

• FARMERS • MARKET UPDATE

JANUARY 14, 2019



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FEATURED ITEM:



Red Delicious
Apples

CODE: 56046
PACK SIZE: 113 ct

! ALERTS

- GREEN & YELLOW ZUCCHINI: Very tight supplies.
- EAST COAST PEPPERS: Extremely tight supplies and getting tighter.
- RED & GREEN GRAPES: Supplies are limited as delays at the port of entry are having a big impact on availability.
- HOTHOUSE TOMATO: Demand far exceeds supplies on all sizes and packs.

MARKET AT A GLANCE:

Offshore Stone Fruit: Delays at the port of entry is holding supplies at bay.

Onions: White Onions market is very active with limited supplies. The yellow onion market has finally gotten some strength.

Wild Mushrooms: Weather in BC continues to be a major problem. Cold weather has stalled the start of BC Hedgehogs, Yellowfeet and Black Trumpets. We should see improvements as soon as it warms up.

Apples: We are experiencing extremely limited supplies of Granny Smith and Golden Delicious apples.

East Coast Eggplant: Supplies of fancy grade product is drying up.

Cucumbers: Lack of supply coming from Mexico is causing prices to rise on import cucumbers.

Raspberries: Adverse weather has reduced crop yields

Cantaloupe & Honeydew: Availability and sizes remain limited as Mexico struggles to start. Offshore supplies are light.

ITEMS TO AVOID:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| • VALES SOVEREIGN POTATO | • ONTARIO GRAPES |
| • RED BELGIUM ENDIVE | • ONTARIO PLUMS |
| • PRICKLY PEARS | • QUEBEC ROMAINE |
| • SEVILLE ORANGES | • ENGLISH PEAS |
| • FIDDLEHEADS | • CALIFORNIA |
| • RAMPS | • POMEGRANITE |
| • ONTARIO RHUBARB | • FAVA BEANS |
| • RED CURRANTS | • GREEN OLIVES |
| • ONTARIO YELLOW PLUMS | • QUINCE |
| • GALIA MELONS | • RED PLUMS |
| • ONTARIO PEACHES | • BLACK PLUMS |
| • ONTARIO NECTARINES | |

NOW AVAILABLE:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| • CASTLEFRANCO | • CARA CARA |
| • FORLELLE PEARS | • D'ANJOU PEARS |
| • PERSIMMONS | • APRICOTS |
| • FLORIDA JUICE ORANGE | • PEACH |
| • FLAT BEANS | • NECTARINES |
| • CHERRIES | • BLOOD ORANGE |
| • CLEMENTINES | |

WHAT'S IN OUR BACKYARD?



- **Onion** - Good quality and excellent supplies with red and yellow onions.
- **Carrot** - Ontario carrot supplies are getting tighter and pricing continues to rise. Heirloom carrots continue with good quality and steady supplies.
- **Mushrooms** - Mushrooms continue to be short, especially buttons. Growers are all battling production issues and an overall increase in demand.
- **Potatoes** - Large #1 chefs continue to be in good supply. Good quality Yukon Golds are very tight. There is a severe issue with hollow heart in Yukon Golds in Ontario, Quebec and Michigan
- **Cabbage** - Green, savoy and red cabbage continue with very light supplies and pricing that continues to rise. Transition to imported product will start very early this year.
- **Cucumbers** - Local production has been light, but imports have greatly increased allowing the market to ease.
- **Apples** - The Ontario apple season continues this week with Red Delicious, McIntosh and Empires continuing. Gold Delicious are finished. Prices are elevated due to short supplies in Washington and good export demand.
- **Hothouse Lettuce** - Hydroponic Salanova supplies are good with very good quality. Hydroponic boston is very short due to lack of sunlight and heavy demand.
- **Hard Squash** - Spaghetti, pepper and buttercup are finished. Butternut continues but will start to wind down in January

VEGETABLES



• ASPARAGUS

The market and demand are very strong with slow production out of Mexico, and Peru wrapping up their season.



• BEANS

Green bean is back to normal. Wax (yellow) beans are now available as supplies increase. Snipped orders are available.



• BROCCOLI

Supplies to remain tight. Look for supplies to tighten on broccoli in all areas as suppliers are battling the cold weather. Quality is fair.



• BRUSSELS SPROUTS

The quality has been affected by the rain and cold weather. Look for the brussels sprout market to remain tight.



• CAULIFLOWER

Look for this market to continue to stay strong going into next week. Quality is fair.



• CELERY

Yields will be lighter than expected with multiple shippers due to cold weather. The quality is above average.



• CORN

Florida is harvesting good volume on corn and quality is very nice. There will continue to be product available barring any weather event.



• CUCUMBERS

EAST - Quality on the offshore product has been very nice, and supply has been steady.
WEST - The cucumber market from Sinaloa is expected to move higher through the end of the week. Quality is good.



• EGGPLANT

EAST - Quality is hit and miss. Most of the product is choice instead of fancy grade.
WEST - Light volume expected to continue through next week. Low numbers of fancy and choice grade are currently being packed. Quality is fair to good.



• GREEN ONIONS

The green onion market will continue to be in demand going into next week.



• LETTUCES

ICEBERG - Cool temperatures and labour issues are slowing down production. Quality is fair.



ROMAINE / LEAF - The market has become stronger on romaine, hearts as well as all leaf items. The freezing temperatures in past weeks have caused damage that is significant. Yields are down. Like lettuce, romaine and all leaf items are fair at best in terms of quality. This is an industry-wide issue.



• SPRING MIX, SPINACH & BABY KALE

The tender leaf market continues to be strong on spring mix, baby kale and baby spinach with the colder weather in Yuma. Quality issues are fair.



• ROCKET ARUGULA / WATERCRESS

Baby arugula supplies are meeting current demand. Quality remains good. Bunched and Red watercress is available.

WILD FORAGED PRODUCTS

- BLACK TRUMPETS - From California
- PINE MUSHROOMS - From California
- HEDGEHOGS - From Oregon
- YELLOWFOOT - From Oregon
- CHANTERELLE - From Oregon
- WHITE TRUFFLES - From Italy
- WINTER TRUFFLES - From Italy/Spain



• ONIONS

Reds onions are steady, while the white onion market is extremely limited. Quality is excellent.



• PEPPERS

EAST - Green peppers are in very tight supply and may get tighter. Tropical storm winds are blowing blooms and small fruit off plants.
WEST - Lighter quantities are available for red and green peppers, both with good quality.



• POTATOES

CANADIAN - Losing over 8,000 acres to the early frost in October has made the supply situation on PEI desperate for all shippers and processors. Supply being what it is we expect prices to hold steady for now.

USA - Potato supplies have become slightly limited this week on particular sizes.



• ZUCCHINI

EAST - Weather this week will not be conducive for good production so look for tight supplies. Quality is holding up on green, there are some scaring issues with yellow.
WEST - Demand exceeds supply, especially on yellow zucchini.

FRUITS



• APPLES

Granny Smith, Golden Delicious, and Honeycrisp are in demand exceeds supply situation. All other varieties seem to be fairly steady.



• AVOCADOS

Good supplies remain and are expected from Mexico for the month and through Super Bowl.



• BERRIES

BLUEBERRIES

Blueberries continue to be available from several exporting areas. Pricing still fluctuates on all pack styles.



RASPBERRIES

Demand exceeds supply. Adverse weather has reduced crop yields.



BLACKBERRIES

Good supplies of the Mexican berries has caused a wide variety of pricing to be offered.



STRAWBERRIES

Adverse, weather conditions have continued to take its toll on both yields and quality.



• CHERRIES

Import cherries are readily available. Quality is good. Demand is light.



• CITRUS - LEMONS

All regions have a good run on sizes and expected to continue to improve as weather permits.



• GRAPEFRUIT

Supplies on the large sizing will continue to be limited as the majority of the pack outs have shown peak sizing of 56/48/40 count.



• GRAPES

GREEN & RED - Supplies are limited as delays at the port of entry are having a big impact on availability



• GOLD PINEAPPLES

Current supplies are limited, and will continue so due to basal staining. Volumes should gradually increase as we move through the first quarter of 2019. Quality is reported as good, with solid 14+ brix.



• LIMES

The market could be up or down a week from now. It is a very short cycle supply vs. demand market.



• MANGOES

Between the drop in volume from Ecuador and the fact that Peru has not reached peak production, supplies will remain limited and prices are expected to be increasing.



• MELON

CANTALOUPE & HONEYDEWS - Supplies and sizes are limited this week as Mexico struggles to start. Offshore fruit has started, but supplies are light.



• PAPAYAS

About 80% of the fruit arriving are 12s & 16s with very few 8s & 9s.



• ORANGES

Good supply, plenty of volume and great quality. Cara Caras & Blood oranges continue with supplies getting better each week.



• PEARS

D'anjou, Bosc and Bartlett pears have a steady market with moderate demand. Quality is good.



• STONE FRUIT

Import fruit from Peru and Chile has been a challenge in regard to arrival and release from port. Vessels are being delayed at the port due to labor shortages. As a result, fruit is not being inspected and released in a timely manner.



• TOMATOES

While supplies and prices have improved, contracts remain triggered. Quality on what is being shipped is very good. Supplies of yellow cherry/grape as well as yellow vines is non-existent. Additionally, gourmet medley, kumato and heirlooms are also very short.



• WATERMELON

Supplies are still very tight on seedless watermelon. The market on watermelon being reported as steady and high and expected to remain the same through the week. Quality on new crop watermelon being reported as good.

= Local options available

