



MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 3, 2017



MARKET TRENDS

MARCH 3, 2017

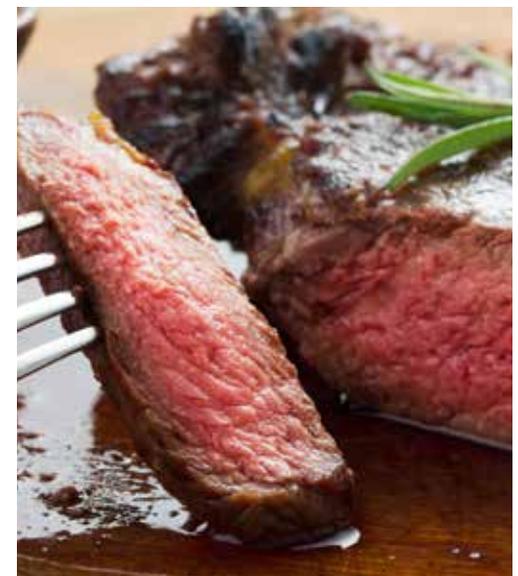
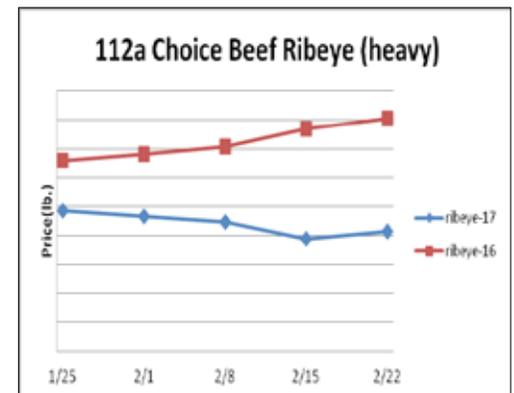
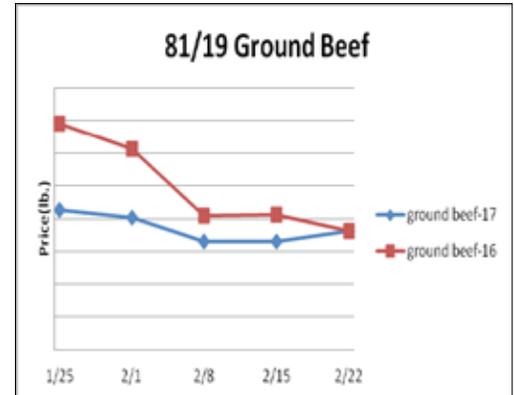
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Beef, Veal & Lamb

Beef output last week declined 1.2% but was a whopping 8.8% more than the same week last year. The USDA is projecting spring beef production to be 7.4% larger than the previous year which should temper any pending price gains for the grill season. The fairly flat beef prices are starting to encourage some demand with spot sales last week the second biggest in over two months. Forward beef sales for delivery 22-90 days out have been solid as of late as well. Retailers continue to feature beef. During January, retail beef prices were down 4.5% from last year with the average price for ground beef the lowest in three years. Low retail prices may underpin the wholesale beef markets in March.

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	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	Lower
112a Ribeye (pr)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
114a Chuck , Shlder Cld(ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
116 Chuck (sel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
116 Chuck (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
116b Chuck Tender (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
120 Brisket (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
120a Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
121c Outside Skirt (ch/sel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
121d Inside Skirt (ch/sel)	Increasing	Good	Higher
121e Cap & Wedge	Decreasing	Good	Lower
167a Knuckle, Trimmed (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
168 Inside Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
169 Top Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
171b Outside Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (ch 0x1)	Increasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (pr 2x3)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 1x1 Strip (ch)	Steady	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)	Increasing	Good	Lower
185c Loin, Tri-Tip (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
189a Tender (sel, 5 lb & up)	Increasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (ch, 5 lb & up)	Increasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (pr, heavy)	Increasing	Good	Lower
193 Flank Steak (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
50% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Higher
65% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Higher
75% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Higher
85% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Lower
90% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Lower
90% Imported Beef (firz)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
95% Imported Beef (firz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Veal Rack (Hotel 7 rib)	Steady	Good	Lower
Veal Top Round (cap off)	Steady	Good	Lower



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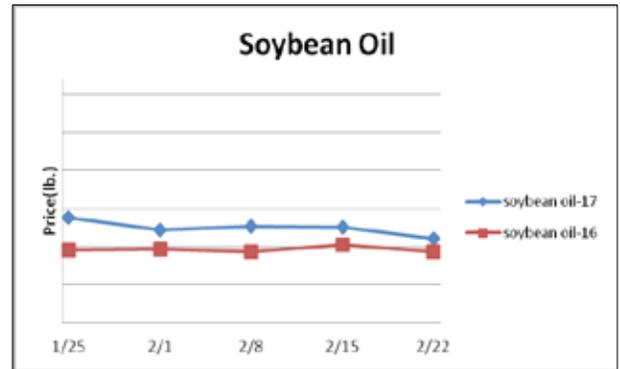
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Grains

U.S. farmer margins remain subpar due to the continued low grain prices. This may limit plantings in 2017. Early estimates from the USDA have total corn, soybeans and wheat acreage in the U.S. this year falling 4.4 million acres to a seven-year low. This could bring modest support to grain prices later this year.

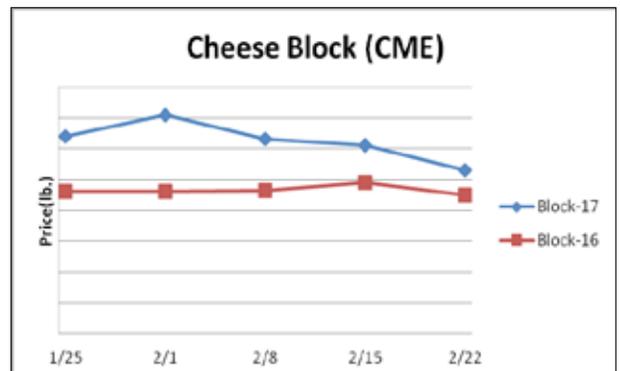
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Soybean Meal, ton	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Corn, bushel	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Decreasing	Good	Lower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



Dairy

Butter prices remain off their highs set earlier this winter. Cream supplies in the U.S. are reported to be building. Further, U.S. butter continues to price at a premium to the international markets which is slowing exports. However, domestic butter output may remain lethargic due to the strong discount in class IV milk to class III. This could limit the downside in butter prices into the spring. Unseasonably warm weather is fueling strong milk production in the Midwest. Cheese supplies are escalating which could weigh on the cheese markets for the next several weeks.

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	Increasing	Good	Higher
Provolone Cheese	Steady	Good	Same
Parmesan Cheese	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Butter (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Nonfat Dry Milk	Decreasing	Ample	Higher
Whey, Dry	Increasing	Good	Higher
Class 1 Base	Steady	Good	Higher
Class II Cream, heavy	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Class III Milk (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Class IV Milk (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Higher



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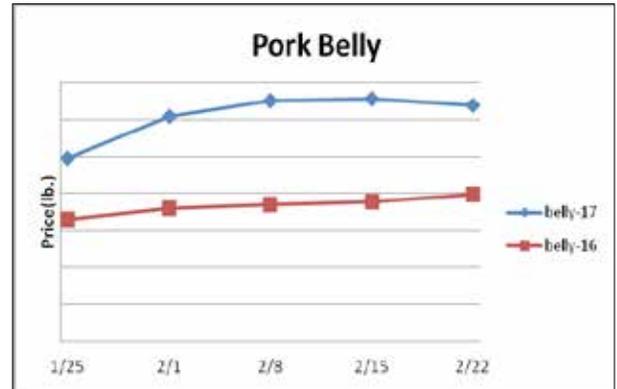
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Pork

Pork production last week declined .2% but was 3.3% larger than the same week the previous year. Still, the wholesale pork belly markets remain elevated due in a larger part to retail feature activity. During January, the average retail bacon price was the second lowest since the spring of 2013. Rising wholesale markets should cause retail prices to rise in the coming months which could dampen bacon demand. Thus, the upside price risk in the wholesale pork belly markets from here is believed to only be modest.

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



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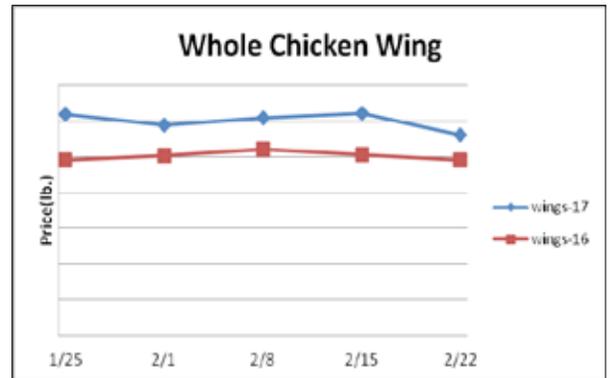
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Poultry

For the week ending February 11th, chicken output was .5% lower than the prior week and just .8% better than the same week last year. The six-week moving average for domestic chicken production is a measly .3% stronger than 2016. Slowed chicken output growth may persist at least in the near term. This is bringing support to the chicken markets. Last week the ARA Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast Index rose to its most expensive level since October, experiencing its strongest appreciation for the week since 2008. Additional chicken breast price increases are likely. Typically, the ARA chicken breast index rises 23% during the next 10 weeks. Seasonal chicken wing price depreciation may be disappointing in the near term.

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



Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Turkey (8-16 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Turkey Breast, Bnls/Sknls	Decreasing	Good	Lower

Eggs

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



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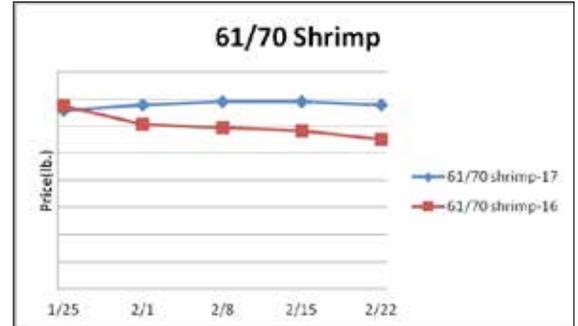
PERFORMANCE
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Seafood

The salmon markets continue to track above 2016. This and an inflated value to the U.S. dollar is encouraging imports. During December, the U.S. imported 2.4% less salmon than in 2015 but it was the second most for the month on record. The upside may be nominal in salmon prices from here.

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



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FOODSERVICE



Paper and Plastic Products

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

Retail Price Change from Prior Month

Description	Jan '17	Dec '16	Nov '16
Beef and Veal	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Dairy	Increasing	Increasing	Decreasing
Pork	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Chicken	Decreasing	Decreasing	Increasing
Fresh Fish and Seafood	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing

Various Markets

Sugar prices have found support as of late due to limited world supplies, improving demand and firmer value to the Brazilian real. The U.S. sugar supply is projected to be relatively tight into the summer which could buoy the domestic sugar markets.

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



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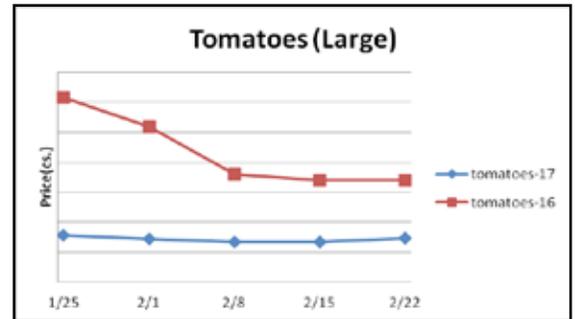
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Produce

The previous month's adversely unstable weather conditions in the Yuma growing region are still causing quality problems, lower overall weights and yields. The unusual weather has created industry wide shortages in supply on multiple items including: broccoli, cauliflower, and cilantro. Avocados are back in an extreme market as supply is limited and prices are high. The potato markets continue to track well below the previous year due in part to ample potato holdings. As of February 1st, the U.S. storage potato inventory was 3.1% larger than last year and the second biggest for the date in the last 10 years. February 1st russet potato supplies were 7% bigger than the prior year while russet stocks specially from Idaho were larger by 11.9%. This should temper any seasonal gains in the Idaho potato markets during the next several months. Usually Idaho potato prices rise near 40% between this week and mid-June.

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



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Produce

Apples & Pears

Apple demand and movement is steady with supplies readily available in most sizes and grades with the exception of golds and granny's. Supply remains tight on 100s and smaller on all grades except premium. 125s and smaller sizes in all varieties will continue to be tight all season.

Pear demand and movement are steady. Most supplies are now coming out of California. Prices remain high on D'Anjous, 100s and smaller whereas Bartletts have a much better value.

Green Beans

East: As predicted, FOB prices are lower this week.

West: FOB prices are seeing upward pressures due to light supplies.

Berries:

Blueberries

Quality is outstanding on blueberries from Central Mexico. Peak production will continue through February, with the season finishing by June. Baja California, Oxnard and Santa Maria will begin to increase their volume moving forward. Chile is finished for the season.

Blackberries

Cooler weather in central Mexico has delayed the anticipated increase in production. We expect to have good supplies by late early March.

Raspberries

Production volume remains strong in central Mexico, supplemented by Baja California. Oxnard availability declined this week due to the heavy rain that occurred late last week through Tuesday of this week. Production is expected to recover by early March. Overall, raspberries are in good supply that will continue to increase going forward.

Strawberries

Availability overall has tightened due to weather conditions in various growing areas. Rainfall totals for Wednesday in central Florida have been higher than anticipated, causing growers to curtail harvesting. More than five inches of rain fell in Oxnard during the six-day period that ended Tuesday. This leaves central Mexico as the strawberry district that has been least affected by weather. Prices have rebounded in response to increased demand. Additional precipitation is in the weekend forecast for Oxnard.

Bok Choy

Quality is good and we are seeing some higher quotes on WGA cartons.

Broccoli

Broccoli is in short supply. We expect this market to get tighter as we move into next week, as a result of warmer than usual weather patterns plus the amount of rain that has fallen. We are seeing a gap in harvest schedules and supplies.

Brussels Sprouts

The market and supplies are good this week. Quality is good.

Carrots

Georgia carrots have arrived. Carrots have improved.

Cantaloupe

Market is steady with good supplies of 9's and lighter supplies of 12's and 15's on both coasts, the overall quality is excellent with nice clean net and mostly green to straw color, the sugar content is very good and internal color is excellent. We expect the market to keep steady and continue to be a little tighter on the smaller fruit as most varieties are geared for retail.

Cauliflower

EXTREME MARKET Due to weather, we are seeing shortages and very high prices. Quality is average. Please expect price increases and short supply.

Celery

QUALITY ISSUES and shortage in supply. We continue to experience rain events throughout California, with February historically being our "rain" month. In Oxnard, these constant rains have caused the celery to develop many defects in the acres currently being harvested.

Cilantro

EXTREME MARKET - Supply is very light. Quality is variable, there is still yellowing with some decay. Prices are high and we are seeing shortages.



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Produce (continued)

Corn

Florida sweet corn has seen a spike in pricing this week. There has been less availability than in previous weeks due to planting gaps and the cooler weather hindering maturity.

Cucumbers

East: Off-shore volume continues with relatively light volume. FOB prices are generally steady with slight downward pressure compared to last week. Quality of the off-shore product remains variable.

West: Nogales crossing continue. FOB prices are generally lower. Currently, the quality through Nogales remains good.

English Cucumber

Supplies have increased in Nogales and prices will continue to ease.

Eggplant

East: FOB prices for fancy are steady with downward pressure and are generally lower for choice. Quality is good.

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

Fennel

Supplies for the week will be light.

Garlic

EXTREME MARKET - We saw another increase in price. The supply of domestic garlic remains tight. Pricing on domestic peeled 4x5s is still high. In the past week or two, we have observed a slight relief in demand. This is fairly normal following the New Year.

Ginger

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



Grapes

Market all over the board due to quality as some of the early flames had some rain on them and we are seeing some splits and light decay on some blocks upon arrival. There is other fruit that is in much better condition which is creating a two tiered market on reds especially. The green grapes look good but also a few lots are showing some issues also due to the early rains in Chile, but there are some lots that look very nice and there is a very good supply of greens here now and market has eased a bit. We expect the quality to get much better by the first of March as we move to new Chilean regions and also start to see more crimson seedless arriving as well. The outlook for the entire Chilean season is a good size crop and we should have good supplies until we start California and Mexico around the first of May.

Green Cabbage

Green cabbage is in good supply and should be steady this week. Quality is good.

Red Cabbage

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

Green Onions

The green onion supply for the industry is getting better. We are seeing prices come down.

Honeydew

Market is strong with fair supplies and overall quality is excellent with a nice green to cream cast and a beautiful light green internal color and excellent sugar. We expect the market to keep steady and strong for at least the next few weeks.

Kale (Green)

Demand is steady and quality is average. We are seeing some mildew.

Lemons

Market is strong with excellent demand and still trying to get caught up on supplies from the past storms and like the oranges we are trying to get all the crews we can to get bins in the house to help us get through the next round of storms. The overall quality of the fruit is good, but again withal the moisture around we will be fighting the clear rot and brown rot issue. We are also treating all orchards with fungicide and copper as well to try and kill back the spores, to help keep the fruit strong. The fruit size will continue to get larger as well with all the rain we have had, so some of the smaller sizes could get a little tight.

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Produce *(continued)*

Limes

Prices are stable at elevated levels. Expect even higher markets in March, for it is the lowest harvesting period of the year for Mexico. Quality is average.

Lettuce:

Green and Red Leaf

Supplies on green leaf are better. We are seeing a lot of dirt due to the heavy winds, seeders and tip burn. We are seeing very short supply on red leaf, however quality is good. Prices are high on both.

Iceberg Lettuce

Supplies of iceberg lettuce are average. Quality is good to average, and we are seeing some mildew due to the rain. Expect shortages and high prices.

Romaine

Light supplies. Quality is hit or miss with epidermal peeling.

Romaine Hearts

Supplies are light. We are seeing twisting with average quality, and peeling. Prices are rising.

Limes

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

Napa

Supplies are good and quality is excellent.

Onions

Pricing has remained sluggish as Mexican supplies have continued to increase volume on all three colors. The northwest is back to normal shipping and supplies are plentiful for the amount of season they have remaining. The size profile on the Mexican product is heavier on mediums and jumbos. Large size onions (colossal and super colossal) will need to continue to be sourced in the northwest. Quality remains strong in the northwest.

Oranges

Market is steady to strong as rains have kept us out of the fields and the ground is very saturated, we will be able to start picking today and hopefully through the week which should get us in a good position as far as supplies. We are forecasted for rains Sunday and Monday so we will keep you posted, also they are calling for some colder temperatures through next week which will help the fruit firm up a bit. We are very blessed to be getting this much rain but with it comes some obstacles, we will keep you posted and we hope to be able to get enough picked this week to hold our supplies up through

this next event. The labor is really tough to get at this point as well due to all the fruit that needs to be picked and a lack of people available to pick. The overall quality of the fruit is very good with excellent sugar and juice content and a nice full brick orange exterior color they are eating like candy. With all this moisture in the ground we are treating all orchards with fungicide and copper to help slow down the mold spores when it is dry enough to get a tractor in the fields, but it is inevitable we will start to see clear rot, and brown rot issues.

Parsley (Curly, Italian)

Prices are normal and quality is average.

Green Bell Pepper

East: Limited supplies caused peppers to bring higher FOB prices last week. Supplies have improved which has caused FOB prices for all grades and sizes to fall this week. We will see how tomorrow's rain effects harvesting and supplies in the short run. Quality thus far this week continues to be generally good.

West: FOB prices are steady to down thus far this week. Quality is good.

Jalapeño Pepper

East: FOB prices are generally higher this week. Quality is good.

West: FOB prices are generally lower this week. Supplies remain good. Quality is good.

Red & Yellow Pepper

Prices are near the bottom; Mexican supplies (into Nogales, Arizona and South Texas) are plentiful. Quality is very good: color is a bit paler than normal.



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Produce *(continued)*

Pineapple

Prices are higher than last week and will rise through April/Easter; stocks are tightening. Quality ranges from fair to good; flavor is sweet, yet tangy. Sugar levels range from 13 to 16 Brix.

Idaho Potatoes

Demand on consumers is very light, 40's through 70's fair and 80's through 100's light also. We cannot seem to get potatoes to grab hold and get demand back to "normal." It will probably be another few weeks before we see demand pick up for suppliers. You should be able to make good deals on consumer packs along with the smaller cartons in Idaho. Growers are in the early stages of trying to figure out their plans on upcoming plantings. The smart move at this time would be to see a push to decrease acreage in Idaho. Grower's cannot continue to operate at below production costs, it's just not sustainable for them.

Radishes

Quality is good and supply is plentiful.

Salad Blends

Prices are level; raw product supplies are starting to increase. Quality is good, yet mildew damage and weak tips are quality issues in some finished packs.

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas

Snow and sugar snap peas are in high demand with good quality.

Spinach (Bunched)

Supply is average, quality is only fair. We are still seeing some mildew in this product.

Spinach (Baby)

Baby and clipped spinach supplies are light. Quality is fair to good, with good prices. There are some reports of mildew.



Spring Mix

There is plenty of product with quality being average, but it has improved.

Green Squash

East: FOB prices are steady to lower this week on both grades primarily due to weak demand. Quality is variable.

West: We are seeing a wide range in quality. Overall supply is down. FOB prices are higher this week for all grades and sizes. Crossings primarily at Nogales.

Yellow Squash

East: FOB prices are generally steady with downward pressures due to very weak demand. Quality remains variable.

West: Fewer supplies this week have cause FOB prices to rise. Quality is generally good.

Tomatoes

East

Rounds

Demand is weak to moderate. Rain will keep us out of the fields tomorrow. Quality remains good. Mexico continues to dictate market prices and those prices remain at Suspension Agreement Minimums. FOB prices in the east remain within a narrow range with slight upward pressures. We expect prices to remain low and to continue to trade in a narrow range into March barring a major weather event.

Romas

FOB prices for romas also continue to trade within a narrow range and Mexico is dictating this market also. FOB prices are up slightly this week on all sizes. We expect FOB prices to remain low and to trade within a narrow range into next month. Quality continues to be very good.

Grapes

FOB prices remain generally steady this week and quality remains very good.

Cherries

Prices are steady compared to last week. Quality remains very good.

West/Mexico

Rounds

Demand continues to be anemic. Good volume continues to cross at Nogales but we have seen the first signs of a slight seasonal slowdown. Crossings also continue at McAllen. FOB prices remain at Suspension Agreement minimums. Quality is good. Good weather is forecasted to continue for the next

MARKET TRENDS

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PERFORMANCE
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Produce *(continued)*

several weeks. If that forecast holds true, we expect the round tomato market to remain relatively stable for at least the next several weeks.

Romas

Nogales and McAllen crossings continue. Quality is good. FOB prices remain at Suspension Agreement minimums for all sizes. Prices should remain steady for the foreseeable future.

Grapes

Crossings primarily at Nogales. Quality is variable. Prices generally at Suspension Agreement minimums but have firmed up especially for the better quality fruit.

Cherries

Quality is more variable and we are seeing a wider range in FOB prices which correspond to the quality. The supply of good quality cherries out of Mexico has decreased.

Watermelons

Prices are firm at high levels. Mexican stocks remain limited due to cold, rainy weather. Quality is fair: light color and mealy texture are problems. Offshore supplies are more abundant, yet strong demand will keep the market elevated. Offshore quality is best. Sugar levels range from 11 to 13 Brix.

