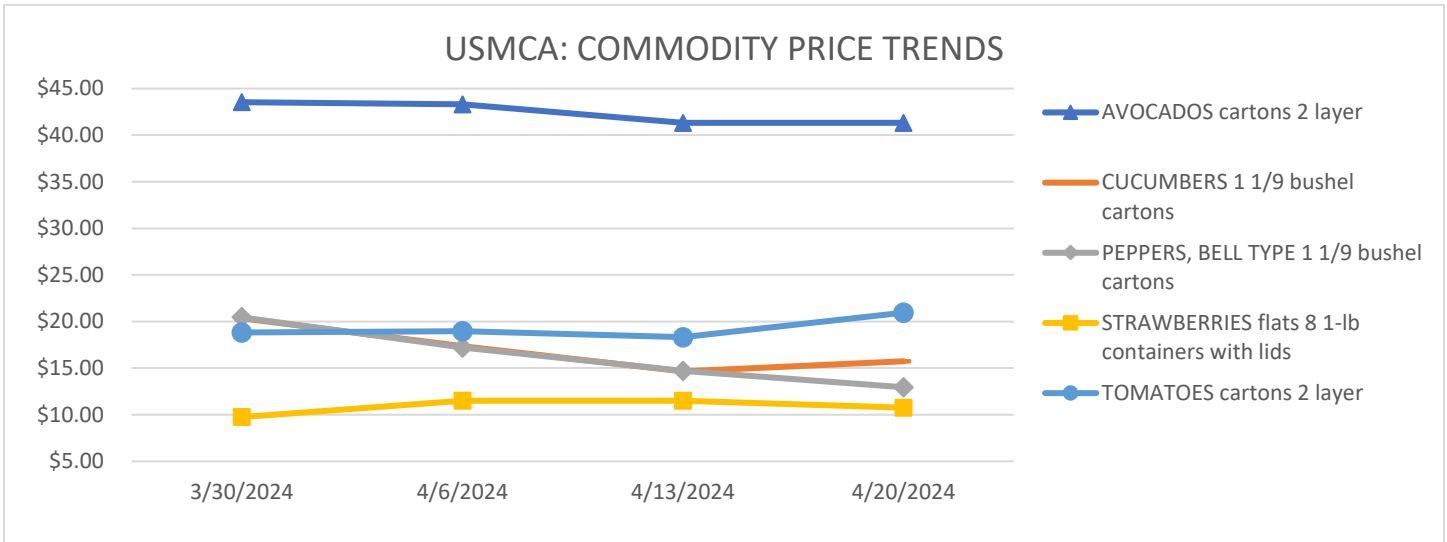
Strawberry crossings from Mexico are steady. Domestic shipments from Oxnard are steady, while production from Santa Maria and Salinas-Watsonville increased significantly. Weather conditions are optimal in the growing districts as shippers are planning for increased supplies in preparation of the Mother’s Day retail pull. Movement from Santa Maria, California is expected about the same. Trading early was moderate, late was slow. Prices are much lower. Flats 8 1-pound containers with lids large-extra large are mostly 10.00; organic large-extra large are mostly 18.00-20.00. Quality is generally good. Most present shipments are from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement from Oxnard, California is expected to remain about the same. Trading early was moderate, late is slow. Prices are much lower. Flats 8 1-pound containers with lids large-extra large are mostly 10.00; organic large-extra large are mostly 18.00-20.00. Quality is generally good. Most present shipments are from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement from Salinas-Watsonville, California is expected to increase seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are lower. Prices of flats 8 1-pound containers with lids large-extra large are mostly 10.00-12.00; organic large-extra large mostly are 18.00-22.00. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices are lower. Flats 8 1-pound containers with lids large-extra-large are mostly 10.00; organic large-extra-large have a wide range in price between 16.00-20.00. Quality is variable. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices are generally unchanged. Flats 8 1-pound containers with lids medium are mostly 10.00-12.00. Quality is variable. Movement from Eastern North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading is active. Prices are generally unchanged. Flats 8 1-pint containers with lids medium-large are mostly 19.00-19.50. Quality is generally good.

Tomato demand improved due to the Cinco De Mayo retail promotions. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to decrease. Trading is active. Prices of 2-layer are much higher, 25-pound cartons are higher. Vine Ripes cartons 2-layer 4x4-4x5s are mostly 24.95-26.95, 5x5-5x6s are mostly 22.95-24.95; 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes are mostly 24.95-26.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes are mostly 22.95-24.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease slightly. Trading early was fairly active, late is active. Prices of 4x4-4x5 sizes are slightly higher, others are higher. Cartons 25-pound cartons loose Vine Ripes 4x4-4x5 sizes are mostly 24.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes are 22.95-24.95; 2-layer Vine Ripes are 4x4-4x5s 22.95-24.95, 5x5-5x6s are mostly 22.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to increase seasonally. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Quality is generally good. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of May 26. Movement from Central and South Florida is expected to remain about the same. Trading is active. Prices are generally unchanged. Extra services are included. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens 85 percent U.S. One or better 5x6-6x6 sizes are 24.95-26.95, 6x7 sizes are 24.95. Quality is generally good.

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

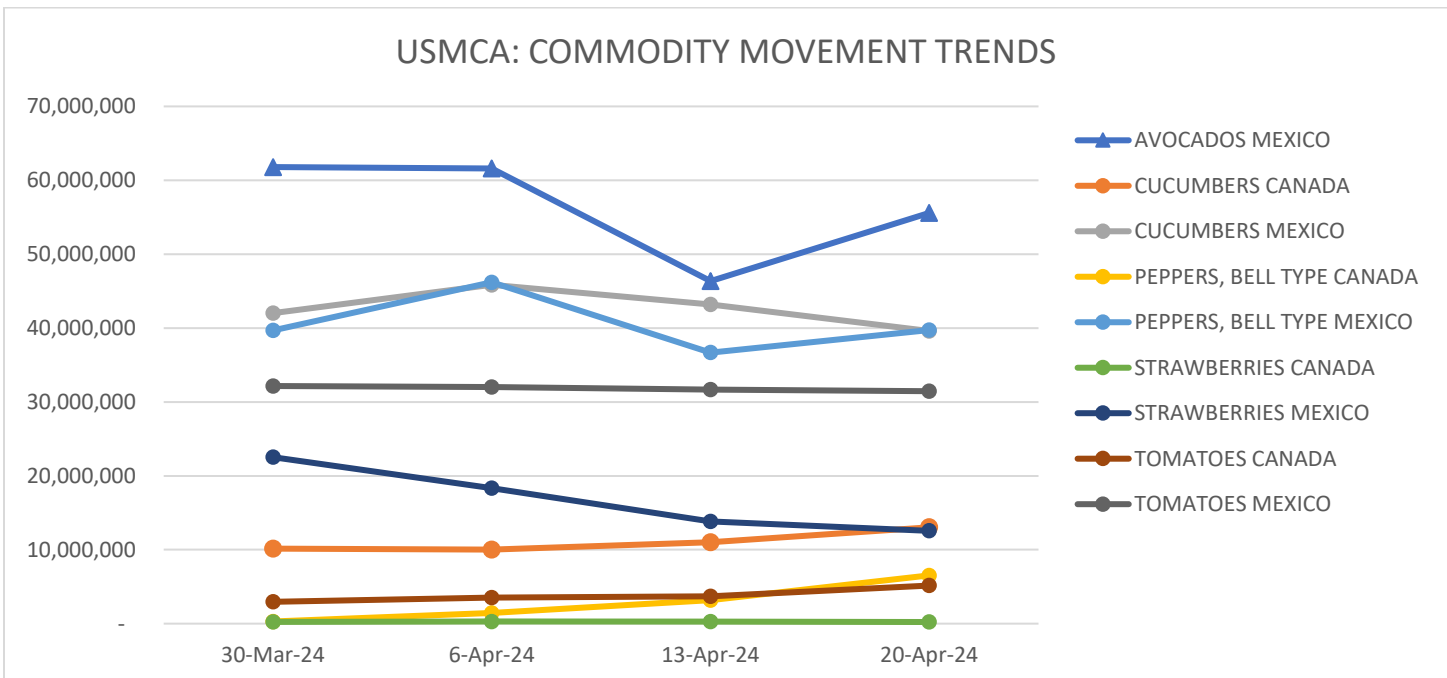
Four-Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	3/30/2024	4/6/2024	4/13/2024	4/20/2024
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 43.54	\$ 43.32	\$ 41.32	\$ 41.32
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 20.35	\$ 17.35	\$ 14.66	\$ 15.75
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 20.45	\$ 17.20	\$ 14.70	\$ 12.95
STRAWBERRIES	flats 8 1-lb containers with lids	\$ 9.75	\$ 11.50	\$ 11.50	\$ 10.75
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 18.83	\$ 18.95	\$ 18.33	\$ 20.95

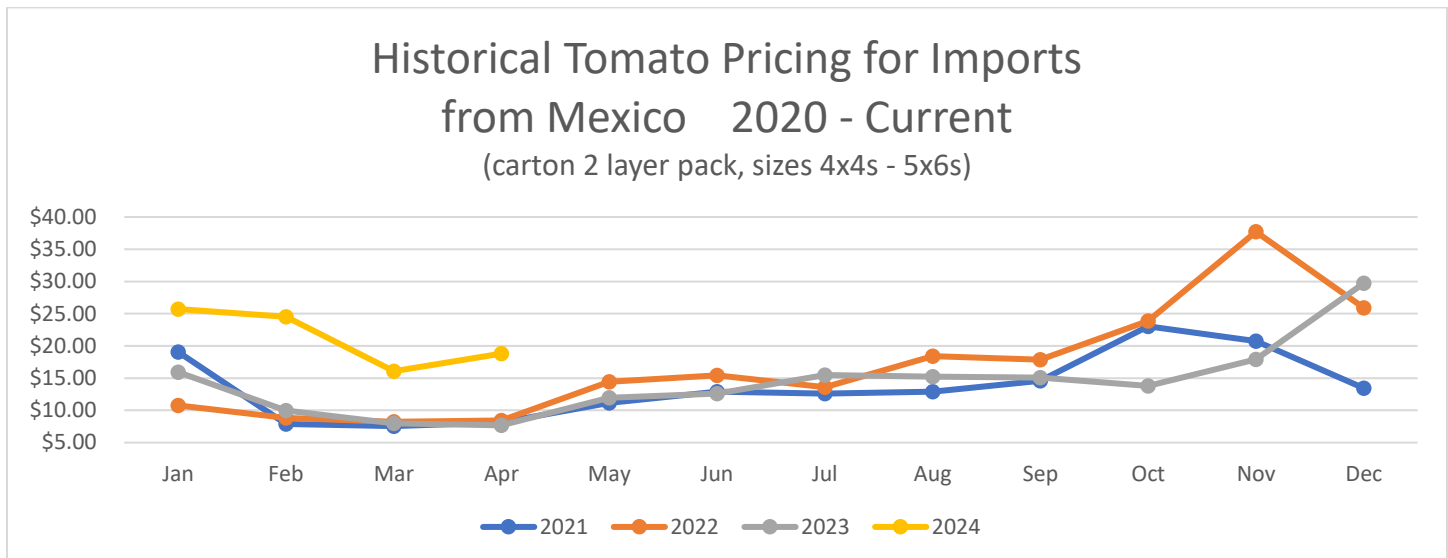


Four-Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	30-Mar-24	6-Apr-24	13-Apr-24	20-Apr-24
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	61,789,606	61,585,737	46,360,033	55,559,484
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	10,138,189	10,022,126	11,025,920	13,032,686
	MEXICO	42,042,602	45,856,306	43,194,953	39,608,717
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	292,385	1,450,449	3,196,334	6,528,951
	MEXICO	39,668,099	46,201,283	36,677,278	39,710,367
STRAWBERRIES	CANADA	233,330	295,567	265,331	220,420
	MEXICO	22,526,026	18,356,365	13,851,449	12,559,132
TOMATOES	CANADA	2,954,627	3,539,848	3,709,339	5,153,716
	MEXICO	32,159,800	32,019,897	31,676,789	31,456,973



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