



MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 16, 2016

 **PERFORMANCE**
FOODSERVICE



MARKET TRENDS

DECEMBER 16, 2016

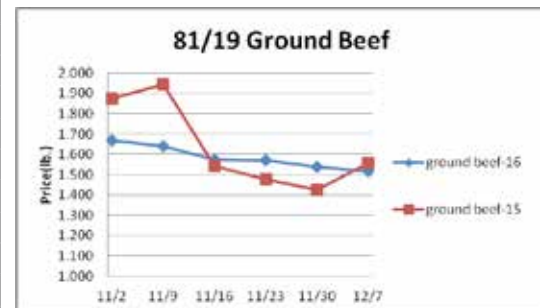
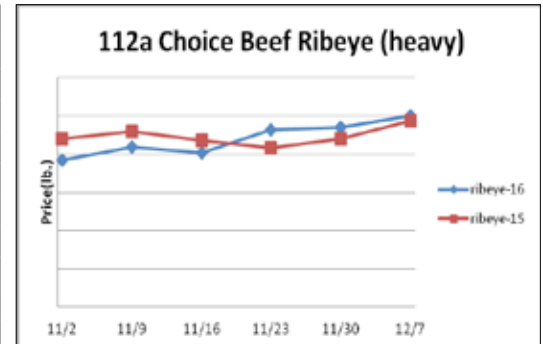
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Beef, Veal & Lamb

Beef output last week rose 11.9% from the prior holiday shortened week and was a whopping 10.6% larger than the same week last year. Despite this, the beef markets have held their own although well below 2015 levels. Cow sent for slaughter prices during October were the least expensive in five years signaling that ranchers could be slowing the cattle herd expansion. Further, weekly beef cow slaughter has been trending upward. Beef production growth in 2018 may be tempered but solid year over year gains in output should persist for the next several months. Holiday demand for beef will wane during the next few weeks which should influence ribeye prices lower.

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



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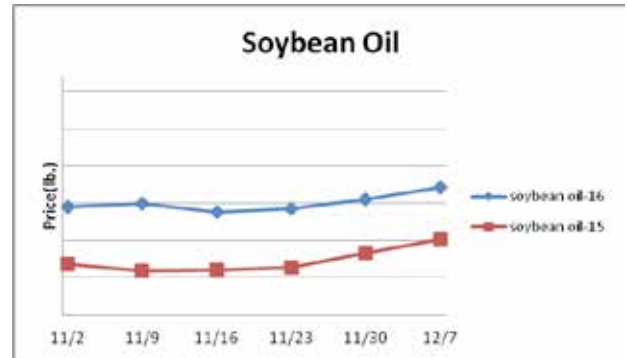
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Grains

The U.S. winter wheat crop is entering winter with some of its best ratings in the last several years. However, drought conditions are spreading in the Southern Plains which is likely to hurt winter wheat yields. The greater longer term price risk in the wheat markets remains to the upside

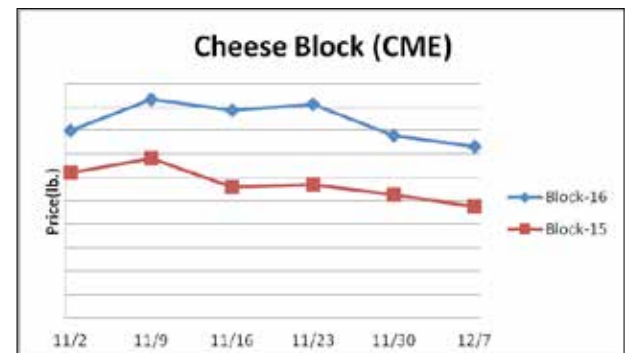
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Higher
Soybean Meal, ton	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Corn, bushel	Increasing	Good	Lower
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Increasing	Good	Lower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



Dairy

Class IV milk prices have been averaging below class III consistently for the last several months due in a large part to historically inexpensive nonfat dry milk prices. Thus, domestic butter output has been tempered. During October, U.S. butter production was 3.6% less than the previous year and the smallest for the month since 2010. This factor may continue to underpin butter prices this winter unless nonfat dry milk prices are able to rally. November 1st nonfat dry milk stocks, however, were 25.2% more than 2015. U.S. cheese output in October was .5% larger than last year.

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



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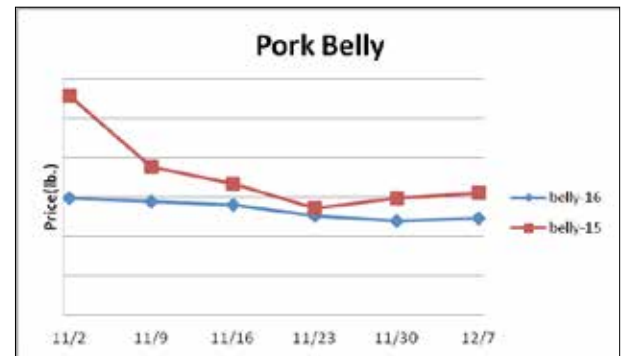
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Pork

Pork production last week rose 18.1% from the prior Thanksgiving holiday week and was 3.5% larger than the same week last year. It marked the biggest slaughter and output for any week on record. Still, the resiliency of pork prices has been impressive. Usually the USDA pork cutout average price will decline near 5 % from early November into December. This year, the pork cutout has been flat. Still, solid output gains are anticipated to weigh on the pork markets during the next few weeks including pork bellies.

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



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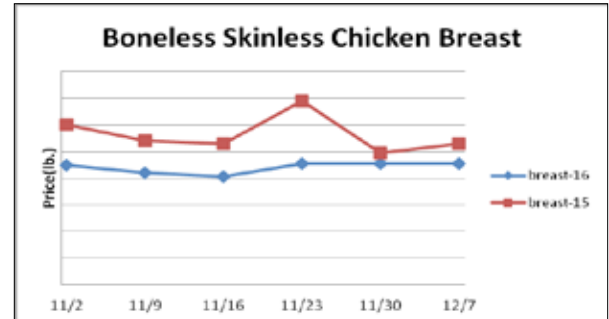
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Poultry

For the Thanksgiving week ending November 26th, chicken output fell 23.4% from the previous week but was 1.1% bigger than the same week last year. The six-week moving average for chicken output expansion versus 2015 stands at 2.7%. Solid year over year chicken production gains are anticipated in the near term but output growth could be slowed in 2017. The ARA Weekly Chicken Wing Index is pricing at its second most expensive level for this week on record. Further, wings are pricing at near record highs compared to the boneless skinless chicken breast markets. This could intensify a seasonal downward move in chicken wing prices after the Super Bowl. Retail table egg prices in October were the lowest since 2007.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Birds (2.5-3 GA)	Steady	Good	Lower
Wings (whole)	Steady	Good	Higher
Wings (jumbo cut)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Wing Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Breast, Bone In	Steady	Good	
Breast, Boneless Skinless	Steady	Good	
Breast Boneless Index (ARA)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Legs (whole)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Leg Quarters	Steady	Good	
Leg Quarter Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Thighs, Bone In	Increasing	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/Sknl	Decreasing	Good	Lower



Eggs

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



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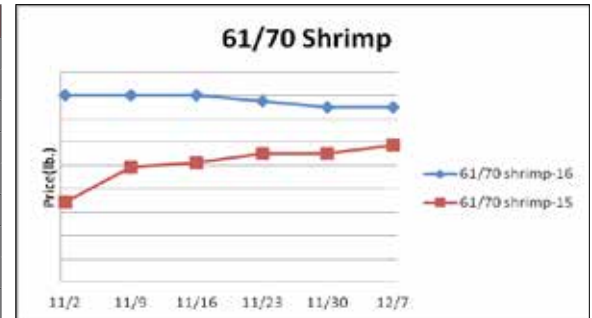
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Seafood

Retail seafood prices in the U.S. during October fell 1.3% from the prior month but were .8% more expensive than the same month last year. Ample supplies of alternative proteins causing low prices are likely to limit winter seafood demand which may weigh on the seafood markets.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Shrimp (16/20 frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Shrimp (61/70 frz)	Steady	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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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
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Increasing	Increasing	Increasing

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	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Sugar lb ICE	Increasing	Ample	Higher
Cocoa mt ICE	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Orange Juice lb ICE	Increasing	Good	Higher
Honey (clover) lb	Steady	Good	Lower



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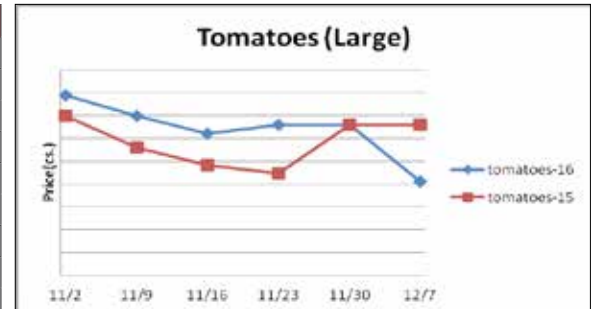
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Produce

Tomato prices have edged lower despite domestic shipments tracking below year ago levels. This is due in part to better imports from Mexico. Last week, despite domestic supplies being 8% less than the same week last year, the total supply was up 5.4%. Winter weather both in Florida and Mexico will influence the tomato crops during the next several weeks which could produce periods of price volatility. Avocado prices have fallen sharply during the last month due to better imports. Still avocado supplies are still subpar and could remain so into the Super Bowl. We are seeing more improvement in the strawberry market; please see below for more information. Garlic will remain in an extreme market. We do see Iceberg getting tighter, and expect to see this tighten up more next week. Cauliflower is also getting tighter. Broccoli is in good supply.

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



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Produce

Apples & Pears

Prices are unchanged. Large sizes (80- through 100-count sizes) are most abundant. Braeburn, Honeycrisp, and Pink Lady varieties are also on the market. Storage quality is excellent: flavor varies from sweet to tangy. Sugar levels are high, ranging from 14 to 18 Brix. Washington prices are stable. Bartletts are more plentiful than D'Anjous; 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; supplies industry-wide have increased. Better volume is expected in the upcoming weeks. Prices are steady to lower on some sizes.

Arugula

Supplies and quality of both baby and wild arugula are good.

Asparagus

The market is steady, we are seeing things firm up in price. Quality is good.

Avocados

The avocado market has recovered from the previous strike, we are seeing good supply on avocados. Quality is good.

Bananas

Demand is good, quality is good. Supplies are steady.

Berries:

Blueberries

Blueberry supplies are good but may become tighter. Chilean blueberry quality is good to very good. Central Mexico blueberry quality is very good.

Blackberries

Blackberry supplies are good. Quality is good to very good. We are seeing this market start to tighten up, 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 continues to be 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,

planted acreage in Oxnard being down from a year ago, and labor. Quality will continue to be inconsistent depending on location, with some reporting good quality. 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.

Green Beans

East: Supplies have tightened up compared to last week. Consequently, FOB prices are higher this week.

West: Supplies continue to increase. FOB prices are generally steady with some downward pressure.

Bok Choy

Availability is good. Quality is good.

Broccoli

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

Brussels Sprouts

Market is good. 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

Great quality and good supply.

Cauliflower

Supplies are very light. Cold weather is slowing crop growth. Quality is good, with good weight and white to creamy color. Demand is picking up. Prices are up and will continue to rise.

Celery

The market is steady and quality is good.

Cilantro

Supplies are average. We are still seeing yellow and decay in quality.

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.



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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 this past Tuesday and will be tight for the first couple of weeks.

Cucumbers

East: Harvesting continues in FL. FOB prices are generally steady but are seeing downward pressures as off-shores begin to be unloaded. Quality is generally good.

West: Baja crossings are practically over. Nogales crossing continue. FOB prices are lower thus far this week but may see some short-term upward pressure as crossings are expected to decrease temporarily due to cooler weather. Also, there is a chance of rain in the growing region. Currently, the quality through Nogales remains very good.

English Cucumber

Oversupply and bottom-level prices characterize the market in Nogales.

Eggplant

East: FOB prices are lower this week 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.

Ginger

Chinese ginger is in good supply and 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. This is an excellent time to promote California Table Grapes and supplies will be around for a while.

We did have some rain last weekend which did cause some issues in the heavier hit regions but since we are nearing the end of our harvest we have a good proportion of the fruit already in the cooler which will help us get through the month of December with supply.

Green Cabbage

Good supplies and quality. We should be steady this week.

Red Cabbage

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

Green Onions

The market is good. 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 crossing. The overall fruit quality is very good with a nice green to cream external color and mostly clean, with some ground scars showing up and internal fruit quality is very good as well with good sugar. There should be good supplies going forward.

Kale (Green)

Demand is steady and quality is average, we are seeing mildew in this product.

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 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.



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Produce (continued)

Lettuce:

Green and Red Leaf

Supplies on green leaf are good. Quality is good, we are seeing some seeders. Red leaf quality is good.

Iceberg Lettuce

Supplies are lighter this week; the cold weather has pushed volume back a bit. Quality is improving by the day, we expect this market to get tighter and we also expect prices to rise.

Romaine

Supplies are lighter than expected. Quality is hit or miss, as the wind over the weekend caused some slight wind burn.

Romaine Hearts

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

Limes

The market is starting to inch up. Volume shipped into the U.S. will remain at low levels through the new year due to tightened labor forces over the holiday season. Blanching and decay are slight problems.

Mangos

Supply and quality are good; prices are rising slightly.

Napa

Supplies are good. Quality is excellent.

Onions

The onion market continues to lean heavier to 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 keeping steady. We are harvesting new crop navels and we have been 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 today and through the weekend so we might not be harvesting until the first of next week depending on the rains. These rains are much needed and if they only last through the weekend we

should be fine on supplies and will be back to harvesting by the first of next week. The fruit is eating well now but will only get better with the colder temperatures; sugars are in the 10.5-12.5 range depending on the variety.

Parsley (Curly, Italian)

Prices are normal and quality is excellent.

Green Bell Pepper

East: Product remains plentiful this week. The GA fields have received some rain which, for all practical purposes, will bring an end to this crop. Demand is weak. FOB prices remain in a narrow trading range with some sizes and grades a little higher and other sizes and grades a little lower compared to last week. Overall, quality is good.

West: More supplies continue to cross at Nogales and the desert is still harvesting. FOB prices are lower again this week on most grades and sizes. However, choice peppers are generally steady with some upward pressure. Quality is good.

Jalapeño Pepper

East: FOB prices are lower this week. Quality is very good.

West: FOB prices are lower this week compared to last week. Quality is good.

Red & Yellow Pepper

The market is stable; supplies are increasing in Mexico (into Nogales, Arizona). Quality is very good. Color is bright and flavor is slightly sweet.

Pineapples

Market is low; Costa Rican stocks are most abundant, but Mexican supplies are increasing. Costa Rican quality is best: fruit is firm and juicy. Sugar levels range from 13-16 Brix.

Idaho Potatoes

The demand in the state is light at this time. This should be helpful, especially with the weather that parts of the state will be experiencing this week. The southeastern portion of the state was hit by a cold front last night, which may shorten run times for some operations and may cause closures on Wednesday or Thursday.

This weather pattern is only expected to last a couple of days. The pricing on both cartons and consumer packs has seen some downward pressure, this will continue until demand picks up. You may see demand on consumers increase next week with the Christmas holiday approaching.



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Produce *(continued)*

Radishes

Quality is good. Plentiful supply.

Salad Blends

The market is level and supplies are ample. Iceberg and romaine quality is improving. Inspectors will be closely monitoring quality and shelf-life as desert frost starts to become an issue during the winter months.

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas

Peas are in high demand with good quality.

Spinach (Bunched)

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

Spinach (Baby)

Baby Spinach and clipped spinach supplies are good. Quality is fair to good with good prices. There are some reports of insects. New crop looks fair.

Spring Mix

Prices are unchanged; stocks are adequate. Insect damage and large leaf size are minor problems in some components, but overall quality is very good.

Green Squash

East: FOB prices are slightly lower. Quality is good.

West: FOB prices are generally steady on all grades with some upward pressure. Crossings at Baja and Nogales.

Yellow Squash

East: Good growing weather has increased yields. FOB prices are slightly lower again this week. Quality varies.

West: Crossings have increased somewhat at Nogales. FOB prices have finally begun to fall. Quality is good.

Tomatoes

East

Rounds

Good production continues from our Central and Southern FL fields. The quality of the fruit continues to improve and is mostly excellent. As reported last week, western customers are coming east to meet much of their demand. But unlike last week, even with this additional business, demand is down considerably. This is causing FOB prices to be lower on all sizes compared to last week with the larger sizes falling the most due to increased sizing. The weather forecast continues to be favorable and we do not see anything on the horizon to adversely affect pricing or quality.

Romas

Supplies and demand remain in general equilibrium. FOB prices are also generally steady with some downward pressure. Quality continues to be very good.

Grapes

Better supplies and soft demand has caused FOB prices to fall from last week. Quality is very good.

Cherries

Supplies and quality remain good. Demand is soft causing FOB prices to drift lower this week.

West/Mexico

Rounds

Mature greens remain largely unavailable out of the west. It is still a couple of weeks away before the Culiacan crop is available. Re-packers are having to use Mexican vine-ripes and go to FL to meet their needs. Cool and wet weather in the Mexican growing regions has caused crossings to remain below average. We expect volume out of MX to continue to be weak until late December or early January. Vine-ripes are currently crossing at Baja and McAllen. Still a few weeks away before any meaningful volume begins to cross at Nogales. Quality is variable.

Romas

Baja, Nogales and McAllen crossings continue. FOB prices are generally steady with some upward pressures all three sizes. Quality continues to improve but is still variable.

Grapes

Crossings primarily from Baja and Nogales. Supplies and demand remain light. There is a wide range of quality and FOB prices. Many western re-packers are going east to meet demand and for quality.

Cherries

Like grape tomatoes, the supply of cherries remains 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.

Watermelon

The market is low; stocks are ample in the Arizona desert region and Mexico (into Nogales). Quality is very good: fruit is sweet and juicy. Sugar levels range from 11 to 13 Brix.

