



**MIDWEST
FOODS**

Weekly Updates

September 22nd, 2023

All items are subject to availability.

FEATURED NEW & RETAIL READY

Description		Item Number
Apples Gala 138ct LOCAL MI	FEATURED LOCAL	01-11709
Cider Apple Fresh Sq 1gal EACH LOCAL Garwood IN	FEATURED LOCAL	01-5042
Gourds Assorted 1/2 Bushel Case LOCAL Superior MI	FEATURED LOCAL	01-1310
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 MI	FEATURED LOCAL	172600P

GRAB-N-GO



**MIDWEST
Kitchens**

We have individually wrapped,
pre-packaged grab-and-go items available!

Contact Customer Service at 773.927.8870 or
email orders@midwestfoods.com to order.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@midwestfoods



@midwestfood



/midwest-foods



@Midwestfoodschi

HOW TO REACH US

Contact your Business Development Associate or In-House Sales Assistant directly or
Contact Customer Service



773.927.8870



orders@midwestfoods.com

MARKET REPORT

Apples New crops are now being packed in for most varieties. The quality and supply are excellent.

Asparagus Asparagus production in the El Bajío region of central Mexico is all but finished at this point; very little production remains for 2023. In Southern Baja, Constitution, asparagus production has transitioned and is expected to increase in the coming weeks, reaching peak production sometime around mid-October if the crowns react as predicted. This production is coming on as a result of cutting and preparation ahead of Hurricane Hilary several weeks back. This resulted in a lot of rain hitting the fields. There is good availability of supplies for the next 2-4 weeks. The majority of Peruvian asparagus comes from fields in the south located in the main growing areas of Ica, Canete, and Chi. There are still uncertainties here due to El Niño and the challenging weather year we have had. Although the south will continue steadily in the coming weeks, production should pick up once the weather warms up even more. Climate forecasts predict historically warmer temperatures and more rain in October and November than in previous years.

Avocados The price for 60ct and larger sizes remains escalated. Flora Loca's current crop is wrapping up, followed by Adventajada's. Flora Loca is extremely limited on #2-grade fruit since the main grade is #1. As the size curve has shifted, 70ct/84ct sizes will be extremely tight for the next 2-3 weeks. To cover orders, alternate countries of origin and size exceptions will need to be flexible. The Adventajada crop is expected to have better availability in all sizes as well as a higher percentage of #2-grade fruit. Peru is winding down and is expected to finish within the next 2-3 weeks. For ripening and inventory planning, please send orders with as much lead time as possible.

Bell Peppers Markets are steady for now. As local deals wind down and we transition further south, we may see active markets. Harvest will begin in Georgia and Coachella next month. Red bells remain very limited and we may see a similar trend as last year when relief did not come in until Nogales got going in late December.

Berries (Blackberries) The market is steady with light supplies available out of California, most shippers are covering contracts and previous commitments. There is very little open market fruit available until Central Mexico begins to produce in mid to late October crossing in through McAllen, Texas.

Berries (Blueberries) There is a very short supply of this item. We are experiencing a market where demand exceeds supply. We expect better availability in 2 more weeks for import fruit coming out of Central Mexico, Peru, and Argentina.

Berries (Raspberries) Out West, numbers are light but steady. Small numbers are beginning to show up out of this crossing from CMEC.

Berries (Strawberries) Production out of Salinas and Watsonville is on the decline while Santa Maria and Oxnard begin to build momentum with steadily increasing yields.

Brussels Sprouts The demand for Brussels sprouts continues to exceed the supply. Mexico's erratic weather continues to cause quality issues, resulting in a shortage of supplies. The market is expected to remain high and steady as the weekend approaches. Seeders and discoloration have caused low yields and smaller sizes in Salinas and Oxnard. I hope Salinas supplies pick up a bit by the end of the week. Supplies will remain tight until then.

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 steady. The fields have come forward in recent weeks, and now harvesters are right on top of their fields. As we approach the weekend, you can expect this market to stay steady.

Celery This commodity is forecast to have lighter supplies in Salinas as well as southern California for the week. A strain in production has been caused by INSV in some fields in Salinas. Orders are being filled much more in Oxnard and Santa Maria. Throughout the week, 36 counts will have the least availability. Southern California continues to offer the best prices. Throughout the week, pricing is expected to rise.

Citrus (Lemons) As District 2 nears the end of its season, markets remain elevated across the board. The lemon market is tight across the board and will remain so until District 3 gets started. District 3 (California desert/Arizona) is expected to start shipping in early October. Offshore products are available on both coasts.

Citrus (Limes) Prices are higher than last week. There are fewer crossings through South Texas, and low yields are persisting out of Mexico. Over the next few weeks, we will begin to see improved quality due to the new crop. The biggest FOBs for big fruit 110/150ct are still coming from older crops. However, due to low yields, they are the highest.

Citrus (Oranges) As school demand is in full swing, markets remain strong. 113ct and 138ct will remain at elevated prices for the remainder of the Valencia season. The peak sizes are 72ct and 88ct. With the hot temps in the Central Valley, we can expect fruit to begin re-greening soon (normal this time of year). It is purely cosmetic and does not affect the flavor of the fruit. Mid/late October is expected to be the start date for domestic navels. Due to the increased temperatures in the growing region, softer fruit/pack pressure and stem-end aging are also concerns. Offshore product is available on both coasts.

Cucumbers GA has begun in a limited way and production will increase along with quality over the next three weeks. As we transition to Nogales in October, west coast volume will decline.

MARKET REPORT

Eggplant Out west, markets remain steady at elevated levels. We won't see much relief until Coachella starts next month. With local winding down, availability in the east is light to steady.

Garlic It is expected that California's production will remain steady throughout the week. There have been reports of good quality.

Grapes (Green) Despite the sudden crop loss caused by the storm, the grape market continues to advance in price. For the remainder of the domestic season, this market will remain tight and high.

Grapes (Red) Despite the sudden crop loss caused by the storm, the grape market continues to advance in price. For the remainder of the domestic season, this market will remain tight and high.

Green Onions Due to Hurricane Hilary's heavy rains and the recent extreme heat in Mexicali, green onions are in short supply and of poor quality. This market will rise as supplies tighten. For the next three to four weeks, supplies are expected to remain tight.

Kale The market remains steady. Throughout the week, availability is expected to be moderate to good. The market is stable and the quality is good.

Lettuce (Iceberg) The market is active. There are fewer supplies available in the Salinas Valley as well as in southern California. This commodity's price is expected to gradually climb throughout the week. In both regions, weights range from 35 to 41 pounds. Defects such as puffiness and discoloration of the outer leaves are common. There are multiple reports of this from shippers. Multiple shippers will have lighter availability this week.

Lettuce Leaf There has been a shortage of romaine as well as green and red leaf lettuce. With this being said, shippers are expected to have enough production to fill all demand. There will be plenty of Romaine hearts available for all orders as well. There has been some fringe and tip burn reported, but the overall quality of all leaf items should remain above average. This week, promote romaine and all-leaf items as much as possible in anticipation of higher markets next week. Production continues in Salinas and Santa Maria.

Lettuce Tender Leaf This week's spring mix, tender greens, and spinach are slightly tighter due to the recent heat and warmer nights. It is hoped that the cooler nights ahead will improve quality and supply.

Melons (Cantaloupe) With sizing becoming more available, San Joaquin Valley cantaloupes remain excellent quality. Jumbos will become less available as the valley gets cooler. As back-to-school programs begin, supplies are tightened. The Yuma product is expected to be available starting on 10/16/2023.

Melons (Honeydew) While we transition to Yuma, some suppliers will finish shipping honeydew from the San Joaquin Valley within the next week or two. Smaller sizes (6/8) remain limited, but quality remains high.

Melons (Watermelon) The supply of mini seedless watermelons is decreasing in California, and new supplies are expected to arrive next month from Mexico. As retailers transition from summer fruits to fall crops, quality remains high and demand is shifting.

Mushrooms There are excellent supplies and availability.

Onions Abundant supplies of all sizes and colors of Northwest onions. The quality is excellent. Pears Beginning this week, Anjou and Bosc pears will be available in Washington. Bartlett's new crop is in full swing. California pear shippers are starting to pack the mountain district. Currently, Bartletts, Boscs, and Red pears are being shipped.

Pineapples As a result of continued 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. This is expected to last over the next 3 weeks.

Potatoes There is an abundant supply of 50 - 100 CT potatoes available in Idaho. The quality remains excellent. The only variety available is Norkotahs.

Squash Squash has started in newer regions of Georgia and North Carolina, so local deals are winding down fast. Once the local stuff wraps up expect lighter supplies due to GA crops affected by bloom drops from past storms. As Santa Maria continues to roll through the end of October, production will gradually increase in mainland Mexico.

Stone Fruit The nectarine season is effectively over. There are a few pallets here and there, but nothing in volume. Peaches continue to be demand exceeds supply with most shippers finishing this month. Some will pack into October. Plums are mostly steady, with more blacks than reds available. Plums should be available until November. Pluots are winding down with some shippers and will be finished by the end of September. Asian pears will be available through December.

Tomatoes Overall, prices are firm. Both coasts have a steady supply.

ProAct The Source SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

WEATHER FORECAST

Arizona As this week progresses, temperatures will gradually cool toward slightly below normal levels during the latter half. By Friday afternoon, temperatures should drop to mid-80s to mid-90s.

California The morning lows will be in the upper 40s to upper 50s, while the daytime highs will be in the low-upper 60s near the coast. In Santa Clara Valley, maximum temperatures will be in the mid-70s to low 80s, while in southern Salinas Valley fields, temperatures will be in the upper 70s to mid-80s.

Florida Through Wednesday, temperatures will be in the upper 80s to low 90s; on Thursday and Friday, they will be in the mid-80s to low 90s. Wednesday through Friday mornings will be mostly in the mid-60s to mid-70s.

Mexico Expect primarily dry weather conditions as a whole through the weekend, with isolated showers possible.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



@midwestfoods



@midwestfood



/midwest-foods



@Midwestfoodschi

3100 W. 36th Street Chicago, IL 60632 | 773.927.8870 | midwestfoods.com