



# 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 June 2-8, 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.

**The mayor of Laredo, Texas calls special meeting to address water shortage.** In a report published in BorderReport.com by Sandra Sanchez on June 6, 2024, the mayor of Laredo, Texas, Victor Trevino, along with the Laredo City Council scheduled a meeting to address water resources, costs, conservation, mitigation efforts, and planning for a potential water shortage, while congresswoman Monica De La Cruz is pushing legislation to withhold funding from Mexico for failing to pay its water debt. The city of over 260,000 residents gets all its water from the Rio Grande River, which is shrinking due to excessive heat and drought. The area grows watermelons, cabbage, various greens, and many other vegetables.

**Agricultural Weather Highlights**, provided by Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB June 6, 2024: In the west, an early-season heat wave boosted maximum temperatures to 110°F or higher in the Desert Southwest, extending as far north as southern Nevada. Triple-digit (100°F) heat is also occurring in much of California's Central Valley. In the Southeast, showers linger from the Appalachians and the central Gulf Coast region eastward to the Atlantic Seaboard. However, rain continues to bypass Florida's peninsula, where crops—including citrus—have required heavy irrigation in recent weeks due to hot, dry conditions. Summer-like heat also prevails in the western Gulf Coast region, where today's high temperatures in southern Texas should approach or reach 100°F. On the Plains, dry and hot weather lingers across the southern Plains, with today's high temperatures expected to reach or exceed 100°F in much of western Texas.

**Avocado** shippers of Mexico fruit are frustrated as prices increased due to decreased harvest and availability, especially on small fruit. Demand fell as buyers are reluctant to purchase the high-priced fruit. Shippers focused on filling contracts as they monitor inventories closely. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas are expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices of conventional 60-70s are higher, while others are generally unchanged. Cartons of 2-layer Hass 32s are mostly 48.25-50.25, 36s are mostly 48.25-50.25, 40-48s are mostly 48.25-50.25, 60s are mostly 40.25-42.25, 70s are mostly 31.28-33.25, 84s are mostly 26.25-28.25; organic 48s are mostly 54.25-56.25, 60s are mostly 54.25-57.25, 70s are mostly 43.25-46.25. Extra services are included. Movement from South District California are expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices of conventional are higher, organic 60s are lower, and others are generally unchanged. Cartons of 2-layer Hass 32-36s are mostly 50.25-52.25, 40s-48s are mostly 48.25-51.25, 60s are mostly 44.25-45.25, 70s are mostly 33.25-35.25, 84s are mostly 30.25-32.25; organic 48s are mostly 56.25-58.25, 60s are mostly 54.25-57.25, 70s are mostly 44.25. Extra services are included.

**Cucumber** movement from Mexico crossing through Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are slightly higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are mostly 18.95-19.00, fair quality are mostly 15.95, ordinary quality are mostly 5.95 -7.00. Quality is variable. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early was fairly active, late is moderate. Prices of medium are higher, large are much higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are mostly 15.95-16.95, fair quality are mostly 12.95-14.95, ordinary quality are mostly 9.95-10.95, large are mostly 14.95-15.95. 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. Current supplies are in too few hands to establish a market. Quality is generally good. The first F.O.B. report

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

is expected to be issued the week of June 9. Movement from Eastern North Carolina is expected to increase as shippers begin harvest. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued by June 7.

**Green Bell Pepper** movement from Imperial and Coachella Valleys, California is expected to increase seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are higher. 1 1/9-bushel cartons extra-large are mostly 20.95-22.95, large are 19.95-20.95, irregular sized fair quality are mostly 12.95- 14.95. Quality is generally good. Supplies from Central and South Florida are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market.

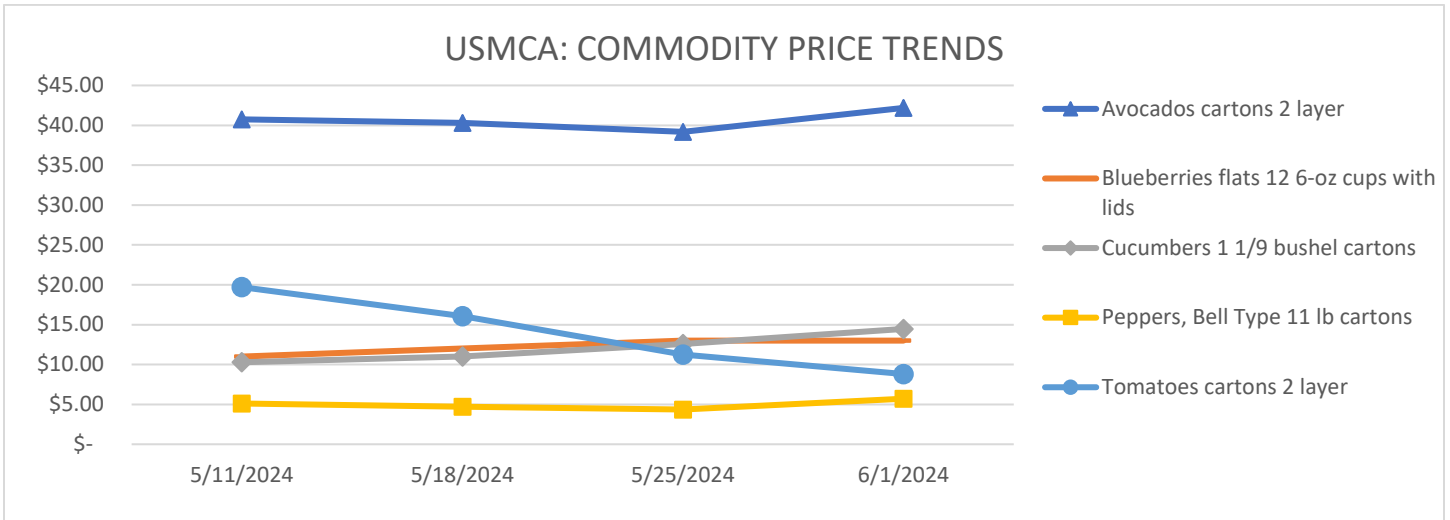
**Tomato** movement from Central and South Florida is expected to decrease as most growers expect to finish the season by June 8. Trading is fairly slow. Prices are lower. Extra services are included. 25-pound cartons loose Mature Greens 85 percent U.S. One or better 5x6, 6x6 and 6x7 sizes are 8.95-10.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to decrease. Trading early was fairly slow, late is slow. Prices 4x4-4x5s and 4x4-4x5 sizes are lower, others are generally unchanged. Vine Ripes cartons 2- layer 4x4-4x5s are mostly 8.95-10.95, 5x5-5x6s are mostly 7.13; 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes are mostly 8.95-10.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes are mostly 8.30. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings though Nogales, Arizona is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is slow. Prices of 2-layer are lower, 25-pound cartons are generally unchanged. Cartons 25- pound cartons loose Vine Ripes 5x5-5x6 sizes are 8.30-9.00; 2-layer Vine Ripes 4x4s are 7.37-8.95, 4x5s are 7.39-8.95, 5x5s are mostly 7.13-7.95, 5x6s are 6.64-6.95. Quality is variable. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to increase. Trading is fairly slow. Prices 4x4-4x5s are slightly lower, others are generally unchanged. Cartons 2-layer Vine Ripes 4x4-5x6s are mostly 8.95-10.00. Quality is generally good. Movement from Florida West and South Carolina district is expected to increase as more growers start the season. Trading is active. Extra services are included. 25-pound cartons loose 5x6 size are 10.00-11.00, 6x6 size are 10.00-12.95, 6x7 size are 10.00-12.95. Quality is generally good. Very light shipments of Southeastern Arkansas product are expected to begin by June 8. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued by June 14.

**Blueberry** movement from Eastern North Carolina is expected to remain about the same. Trading is moderate. Prices are lower. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids medium-large are mostly 12.50-14.50. There is a wide range in price, quality, and condition. Movement from South Georgia is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are unchanged. Flats 12/1-pt cups with lids large are mostly 12.00-14.00; organic flats 12/1-pt cups with lids large are 26.00-28.00. Movement from Mexico crossings through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to decrease. Spot market availability increased along with pressure from competing markets. Trading is slow. Prices are slightly lower. Flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids are mostly 10.00-14.00. Quality is variable. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Movement from South and Central district, California is expected about the same. Available supplies are fairly light as most present shipments are from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Conventional supplies are increasing however organic blueberries are still more readily available. Trading early was slow, late is moderate. Prices of organic 1-pint cups are lower, 6-ounce cups are slightly higher; others are generally unchanged. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids are mostly 16.00-18.00, 12 6-ounce cups with lids are mostly 12.00-14.00; organic flats 12 1-pint cups with lids are mostly 22.00-26.00, 6-ounce cups with lids are mostly 18.00-20.00. Quality is generally good. Movement from Peru imported through Miami, Philadelphia, and New York areas via mostly boat are expected to decrease seasonally. Remaining supplies are in too few hands to establish a market.

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

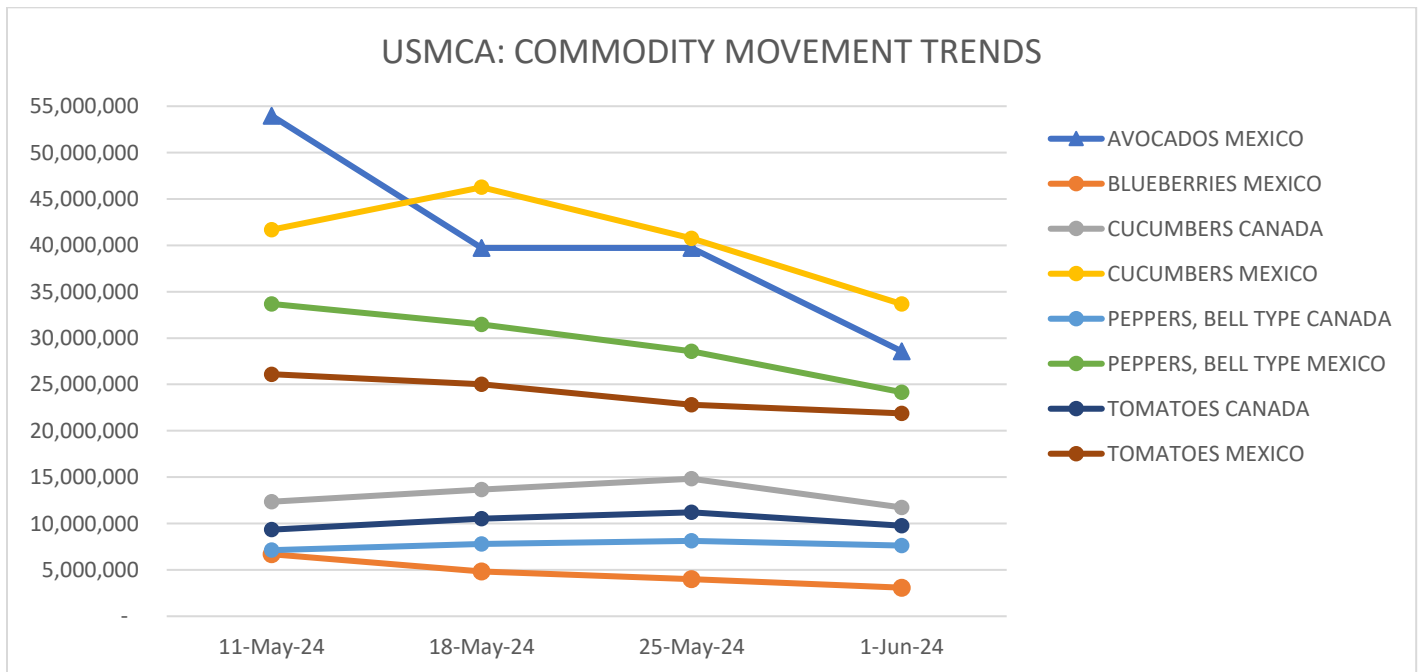
**Four-Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars**

commodity	package	5/11/2024	5/18/2024	5/25/2024	6/1/2024
Avocados	cartons 2 layer	\$ 40.75	\$ 40.32	\$ 39.18	\$ 42.18
Blueberries	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 11.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00
Cucumbers	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 10.28	\$ 11.01	\$ 12.58	\$ 14.46
Peppers, Bell Type	11 lb. cartons	\$ 5.12	\$ 4.71	\$ 4.36	\$ 5.71
Tomatoes	cartons 2 layer	\$ 19.70	\$ 16.08	\$ 11.27	\$ 8.81

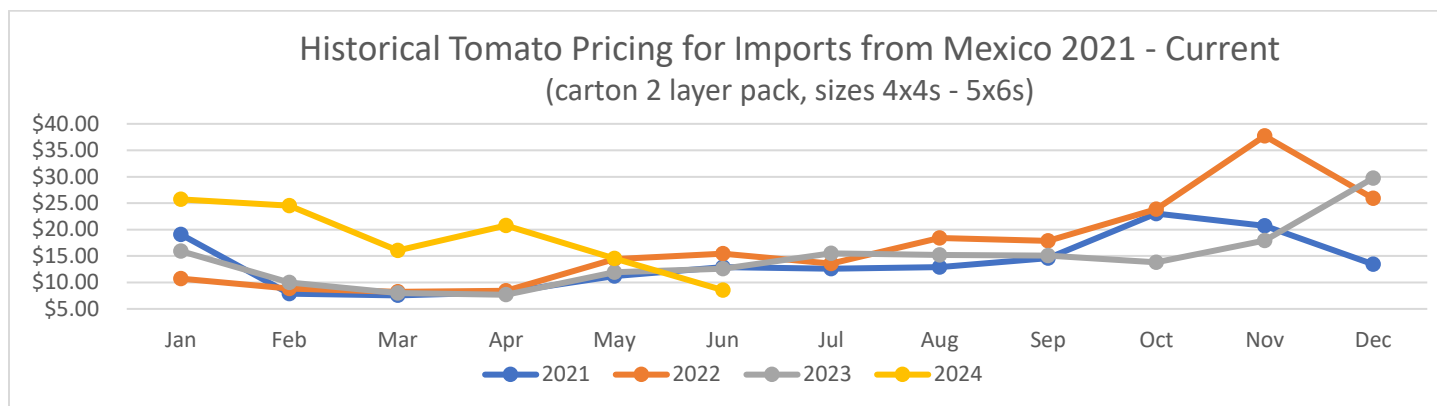


### Four-Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	11-May-24	18-May-24	25-May-24	1-Jun-24
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	53,977,328	39,733,972	39,701,187	28,578,533
BLUEBERRIES	MEXICO	6,687,568	4,819,852	4,017,564	3,083,626
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	12,346,135	13,648,137	14,826,944	11,733,450
	MEXICO	41,697,540	46,259,455	40,735,226	33,666,479
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	7,126,589	7,788,008	8,127,829	7,625,874
	MEXICO	33,679,515	31,475,430	28,561,072	24,164,827
TOMATOES	CANADA	9,338,053	10,537,968	11,208,964	9,759,116
	MEXICO	26,102,592	25,016,169	22,820,926	21,880,675



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 remaining Seasonal and Perishable commodities listed below please visit:

- Movement <https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home>
- Prices [Home | MMN \(usda.gov\)](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