



**MIDWEST
FOODS**

Weekly Updates

September 15th, 2023

All items are subject to availability.

FEATURED NEW & RETAIL READY

Description		Item Number
Pumpkin Large Carving EACH LOCAL Parrfection WI	FEATURED LOCAL	01-1477
Pumpkin Medium Carving EACH LOCAL Parrfection WI	FEATURED LOCAL	01-1668
Pumpkin Mini Orange 1/2 Bushel Case LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	01-1309
Pumpkin Mini White 1/2 Bu Case LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	235643
Pumpkin Pie Case Fresh LOCAL (10-12ct approximate) Superior	FEATURED LOCAL	172600P
Squash Delicata 30# Case LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	6-2382
Squash Kabocha 32-36# avg Case LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	73852
Squash Red Kuri 40# LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	3465753764
Tomato Cherry Red 12-1pt LOCAL Windy City Harvest IL	FEATURED LOCAL	6-2405
Tomato Cherry Sungold 12-1pt LOCAL Windy City Harvest, IL	FEATURED LOCAL	6-2408

GRAB-N-GO



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MARKET REPORT

Apples The new Granny Smith crop has begun in Washington. By far, Washington state is the largest producer of this variety. Granny's are an alternate bearing crop. This is looking to be a very heavy production year for them.

Asparagus As Central Mexico finishes over the next few weeks, we are still in a transition period with Mexican asparagus. Sizes out of Central Mexico continue to be on the smaller side, mostly standards and smalls with very limited larger sizes. As the month progresses, the focus will shift to the Southern Baja region, particularly Constitution, where business has started slowly but is expected to increase.

As Southern harvest areas come on, we are beginning to see a slight increase in Peruvian asparagus supply. Typically, the south of Peru represents large volume that can arrive in late September to early October. However, with the continued production issues we have seen this year related to El Nino weather patterns, there is still uncertainty how things will progress. At the moment, things continue to stay relatively consistent regarding volume. Suppliers expect to see 105 containers arriving this Friday September 15th compared to 98 from last week. The sizing from Peru is starting to improve with larger sizes becoming more available.

Avocados 48ct and larger sizes continue to rise, but the market has slowed down. This is due to customers ordering what they need and not over purchasing. Due to this, MX reduces their price and ships more into the states. Hearing that it will tick back up with CA finishing, as well as Peru's supply dwindling down. The Flora Loca crop is finishing up; Adventajada is next. The adventajada crop will peak on 60ct and smaller, but I'll keep everyone updated if that changes.

Bell Peppers Overall, availability and quality are good, and prices are steady. In the east, crops have started transitioning south, with Georgia starting in about two weeks. Expect steady supplies for September.

Berries (Blackberries) At this time, availability is very limited. Production in Mexico is expected to pick up over the next two to three weeks, but most shippers will only cover contracts until then.

Berries (Blueberries) We are in a gap period and markets are in a demand-exceeds-supply situation. PNW is drawing to a close, with Michigan ending abruptly last week. Peruvian and Argentine imports have been arriving sporadically. We should see better numbers in the next 2 weeks from these areas. Production in Mexico will pick up in mid-October. Dover, FL is quoting limited supplies of offshore fruit.

Berries (Raspberries) Plants have not reacted well to the heat, rain, and humidity produced by Hurricane Hilary on the Central California Coast. Baja numbers are down.

Berries (Strawberries) Salinas and Watsonville are moving past the big numbers that were produced last week. The new crop of fruit from Santa Maria and Oxnard is coming on line with very weak demand. Once ads are in place and demand picks up, we should see markets remain flat.

Brussels Sprouts Brussels sprout demand continues to exceed supply. Mexico's erratic weather continues to cause quality issues, resulting in tight supplies. As the weekend approaches, the market is expected to remain high and steady. Salinas and Oxnard have reported low yields and smaller sizes due to seeders and discoloration. Hoping Salinas supplies pick up slightly by the end of this week. Until then, supplies will remain tight.

Carrots The market for Jumbos is steady at a slightly higher level due to the lack of size in Mexico, Texas and Canada. This in turn increases demand on California supply.

Cauliflower Cauliflower supplies are beginning to tighten. The fields have come forward in recent weeks, and most are now behind and yielding to smaller sizes. As we approach the weekend, you can expect this market to start rising.

Celery There is a stronger market for this commodity. Fusarium has been found in a few fields in Salinas. As a result, supplies in the Salinas valley have tightened. Santa Maria/Oxnard continue to have good supplies available, so overall expect steady supplies this week. Twenty-four counts continue to have the best sizing. The light production in Florida will continue through the week.

Citrus (Lemons) District 2 is nearing the end of its season, and markets remain elevated across the board. Lemons are tight across the board and will remain so until District 3 gets going.

District 3 (California desert/Arizona) is scheduled to start shipping late-September/early-October. Offshore product is available on both coasts.

Citrus (Limes) Heavy grading continues to keep prices elevated. The fruit is peaking at small to medium sizes. By October, volumes are expected to increase with more stable markets.

Citrus (Oranges) Markets continue to be strong as school demand is in full effect. Through the remainder of the Valencia season, 113ct and 138ct prices will remain elevated. The peak sizes are 72ct and 88ct. The hot temperatures in the Central Valley will soon cause fruit to re-green (a normal occurrence at this time of year). It is purely cosmetic and does not affect the flavor of the fruit. Domestic Navel's are expected to start up mid/late October. Other quality issues in play are softer fruit/pack pressure & stem-end aging due to increased temperatures in the growing region. Offshore product is available on both coasts.

MARKET REPORT

Cucumbers There is a light supply overall with good quality; local deals are winding down. Until Nogales starts in mid-October, western supply will remain steady.

Eggplant As we move into fall with cooler temperatures, the eastern supply is adequate. GA is expected to begin in three weeks. CA continues to struggle with light supplies and quality. Coachella begins in October followed by Nogales.

Garlic Throughout the week, California's production is expected to remain steady. Good quality has been reported.

Grapes (Green) The grape market continues to advance in price as the industry deals with the sudden crop loss from the storm. This market will remain high and tight for the balance of the domestic season.

Grapes (Red) The grape market continues to advance in price as the industry deals with the sudden crop loss from the storm. This market will remain high and tight for the balance of the domestic season.

Green Onions As a result of Hurricane Hilary's heavy rains and the recent extreme heat in Mexicali, green onions continue to be in short supply and of poor quality. As supplies tighten, this market will rise. Supplies are expected to remain tight for the next three to four weeks.

Kale Market conditions remain steady. The availability is expected to be moderate to good throughout the week. Quality is good and the market is stable.

Lettuce (Iceberg) Apart from a few suppliers, this market remains steady. The ideal weather conditions in the growing regions have made this commodity readily available. Weights on this item have varied from 35 to 43 pounds, with occasional puffiness and outer leaf discoloration. Pricing has firmed up. As mentioned last week, some suppliers expect lighter availability of product in the next few weeks.

Lettuce Leaf Throughout the week, there will be good supplies of romaine, green leaf, and red leaf. There will be romaine hearts in all pack sizes available from suppliers as well. Some shippers are flexing so promote as much as possible. Quality is expected to be strong in both northern and southern CA regions. As mentioned last week, the surplus of product now will likely cause a production gap in a few weeks, so please be aware.

Lettuce Tender Leaf Due to the recent heat and warmer nights, spring mix, tender greens, and spinach are all tightening up. The cooler nights ahead should help improve quality.

Melons (Cantaloupe) Melons are primarily shipping from the San Joaquin Valley. Rain from hurricane Hilary and the Labor Day pull increased the markets, but they are starting to normalize now. The cooler temperatures (low to mid 90s) have produced better fruit size. 15s are still limited, and jumbos may be affected by cooler weather.

Melons (Honeydew) Honeydews are shipping from the San Joaquin Valley, where temperatures are cooler at night. Suppliers are primarily shipping 5 and 6s with 8s being limited. As harvest crews pick later in the day, quality remains high. As school orders increase, demand remains steady.

Melons (Watermelon) Despite a decrease in demand, watermelon production remains steady. Retailers are beginning to transition to Fall/Winter crops. Supply and quality remain steady, and suppliers don't need to push the crop.

Mushrooms There are excellent supplies and promotable volumes available.

Onions Onion harvesting continues with excellent quality available in all sizes.

Pears This week, most shippers are packing Bartletts in Washington. California pear shippers are starting to pack the mountain district. At the moment, Bartletts, Boscs, and Red pears are all being shipped.

Pineapples Despite ongoing storms in the tropics, pineapple supplies remain scarce. Supplies are usually tight during this time of the year, but with excess storms, product remains extremely limited. All sizes are affected. It is expected to last for three to four weeks.

Potatoes As harvesting continues, market declines are expected until harvest is complete. There is a firm price for 40 CT, and #2s. There are deals available on all other sizes.

Squash There is a bit of a shortage as some areas are between their summer and fall planting seasons. There could be some rain-related pressure on GA. It is expected that squash in Baja will rebound by the end of September as Santa Maria remains the primary region. Nogales has started to see some squash.

Stone Fruit The production of Asian pears has begun and will continue through December. Most shippers are finishing their peaches this month as demand continues to exceed supply. A few will pack into October. Nectarines are beginning to finish and will most likely be done by the end of the month. Plums are tightening up, and the market is rising. Plums are starting to wind down with some shippers and will finish by the end of September.

Tomatoes Grape FOB's are lower but markets are firm. There is a light to steady supply of grapes in the eastern states as quality is expected to improve with better weather. S TX crossings are moderate, Baja volumes are improving post-Hilary, and CA production is steady with large and XL fruit peaking.

ProAct The Source SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

WEATHER FORECAST

Arizona The temperature is expected to drop starting Monday afternoon and continue through midweek as increasing moisture levels bring more cloudiness and the chance of light showers by Tuesday evening.

California Near the coast, morning lows will be in the mid-40s to mid-50s and daytime highs will be in the mid-60s to low 70s. In the southern Salinas Valley, maximum temperatures reach the upper 70s to mid 90s, but fall to the mid 70s to low 90s as the day progresses.

Florida There will be high temperatures in the upper 80s to low 90s along the coast and mostly in the low-mid 90s inland. Through Thursday morning, morning temperatures will be in the low-upper 70s. By Friday morning, they will be in the upper 60s and mid-70s.

Mexico Mostly mid-70s to mid-80s through Wednesday, and upper 70s to upper 80s by Thursday and Friday.

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