



MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 23, 2016

 **PERFORMANCE**
FOODSERVICE



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

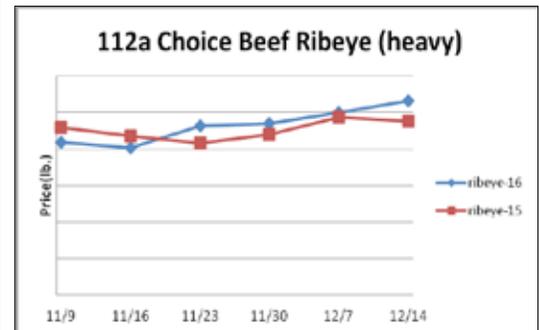
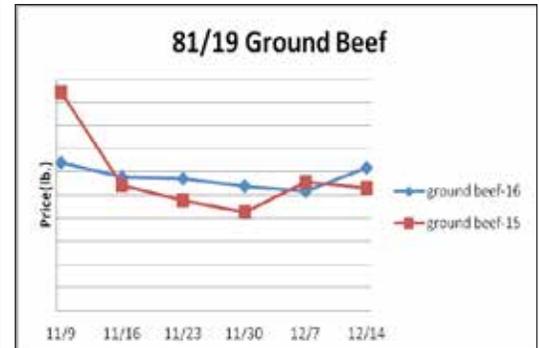
PERFORMANCE
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Beef, Veal & Lamb

Beef production last week declined .5% but was 5.8% larger than the same week last year. Solid year over year output expansion is anticipated to persist this winter. The USDA is forecasting Q1 2017 beef production to be 5% bigger than the previous year after being adjusted for the 2016 leap day. This should weigh on the beef markets. Forward beef sales for delivery 22-90 out last week were the largest in six weeks and the second biggest since July. Typically, the chuck complex rises around 11% during January due to winter retail features. Beef imports during October were down 2.9% from 2015. Lackluster imports could underpin lean beef trim prices in 2017.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Cattle (Steer)	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Feeder Cattle Index (CME)	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Ground Beef 81/19	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ground Chuck	Decreasing	Good	Lower
109 Export Rib (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
109 Export Rib (pr)	Increasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (pr)	Increasing	Good	Higher
114a Chuck , Shlder Cld(ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
116 Chuck (sel)	Increasing	Good	Lower
116 Chuck (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
116b Chuck Tender (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
120 Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
120a Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
121c Outside Skirt (ch/sel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
121d Inside Skirt (ch/sel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
121e Cap & Wedge	Decreasing	Good	Higher
167a Knuckle, Trimmed (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
168 Inside Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
169 Top Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
171b Outside Round (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (ch 0x1)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (pr 2x3)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
180 1x1 Strip (ch)	Steady	Good	Lower
180 1x1 Strip (pr)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 0x1 Strip (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
184 Top Butt, boneless (ch)	Steady	Good	Lower
184 Top Butt, boneless (pr)	Increasing	Good	Lower
185a Sirloin Flap (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
185c Loin, Tri-Tip (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (sel, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (ch, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (pr, heavy)	Increasing	Good	Lower
193 Flank Steak (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
50% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower
65% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
75% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower
85% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Lower
90% Trimmings	Decreasing	Short	Lower
90% Imported Beef (frz)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
95% Imported Beef (frz)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Veal Rack (Hotel 7 rib)	Steady	Good	Lower
Veal Top Round (cap off)	Steady	Good	Lower



MARKET TRENDS

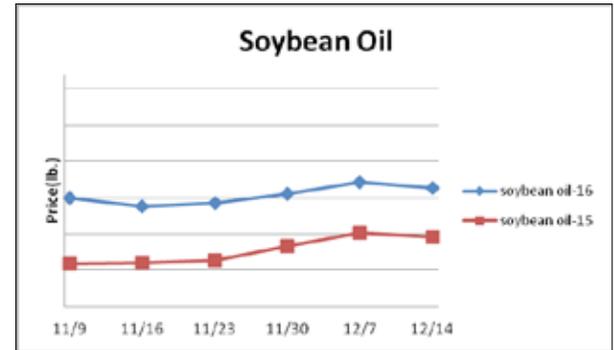
DECEMBER 23, 2016



Grains

Dry weather remains a concern for the 2017-18 domestic winter wheat crop. During November, soil moisture conditions in the winter wheat belt were the lowest in over two years. If the dry conditions continue it could significantly hurt winter wheat yields. The downside risk in wheat prices is likely limited from here.

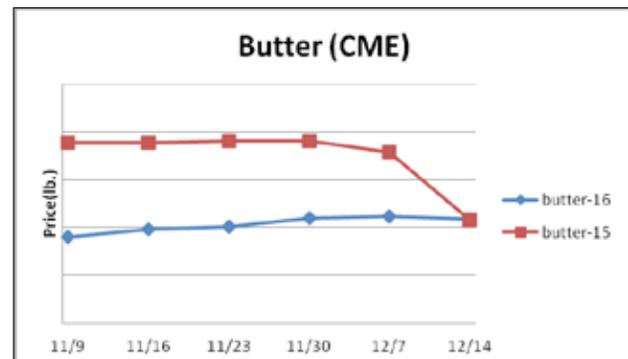
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Soybean Meal, ton	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Corn, bushel	Increasing	Good	Lower
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Steady	Good	Lower
Distillers Grain, Dry	Increasing	Good	Lower
Crude Palm Oil, lb BMD	Decreasing	Good	Higher
HRW Wheat, bushel	Increasing	Good	Lower
DNS Wheat 14%, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Durum Wheat, bushel	Increasing	Short	Lower
Pinto Beans, lb	Steady	Good	Higher
Black Beans, lb	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Rice, Long Grain, lb	Steady	Good	Lower



Dairy

Firming international dairy prices are supporting U.S. dairy exports. During October, U.S. butter exports were up 211% compared to the prior year and were the largest for the month since 2013. Due to smaller imports and reduced production, the U.S. butter supply was down 6.2 in October versus 2015 marking the first year over year decline since the spring of 2014. Still, some seasonal butter price declines are anticipated in the near term as domestic demand seasonally wanes. The CME cheese markets have firmed as of late due in part to production capacity issues.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Cheese Barrels (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Cheese Blocks (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher
American Cheese	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Cheddar Cheese (40 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Mozzarella Cheese	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Provolone Cheese	Steady	Good	Lower
Parmesan Cheese	Steady	Good	Higher
Butter (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Nonfat Dry Milk	Increasing	Ample	Higher
Whey, Dry	Increasing	Good	Higher
Class 1 Base	Steady	Good	Higher
Class II Cream, heavy	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Class III Milk (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Class IV Milk (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

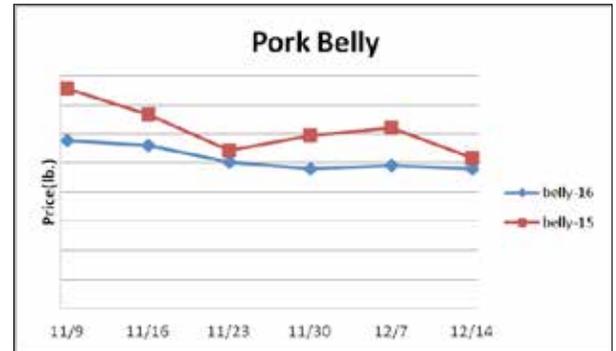
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Pork

Pork output last week declined 3.7% and was .5% less than the same week last year. Better pork production expansion is anticipated versus the prior year during the next few months. The USDA is forecasting average daily winter pork output to be 4.5% larger than 2016. This should keep a lid on the pork markets for the time being. That said, solid export demand could limit the downside in pork prices. During October, the U.S. exported 8.2% more pork than the previous year. Ham prices usually move sharply lower over the last two weeks of December.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Hogs	Steady	Ample	Lower
Sow	Steady	Ample	Higher
Belly (bacon)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Sparerib(4.25 lb & down)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Ham (20-23 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Ham (23-27 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Loin (bone in)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Babyback Rib (1.75 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin (1.25 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Boston Butt, untrmd (4-8 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Picnic, untrmd	Increasing	Good	Higher
SS Picnic, smoker trm box	Increasing	Good	Higher
42% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Higher
72% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Higher



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DECEMBER 23, 2016

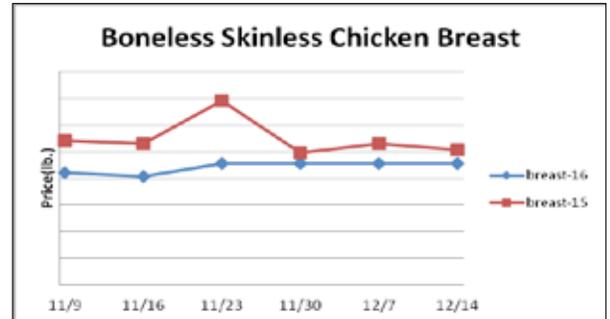
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FOODSERVICE



Poultry

For the week ending December 3rd, chicken production rose 34.8% from the prior short week due to the holiday and was 2.6% larger than the same week last year. Broiler slaughter was the largest for any week since September. The six-week moving average for chicken output is up 2.9% from the prior year. The USDA is forecasting Q1 2017 chicken production to be 2.2% more than the prior year. The six-week moving average for chick placements is tracking 2.8% above last year. Boneless skinless chicken breast prices continue to track below both boneless skinless thigh meat as well as chicken wings. This signals that the downside risk in the chicken breast markets from here is almost certainly nominal.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Birds (2.5-3 GA)	n/c	Good	n/c
Wings (whole)	n/c	Good	n/c
Wings (jumbo cut)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Wing Index (ARA)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Breast, Bone In	n/c	Good	n/c
Breast, Boneless Skinless	n/c	Good	n/c
Breast Boneless Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Legs (whole)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Leg Quarters	n/c	Good	n/c
Leg Quarter Index (ARA)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Thighs, Bone In	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Thighs, Boneless	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Turkey (8-16 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Turkey Br, Bnls/Sknls	Decreasing	Good	Lower



Eggs

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Large Eggs (dozen)	Increasing	Short	Lower
Medium Eggs (dozen)	Increasing	Short	Lower
Liquid Whole Eggs	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Liquid Egg Whites	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Liquid Egg Yolks	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Egg Breaker Stock Central	Increasing	Short	n/c



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DECEMBER 23, 2016

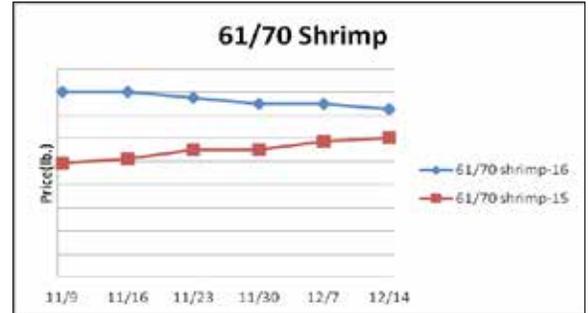
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FOODSERVICE



Seafood

Snow crab supplies remain tight due to the historic cutbacks in the Canadian and Alaskan snow crab fishing quotas. U.S. snow crab imports during October were down 28.8% from the prior year. Still, declining snow crab demand could limit the upside in prices from here.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Shrimp (16/20 frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Shrimp (61/70 frz)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Shrimp Tiger (26/30 frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Snow Crab Legs (5-8 oz frz)	Steady	Good	Higher
Snow Crab Legs (8oz & up frz)	Steady	Good	Higher
Cod Tails (3-7 oz frz)	Steady	Good	Lower
Cod Loins (3-12 oz frz)	Steady	Good	Lower
Salmon Portions (4-8 oz frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Pollock Alaska, Deep Skin	Steady	Good	Lower



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DECEMBER 23, 2016

PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Paper and Plastic Products

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
WOOD PULP (PAPER)			
NBSK- Paper napkin	Steady	Good	Lower
42 lb. Linerboard-corrugated box	Steady	Good	Lower
PLASTIC RESINS (PLASTIC, FOAM)			
PS-CHH-utensils, cups, to-go cont.	Steady	Good	Lower
PP-HIGP-heavy grade utensils	Steady	Good	Lower
PE-LLD-can liners, film, bags	Steady	Good	Lower

Retail Price Change from Prior Month

Description	Oct '16	Sep '16	Aug '16
Beef and Veal	Decreasing	Decreasing	Increasing
Dairy	Increasing	Increasing	Increasing
Pork	Decreasing	Decreasing	Increasing
Chicken	Decreasing	Increasing	Decreasing
Fresh Fish and Seafood	Decreasing	Increasing	Decreasing

Various Markets

Favorable weather is fueling expectations for big West African cocoa crops in 2017. Cocoa prices have been on the decline as of late but history suggests that the downside may only be modest from here.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Peeled, Stand (6/10)	Steady	Good	Lower
Tomato Paste-Industrial (lb)	Steady	Good	Lower
Coffee lb ICE	Increasing	Good	Higher
Sugar lb ICE	Increasing	Ample	Higher
Cocoa mt ICE	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Orange Juice lb ICE	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Honey (clover) lb	Increasing	Good	Lower



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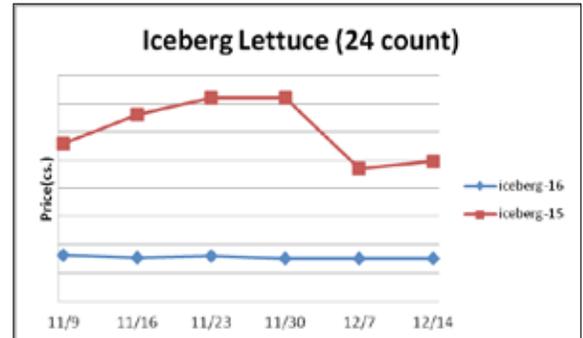
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce

Garlic will remain in an extreme market. We see Iceberg getting tighter. Cauliflower is also in an extreme market as we are seeing a shortage in supply and prices are escalated. Broccoli is in good supply. The tomato markets have softened during the last week despite irregular shipments out of Mexico. The weather for the Florida tomato crops has been nearly ideal with warm temperatures and little precipitation. Thus, Florida tomato supplies have been building. Last week, tomato shipments from the state rose slightly from the prior week and were 11.4% more than the same week in 2015. Still, the downside price risk in the mature green tomato markets from here is likely only modest. Potato prices may remain appealing for buyers this

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Limes (150 ct)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Lemons (95 ct)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Lemons (200 ct)	Steady	Short	Lower
Honeydew (6 ct)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Cantaloupe (15 ct)	Steady	Good	Higher
Blueberries (12 ct)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Strawberries (12 pnt)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Avocados (Hass 48 ct)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Bananas (40 lb) Term	Increasing	Good	Higher
Pineapple (7 ct) Term	Increasing	Good	Lower
Idaho Potato (60 ct 50 lb)	Steady	Short	Lower
Idaho Potato (70 ct 50 lb)	Steady	Short	Lower
Idaho Potato (70 ct) Term	Increasing	Short	Lower
Idaho Potato (90 ct 50 lb)	Increasing	Short	Lower
Idaho Potato #2 (6 oz 100 lb)	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Processing Potato (cwt)	Steady	Short	Lower
Yellow Onions (50 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Yellow Onions (50 lb) Term	Increasing	Good	Lower
Red Onions (25 lb) Term	Increasing	Good	Lower
White Onions (50 lb) Term	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tomatoes (lg case)	Steady	Good	Lower
Tomatoes (5x6 lb) Term	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tomatoes (4x5 vine ripe)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Roma Tomatoes (lg case)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Roma Tomatoes (xlg case)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Green Peppers (lg case)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Red Peppers (lg 15 lb case)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Iceberg Lettuce (24 ct)	Steady	Good	Lower
Iceberg Lettuce (24 ct) Term	Increasing	Good	Lower
Leaf Lettuce (24 ct)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Romaine Lettuce (24 ct)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Mesculin Mix (3 lb) Term	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Broccoli (14 ct)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Squash (1/2 bushel)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Zucchini (1/2 bushel)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Green Beans (bushel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Spinach (flat 24)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Mushrooms (10 lb lg) Term	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Cucumbers (bushel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Pickles (200-300 ct) Term	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Asparagus (sm)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Freight (truck CA-Cty Av)	Decreasing	Good	Lower



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce

Apples & Pears

The market is low. Small sizes are least plentiful, but overall volume is high. Braeburn, Honeycrisp, and Pink Lady varieties are also available. Storage quality is excellent: flavor varies from sweet to tangy. Sugar levels are high, ranging from 14 to 18 Brix. The Washington market is unchanged. Bartlett supplies are abundant; D'Anjou stocks are sufficient. Both crops are dominated by 110- to 135-count sizes. Sugar levels range from 12 to 14 Brix.

Artichokes

We expect good supplies of artichokes as supplies industry-wide have increased. Better volume is expected in the upcoming weeks. Prices are steady to lower on some sizes.

Arugula

Supplies of baby and wild arugula are good. Quality is good.

Asparagus

Peru is slowing down due to the end of the season. This transition phase will last until about Jan. 15th, when Mexico starts. After that, we should see more asparagus availability. Mexico is on schedule to start by mid-January, and the real volume will hit us by early/mid-February.

Avocados

The avocado market has recovered from the previous strike. We are seeing a good supply and quality.

Bananas

Demand and quality are good and supply is steady.

Green Beans

East: FL lake supplies continue. Good demand is putting upward pressures on FOB prices. Quality is good.

West: Supplies continue to be good. FOB prices are generally steady to higher this week.

Berries:

Blueberries

Supplies are good but may become tighter. Chilean quality is good to very good and Central Mexico quality is very good.

Blackberries

Blackberry supplies are good. Quality is good to very good. We are seeing this market start to tighten up while prices are remaining steady.

Raspberries

Raspberry supplies are good but tightening up. As always, we see prices go up and supplies get tighter as we move into the holiday season. Quality is steadily good to very good.

Strawberries

The strawberry season from the Watsonville and Salinas growing regions is done for the year. The remaining regions (Santa Maria, Oxnard, and Central Mexico) are harvesting low volumes, with this trend continuing for approximately 4 to 6 weeks. Contributing factors to the low supplies are weather and labor, as well as planted acreage in Oxnard being down from a year ago. Quality will continue to be inconsistent depending on location. We are seeing this market improve slightly, but expect to see a lot of ups and downs with this commodity. We do expect it to improve weekly throughout January.

Bok Choy

Availability and quality are good.

Broccoli

Supplies are light this week and we are seeing a range of prices. Quality is good.

Brussels Sprouts

The market and supplies are good. Quality has improved.

Cantaloupe

Market is steady to strong as we are finished up here in Arizona and the California desert. There is offshore fruit here now and fruit coming in from Mexico as well. The offshore fruit looks good and a majority of the fruit is on the larger side but smaller fruit will start to show up in the coming weeks.

Carrots

Carrots are in great quality and good supply.

Cauliflower

Extreme market. Due to the weather at the beginning of the Yuma season, we are seeing a very short supply in the cauliflower industry wide. Prices are escalated.

Celery

The market is steady. Quality is good.

Cilantro

Supplies are average. Quality is still yellow and decaying in some.

Sweet Corn

The Georgia growing season is finishing up and moving to the Belle Glade, Florida area. Florida corn is priced this week to promote. Availability from Florida is good and looks good moving forward. Midwest sweet corn is done.



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce (continued)

Southern California corn is available in limited supplies and Colorado corn is finishing up. Florida sweet corn has tightened up in the past couple of weeks and the prices have been stronger. Mexican corn just started and will be tight for the first couple of weeks.

Cucumbers

East: Harvesting continues but is winding down in FL. Off-shore volume is increasing causing FOB prices for all grades and sizes to fall. Quality is generally good.

West: Baja crossings are practically over. Nogales crossing continue. Market has been active but current pricing is steady with downward pressure compared to last week. Currently, the quality through Nogales remains very good.

English Cucumber

We are seeing plentiful supplies in Nogales.

Eggplant

East: FOB prices are lower on both grades. Quality is good.

West: FOB prices are lower this week. Nogales crossings continue and quality is good.

Fennel

Supplies for the week will be good.

Garlic

The garlic market continues to be volatile. Demand exceeds supply. The CA harvest finished last month and crops were down 15-30% from where we had hoped they would be. We are uncertain where the supply on garlic from China will be. We are hearing that it will get even tighter, but we are uncertain. Quality remains good and we will keep you posted as we hear what China will be doing.

Ginger

Chinese ginger is in good supply. It is being offered at a substantial discount compared to ginger from Brazil.

Grapes

We are finished harvesting here in the valley, we will probably have fruit through December which will help us bridge the gap between Chile and USA, so we should have a smooth transition. The overall quality of the fruit is good with excellent sugar content and good color on the reds, the Greens we are having a few issues here and the depending on the lot due to some water berries but for the most part fruit is very good for this time of the year. The first of the Chilean is arriving tomorrow on the east coast and supplies will be light on the Chilean fruit through mid-January. Also there were some early rains in Chile that could cause some splits in the flames but we will keep you posted as we see the first arrivals.

Green Cabbage

Green cabbage is in good supplies. Quality is good.

Red Cabbage

Quality and sizing have been great, with good color. Overall, the market is strong.

Green Onions

The market is good as prices are moderate and supplies are good. Quality is improving.

Honeydew

Market is steady and we are finished in the California and Arizona deserts and Mexico is the source with very good volume crossings. There is a wide range in quality as the southern districts are harvesting some of the cleanest nicest fruit and the northern regions are crossing some fruit that has a bit more scarring but internal condition is good. Should have good supplies going forward but there will be split market depending on quality.

Kale (Green)

Demand is steady and quality is average with some mildew.

Lemons

We are going out of dist 3 (desert) with fruit peaking on 140's and 115's, we are gassing some of this fruit which will cause some staining and spotting which will primarily be in the choice grade but internal juice content is good and the fruit is strong. We are also seeing some fruit that is on the weaker side out of Dist. 3 that should have dropped off the tree from the natural fruit drop the tree goes through but it did not drop and that fruit once packed in 3-4 days is starting to turn completely brown, we are doing all we can in the packing house but it is impossible to detect that weaker fruit running across the line. We are going through the dist. 3 fruit at a rapid rate and will probably finish up down there by the end of December which is about 2 months earlier than normal. We are also harvesting here in dist. 1 (Central Valley) and will continue through May, the crop is lighter than last year's by about 15% so we will keep you posted as we see any supply problems down the road. There is still a little bit of Mexican fruit crossing but basically done for the season. The overall quality of the California fruit looks good and will only continue to get better as we lessen our gassing hours due to the colder temperatures in the next 10 days.



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

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FOODSERVICE



Produce (continued)

Lettuce:

Green and Red Leaf

Supplies and quality on green leaf are good. We are seeing some seeders. Red leaf quality is also good.

Iceberg Lettuce

Supplies of iceberg lettuce are still on the lighter side; the cold weather has pushed volume back a bit. Quality is improving and prices are slightly up.

Romaine

Supplies are lighter than expected and quality is hit or miss. We are still seeing some slight wind burn.

Romaine Hearts

Supplies are plentiful. We are seeing twisting and quality is average, but there is improvement.

Limes

Limes are available in good supplies, packing in Texas and California. Great quality and color.

Mangos

Supply and quality are good and prices are rising slightly.

Napa

Supplies are good and quality is excellent.

Onions

The onion market continues to lean towards large size profiles, with a surplus of Supers and Colossals. We expect smaller onions to remain tight, as retailers running consumer bag ads are keeping floors clean. We do not expect to see much movement in pricing over the next couple weeks on any of the three colors.

Oranges

Demand has been good and market is steady. We are harvesting new crop navels and are experiencing some colder nights. These colder nights will help firm up fruit and bring on color but we do not expect any freeze damage. This weather will really bring on that nice dark orange color and also help the interior color as well, the checkerboard color you have been seeing should be gone over the next few weeks and our gassing hours will really decrease and hopefully by Christmas we are done gassing and you will have all natural color. We are expecting some rain tomorrow and Friday and the forecast is for up to 2 inches which would be wonderful and it is a colder storm so that is also good for the fruit. The fruit is eating well now but will only get better with the colder temperatures, sugars are in the 11.0-13.5 range depending on the variety, the overall fruit condition is excellent.

Parsley (Curly, Italian)

Prices are normal and quality is excellent.

Green Bell Pepper

East: Product remains plentiful this week. This should be the last week for the GA crop. Demand is weak. FOB prices remain generally steady with continued downward pressure. Overall, quality is good.

West: More supplies continue to cross at Nogales and the desert is still harvesting. FOB prices are generally steady. Quality is good.

Jalapeño Pepper

East: FOB prices are stronger. Quality is good.

West: FOB prices are generally steady. Quality is good.

Red & Yellow Pepper

Prices are rising. The California season is nearly over, but supplies are increasing in Mexico (into Nogales, Arizona). Quality ranges from good to very good: shorter-than-normal shelf-life will be an occasional problem while the California season ends.

Pineapple

Demand is good and prices are stable. The market is getting better.

Idaho Potatoes

Demand in the state is good, prices are stable. It appears most operations are running full shifts, but not overtime. The fresh market should see good demand through next Tuesday. You could see business drop off significantly by the end of the week. Business could be slow enough that you may see a four-day holiday next week. We have not heard any major quality issues at this time and do not expect any in the near future. Quality is usually best when prices are at their lowest.

Radishes

Quality is good and supply is plentiful.

Salad Blends

Prices are unchanged; stocks are abundant. Iceberg and romaine quality continues to improve.

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas

High demand with good quality.

Spinach (Baby)

Baby Spinach and clipped Spinach supplies are good.



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 23, 2016

PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce (continued)

Quality is fair to good with good prices. There are some reports of insects. New crop looks fair.

Spinach (Bunched)

Supply is good, but quality is only fair. We are still seeing some sun scalding and tip burn, but it is improving. There have been some reports of insects as well. New crop quality looks nice.

Spring Mix

There is lots of product and quality is average.

Green Squash

East: FOB prices are generally steady on both sizes. Quality continues to be good.

West: FOB prices are generally steady this week on mediums and are down on fancy. Crossings at Baja and Nogales. Quality is good.

Yellow Squash

East: Good growing weather has increased yields. FOB prices are slightly lower again this week. Quality continues to be variable as it has been most of the fall.

West: Crossings continue to increase at Nogales. FOB prices are down again this week. Quality is good.

Tomatoes

East

Rounds

Good weather and good production continues from our Central and Southern FL fields. The quality of the fruit remains mostly excellent. As reported the last couple of weeks, western customers are coming east to meet much of their demand. Although improved, sizing remains on the smaller side of specs. FOB's for ex-large remains unchanged from last week while the cost of large and medium sizes have fallen slightly. The weather forecast continues to be favorable and we do not see anything on the horizon to adversely affect pricing or quality.

Romas

Sizing is even more critical with romas than it is with the rounds. FOB prices for the ex-large and large remain mostly unchanged while the price of mediums have fallen due increased supplies of that size. Quality continues to be very good.

Grapes

The supply and demand for grape tomatoes are in equilibrium and therefore FOB prices are generally steady from last week. We are seeing some downward pressures. Quality is very good.

Cherries

Supplies and quality remain good. Prices remain generally steady from last week with some downward pressure.

West/Mexico

Rounds

Mature greens remain largely unavailable out of the west. It is still a week or two away before the Culiacan crop is available. Re-packers are having to use Mexican vine-ripes and go to FL to meet their needs. Mexico is entering into the winter transition period as Baja is winding down while Nogales is starting up and is not yet at full production. We expect volume out of MX to continue to be weak until late December or early January. Vine-ripes are also currently crossing at McAllen. Quality is variable.

Romas

Baja, Nogales and McAllen crossings continue. Quality continues to be extremely variable with FOB's of the better quality product slightly higher this week compared to last week.

Grapes

Crossings primarily from Baja and Nogales. Supplies and demand remain light with a wide range of quality (mainly splits) and FOB prices. Many western re-packers continue to go east to meet demand and for quality.

Cherries

Like grape tomatoes, the supply of cherries remain tight and there continues to be a wide range in quality. Many western re-packers continue to go east to meet demand and for quality.

Watermelons

Supplies are plentiful, and quality is outstanding. Market is extremely weak. Nogales is being very aggressive with the price in an attempt to keep product moving.

