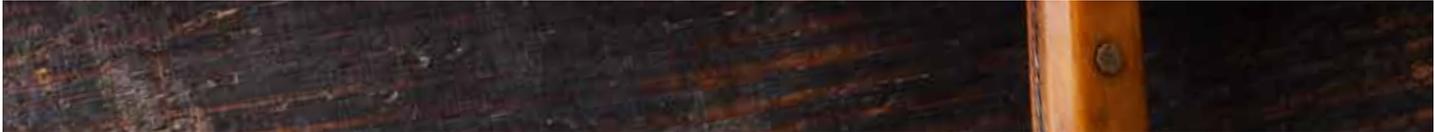




MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 7, 2017



MARKET TRENDS

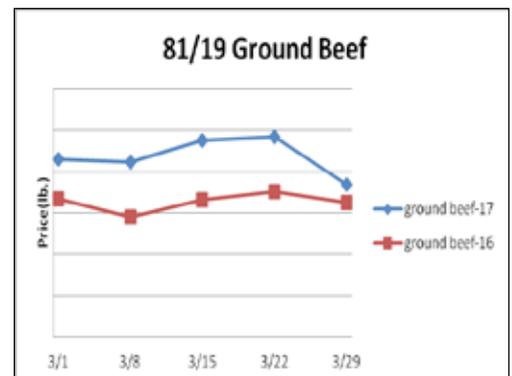
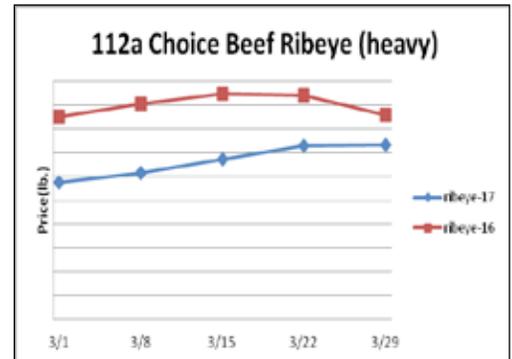
APRIL 7, 2017



Beef, Veal & Lamb

Beef production last week rose 4.2% and was 12.2% larger than the same week last year. Strong year over year gains in weekly beef output are anticipated this spring. The March 1st cattle on feed inventory was flat with last year. Placements into feedlots during February were 2.6% more than the prior year after the leap day adjustment. However, the average cattle placement weight was lower compared to the previous year for the fourth month out of the last five. This suggests that overall herd growth is slowing. Low retail prices may continue to support ground beef demand and wholesale prices. February retail ground beef prices were the second lowest in the last two years.

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



MARKET TRENDS

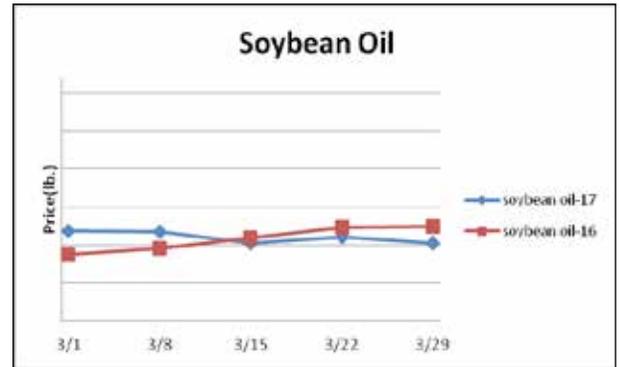
APRIL 7, 2017



Grains

2017-18 corn and soybean planting is underway in the South. Planting will escalate across the grain belt during the next few months with the weather playing a greater influence in the markets. But barring any major issues, the feed markets are expected to remain historically appealing to buyers at least into the summer.

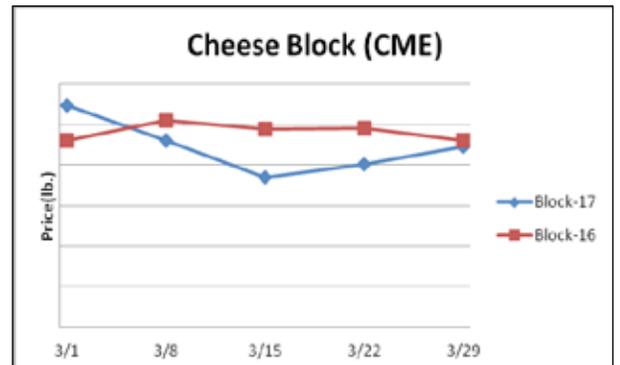
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Soybean Meal, ton	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Corn, bushel	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Steady	Good	Lower
Distillers Grain, Dry	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Crude Palm Oil, lb BMD	Decreasing	Good	Higher
HRW Wheat, bushel	Increasing	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

The butter market remains relatively inflated due to tempered domestic butter output and elevated international prices. Domestic butter stocks remain ample, however, with the end of February inventory up 27.6% from the previous year and the biggest for the date since 1993. The January through February build in domestic butter holdings was the largest in at least the last 37 years. This bodes well for butter supplies this fall when demand usually escalates. February cheese stocks were the second largest for the month on record. Cheese prices may find support in the near term.

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



MARKET TRENDS

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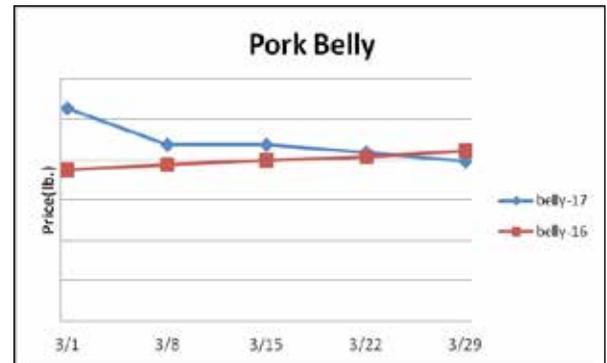
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Pork

Pork output last week declined .9% but was 6.5% larger than the same week a year ago. Solid year over year pork production expansion is anticipated during the next several months which should weigh on pork prices. End of February pork stocks were 9% less than the prior year with bellies (74%), picnics (24%), loins (11%) ribs (3%), butts (4%) and trim (5%) lower. Ham stocks were up 9% from 2016. The belly inventory was a record low for the month. If belly stocks don't build in the coming months it could especially be supportive of belly prices.

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



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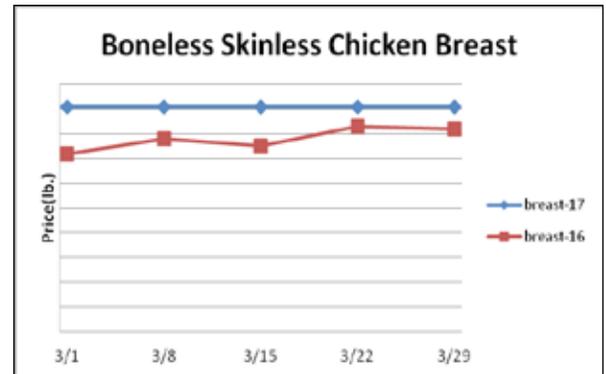
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Poultry

Chicken production for the week ending March 18th rose .8% from the previous week and was 1.7% better than the same week last year. The six week moving average for annual chicken output gains remains lackluster at 1%. The February broiler type chick hatch was 1% better than 2016 after the leap day adjustment. But lighter bird weights could cause tempered chicken output growth to endure. The average broiler weight during the last six weeks was .8% lighter than the prior year. End of February chicken stocks were 2% less than 2016 despite bigger breast (6%) and wing (5%) holdings. Chicken leg quarter supplies were 2% less than the previous year. Improving export demand could lift leg quarter prices higher this spring.

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



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

Eggs

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



MARKET TRENDS

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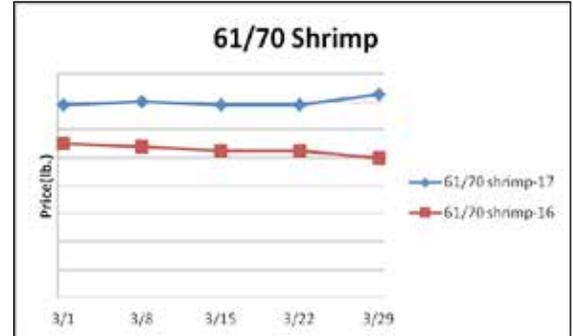
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Seafood

Elevated U.S. prices are encouraging shrimp imports. During February, the U.S. imported a record amount of shrimp for the month, up 2.6% from 2016. This occurred despite imports from Thailand remaining about a third of normal. The upside may be limited in shrimp prices from here.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Shrimp (16/20 frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Shrimp (61/70 frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Shrimp Tiger (26/30 frz)	Decreasing	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)	Steady	Good	Higher
Pollock Alaska, Deep Skin	Steady	Good	Higher



MARKET TRENDS

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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	Increasing	Good	Higher
PE-LLD-can liners, film, bags	Steady	Good	Higher

Retail Price Change from Prior Month

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

Various Markets

The cocoa markets have found support in recent weeks. There are building concerns that warm weather could negatively impact mid-crop cocoa yields in West Africa. Further upside price action is likely to occur in the cocoa markets during the next several months.

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



MARKET TRENDS

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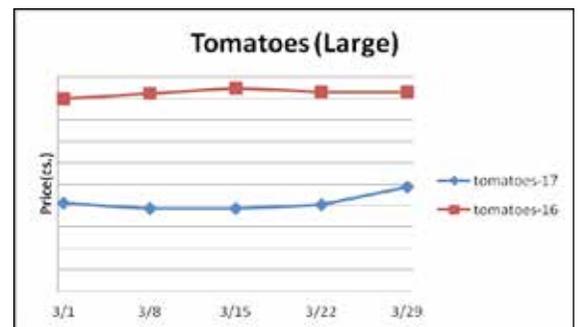
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce

The previous month's unstable weather conditions in the Yuma growing region are still causing quality problems resulting in lower overall weights and yields. The unusual weather has created industry wide shortages in supply on multiple items including: cauliflower, cilantro, green leaf, red leaf and ALL romaine commodities. The term "March Madness" is not unique to just NCAA basketball this spring... it also applies to the fresh produce industry. Shippers are desperately trying to stretch the last remaining desert supplies and simultaneously claw forward into the first Salinas fields. The weeks of April 3 and 10 will prove to be the extremely difficult for product availability, quality, and the logistics of loading districts. The current "Acts of God" will remain triggered and temporary price increases will remain in place over the next three weeks. Better avocado supplies are putting downward pressure on the avocado markets. U.S. avocado imports from Mexico last week rose 34.3 from the previous week and were 12.3% better than the same week last year. Mexico accounted for 96% of total avocado supplies in the U.S. for the week. Mexican avocado exports to the U.S. may still be erratic during the spring which could cause volatility in avocado prices. Lettuce supplies remain subpar due to various weather issues. The chief lettuce harvest area is transitioning north. Some supply gaps are likely.

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



MARKET TRENDS

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PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce

Apples & Pears

Most prices are weak, but the small-size Granny Smith markets are higher. Quality is excellent: flavor varies from sweet to tangy. Sugar levels range from 14 to 18 Brix. Prices are unchanged. D'Anjou stocks are ample. Sugar levels range from 12 to 14 Brix. The California Bartlett season will begin in July.

Artichokes

We are seeing very high prices and very short supply. Quality is good.

Arugula

Supplies of both baby and wild arugula are light due to mildew.

Asparagus

The market is beginning rise due to strong demand for the Easter holiday. Limited MFC Asparagus will be available from Mexico through mid-April. Packer label shipments out of California have started;

Avocados

Prices will remain elevated through June. California volume is low, but increasing. Mexican stocks are tightening; demand is strong. Quality is very good: texture is smooth and flavor is nutty.

Bananas

Demand and quality are good and supply is steady.

Green Beans

East: Supplies are up sharply causing a large drop in FOB prices this week. Yields are excellent and we expect few changes through the third week of April.

West: Supplies remain tight in the west. This is causing FOB prices to remain generally steady but with upward pressures. Quality is variable.



Berries:

Blackberries

The market is low. Mexican stocks are the most plentiful; California supplies are increasing. Quality is very good: fruit is plump, juicy, and sweet. Sugar levels vary from 12 to 13 Brix.

Blueberries

Prices are up. The Mexican season is winding down, while new crop domestic harvesting has just begun in California and Florida; volume is low, but will rise. Domestic quality is best: berries are tangy, yet sweet.

Raspberries

The market is steady at high levels; supplies should increase over the next several weeks. Quality is best in Mexico; fruit is juicy and sweet. Sugar levels range from 13 to 14 Brix.

Strawberries

Prices are slightly lower despite last week's rain. The Florida season is nearly finished. Quality is best in California, although occasional rain damage is a concern due to recent storms.

Bok Choy

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

Broccoli

The market is stable despite limited industry supplies. Volume will increase when harvesting begins in California's Salinas Valley and Santa Maria. Quality is good: brown/yellow beading is a minor problem.

Brussels Sprouts

The market took a turn for the worst. Quality is poor and prices are high. There is very limited product available.

Cantaloupe

Market steady with generally good supplies of 12's but a bit snug on the 9's and 15's due to good demand, the fruit quality looks very nice with excellent internal color and sugar and for the most part a nice clean green to straw netting and very firm. We expect to have good volume of the offshore fruit through April and then transition into the domestic fruit out of the Imperial Valley around the first week of May.

Carrots

There is a good supply with solid quality.

Cauliflower

Prices are slightly lower than last week; supplies are starting to increase. Quality is good: discoloration and mildew are issues.

MARKET TRENDS

APRIL 7, 2017

 **PERFORMANCE**
FOODSERVICE



Produce *(continued)*

Celery

The market is up; stocks are limited. The Yuma season is nearly over; Oxnard supplies are limited due to past rain. Quality is fair: insect pressure and pith are problems.

Cilantro

EXTREME MARKET Supplies are very light. Quality is variable as there is still yellowing with some decay. Price are high and we are seeing shortages.

Corn

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

Cucumbers

East: FOB prices are steady but we expect downward pressures as more volume is getting ramped up from new Florida fields. Quality is good.

West: Nogales crossings continue. Baja crossings have started. The market remains active with FOB prices generally steady to slightly higher from last week.

English Cucumber

Availability is steady for hot-house English cucumbers from Southern California and Nogales.

Eggplant

East: FOB prices for fancy are steady while the prices for choice are generally steady to down. Quality is generally good.

West: Nogales crossings continue and quality is good.

Fennel

Supplies for the week will be light.

Garlic

EXTREME MARKET: 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 after 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 is strong on reds as we are done on flames and into other reds varieties (Crimsons, Perlones, Timco) which are mostly 700 and 900 code and very few 500 code coming in. The overall quality of the reds is very good with full red color

and clean with few to no splits and nice crunch to the berries with fair to good sugar content. The greens are looking fair with most lots needing to be repacked and we will continue to repack as most of the storage type fruit is just starting to arrive and it looks like we will be short on greens and that is starting now and prices will continue to climb on good solid fruit. We should have enough reds to get us through April and then we will start Mexico and Coachella Valley fruit around the first week of May. The crop out of Mexico and Coachella looks excellent at this point.

Green Cabbage

Green cabbage is in average 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

Iced: This market has leveled off with steady crossings last week. The crossings should remain at current levels with good supplies to promote for Easter.

Iceless: This market has leveled off and remains steady. Contracts and pre-commitments are keeping the market firm. With good supplies for the Easter pull coming up, we expect to see shippers starting to divert production to Salinas this weekend from Mexico.

Honeydew

Market is mostly steady as well with limited supply on 5s, most supply in 6/8. The overall quality looks very good with a nice clean exterior condition with a green to cream color and excellent internal color and sugar and nice tight cavity. We will also have some good supplies going forward through April and transition into the Imperial Valley and Mexico volume around the second week of May.

Kale (Green)

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

Lemons

Market very strong especially on 140's and smaller as we are seeing some very large fruit here in dist. 1 and also size picking in dist. 2 which is also yielding larger sizes keeping the smaller fruit strong. 165/200 getting close to demand exceeds supply. The overall quality is good to fair, with some clear rot showing up due to all the moisture in the ground and warmer weather which promotes mold spores. We will see the market continue to increase as demand has been very good across the board, this will be the trend as we start

MARKET TRENDS

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PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Produce (continued)

heading further into the spring which is normal. We will finish here in dist. 1 around the end of April and then we will be dependent upon only dist. 2 fruit until we see the Chilean fruit arrive around the first of June and they will increase their volume by mid-July and then Mexico starting around the first of August going through October.

Lettuce:

Green Leaf/Variety Lettuce

Prices are high; the Yuma season is winding down; supplies are tightening. Quality is fair: growth waste, insect pressure, mildew, and sun scalding are problems.

Iceberg

Prices are up; Arizona desert supplies are winding down.

Romaine

Prices remain elevated; stocks are limited. Quality is fair: epidermal peeling, heavy heads/ growth waste, insect pressure, mildew, and sun scalding are problems.

Romaine Hearts

EXTREME MARKET/EXTREME SHORTAGES : Supplies are VERY light. We are seeing twisting with average quality, and peeling. Prices are rising, we are seeing a very short supply.

Limes

Prices will start easing next week; volume is beginning to climb back to normal levels.
New crop quality is excellent.

Napa

Supplies are very tight.

Onions

Most prices are low; Northwest stocks are abundant.

Oranges

Market is generally steady with good supplies across the board as we have had some clear and warm weather which has allowed us to get crews in the field and get continue to get fruit harvested. The fruit quality is good right now with excellent color and sugar and the fruit eats like candy, we are starting to see some puff and crease and some softer fruit due to the excessive amount of rains and the warm weather we have experienced. We are starting to see some fruit drop as well and we will for sure come up short of our original estimates for this year's navel crop, but will have supplies probably through May and not stretch it into July like last year. We will probably start some Valencia's around the middle part of April this year's crop looks to be of normal volume with a nice range of size.

Parsley (Curly, Italian)

Prices are normal and quality is average.

Green Bell Pepper

East: Generally good supply. FOB prices are steady with slight downward pressure this week on all sizes and grades. Quality is good.

West: Good supplies continue. FOB prices are steady to down slightly. Quality is generally good.

Jalapeño Pepper

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

West: FOB prices are slightly higher this week. Quality is good.

Red Bell Pepper

West: Supplies of field reds are tighter this week putting upward pressure on FOB prices. Quality is generally good.

Pineapples

Expect an elevated market for another week or two. Supplies are limited and demand is strong. Sugar levels range from 13 to 16 Brix.

Idaho Potatoes

Prices will gradually increase over the next few weeks. The Norkotah crop will be depleted in late April. The Burbank variety will be shipped until new crop, field-run Norkotahs become available in mid- to late August.

Radishes

Quality is good and supply is plentiful.

Salad Blends

The romaine blend market is up despite sufficient iceberg supplies. Heat-related defects are a concern for the end of the desert season.



MARKET TRENDS

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 **PERFORMANCE**
FOODSERVICE



Produce *(continued)*

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

Prices are high; growers are starting the transition north to the Salinas Valley, tightening supplies. Quality is average: mildew is a minor issue in some red components.

Green Squash

East: Like the yellow, new fields have increased supply and quality. FOB prices are down again this week.

West: FOB prices are also down in the west. Quality continues to improve.

Yellow Squash

East: New supplies have caused FOB prices to drop again this week. We have begun to harvest fields in Plant City. Quality continues to improve but winds have caused some scarring.

West: Increased supplies have also caused FOB prices to fall in the west. We expect the desert fields to begin to be harvested starting next week.

Tomatoes

East

Rounds

We are entering into the spring gradual transition from our southern Florida (Immokalee) fields to the central Florida fields (Palmetto/Ruskin). We reported last week that sizing was toward the minimum side of specs and we expect this to continue during this transition which will run for about three weeks. This will place a premium price on the larger sized tomatoes. As is typical, yields are decreased in the older fields. As we move forward through April, we expect yields to remain lower than they have been all winter due to less acreage being planted for spring harvesting and some damage that has already occurred in the new fields due to a freeze. FOB prices are up a couple of dollars for the larger sizes and less than that for the smaller sizes. Quality remains very good and should remain very good for at least the next couple of weeks.

Romas

FOB prices are steady for the large and medium sizes and up slightly for the extra-large size. Quality this week is very good.

Grapes

FOB prices are up substantially this week as supplies are having trouble keeping up with demand. This is the first week this has occurred all winter. Quality remains very good to excellent.

Cherries

FOB prices are higher for cherries also. Prices have risen in the four dollar range from last week. Quality is generally very good.

West/Mexico

Rounds

Demand continues to be light. Good volume continues to cross at Nogales but we continue to see signs of a slight seasonal slowdown. Crossings also continue at McAllen. FOB prices remain at Suspension Agreement minimums. Quality and sizing continue to improve. We expect Mexican fields to continue for about five more weeks. The California crop should begin around June 10 with one grower. All growers should be going around the first week of July. Wetter than normal conditions delayed some growers from their normal planting schedule. Vine ripens from Mexico remain plentiful with poor demand. Prices remain at Suspension Agreement minimums.

Romas

Nogales and McAllen crossings continue. Baja crossing should start next week. FOB prices remain at Suspension Agreement minimums for all sizes. Quality continues to be variable but has improved.

Grapes

Crossings primarily at Nogales. Quality is variable. Like in the east, prices are up substantially over last week.

Cherries

Quality continues to be suspect and variable this week. We are continuing to see a wider-than-normal range in FOB prices which correspond to the quality. Overall, re-packers are having to pay higher FOB prices again this week for quality product.

Watermelons

The market is starting to ease; stocks are increasing. Quality is excellent: color and flavor have improved. Sugar levels are 10 Brix.