



## DRY VEGETABLE MARKET REPORT

Week of December 11, 2017

(Note: See end of report for explanation to the color codes)

### Tomatoes

#### East

- **Rounds** – Palmetto/Ruskin is past crown and working through 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> pickings. Very light supplies are trickling out of the region as sizing and volume drops off. Supply will be inadequate for the next 2-3 weeks until Immokalee crop comes into full production. First harvest is looking to be near December 15 to the 19<sup>th</sup> with supply not picking up until December 25<sup>th</sup>. Bear in mind, it will take another 10+ days to fill the pipeline. Expect high prices and very tight supply until Christmas with January 1 being the projected date for the market to weaken. Demand is having to move to the west to fill the void. Please reference the western crop update as well. Quality is mostly good from the area. FOBs have moved up well over \$10 and continues to rise as the gap worsens.
- **Romas**- Similar to rounds, romas from the east will be very scarce for the next 2-3 weeks until Immokalee crops begin. Supplies are scattered with very few farms left producing. Quality is mostly good and prices have moved up over \$10 for all sizes. As rounds rise, demand is anticipated to move to romas, therefore, we could see another price jump before the situation improves.
- **Grapes**- Although there is still a slightly limited supply dilemma, prices fall another few dollars. Most contracts have resumed contracted pricing. The transition from Palmetto/Ruskin to South Florida will begin in the next few weeks, but there is not expected to be a supply gap. Quality is mostly good, however, there have been some challenges in older crops.
- **Cherries**- Some gentle downward pressure on pricing this week and demand weakens. There is still not enough volume to drive lower market pricing. Nonetheless, no shortage is expected. Quality is good.

#### West/Mexico

- **Rounds**- Eastern MX & Baja supply continues to tighten up due to seasonal decline as well as the strong eastern demand. A recent frost has also hurt the critical supply situation. Fruit is so short, it is under an auction style situation for buyers. Sizing options are extremely limited. Despite this, quality has been holding up nicely. Expect to see a very large increase in pricing for next week, by about \$10-15 depending on size. Relief is not expected until Florida snaps out of the lingering grip of Hurricane Irma and Culiacan area fires up in mid-late December.
- **Romas**- Eastern MX & Baja are slowing in production due to the season decline and cooler temperature settle in the regions. In addition, demand is firmer this week. Expect to see a significant price increase on all sizes, mostly extra large and large. Quality has been acceptable. Relief is not expected until Culiacan fires up in mid-late December.
- **Grapes**- Steady supply from Eastern MX & Baja and a balanced demand is resulting in steady prices for next week. Quality is mostly good, however, some trouble is evident in older fields.
- **Cherries**- Demand and supply both remain in a healthy balance. Thus, FOBs remain firm moving into next week. Quality is good.

### **Green Bell Pepper**

- East- Struggles from Irma continue in the east. GA has wrapped up due to quality issues. South & Central FL continues to pick not nearly enough to cover demand. Prices remain high and steady. Quality is fairly good right now. Relief is expected in a few weeks as more acreage fires up.
- West- We are about 14 days out from MX really seeing size and larger volume. CA still has some supply but their volume is less and less as the season winds down. Prices remain high and steady. Quality is fairly good right now.

### **Red Bell Pepper**

- West- The desert & Nogales both have steady, yet light supplies. Overall quality is good from both areas. Prices are steady with relief delayed due to weather. Relief is expected for another few weeks.

### **Yellow Squash / Zucchini**

- East- There is ample supply of both yellow and green squash coming from mostly Central & South FL. Quality is generally good, however, yellow squash is seeing some very heavy scarring and even some decay. FOBs are low and steady.
- West- There is ample supply of both yellow and green. Quality overall is good, however, some issues can be relevant mostly on yellow in the form of scarring.

### **Cucumbers**

- East- More than enough supply is available from FL. Prices remain weak with good quality continuing to come from the area. Honduras is starting to bring supply to the US as well.
- West- Mainland MX continues to pump good supply and good quality to the marketplace. Baja is expected to wrap up in about 1 week. Prices remain weak and steady.

### **Eggplant**

- East- FL is picking up supplies in Plant City with South FL to come on board soon. GA is still picking decent supplies. Prices have eased off and good quality is coming from all areas.
- West- The desert is pushing out the last of their supplies as mainland MX ramps up. Prices are low and quality is excellent.

### **Jalapenos**

- East- Prices have eased off a bit, but supply will remain light until S. FL begins in about 2-3 weeks. Quality is mostly good.
- West- The market has weakened another \$1-2 as Mainland MX continues to push out good supply. Quality is great.

### **Beans**

- East- Beans are very weak in the east with rock bottom prices. Plenty of supply and great quality is coming from FL.
- West- MX has great supply with a weak market. Plenty of beans are available and great quality.

- **Eastern Growing Region(s) Weather Forecast:**

Immokalee, Florida, Weather Forecasts - [AccuWeather](#)

Wed Dec 6	Thu Dec 7	Fri Dec 8	Sat Dec 9	Sun Dec 10	Mon Dec 11	Tue Dec 12
83°F	81°F	74°F	66°F	69°F	70°F	72°F
66°F	64°F	56°F	49°F	48°F	50°F	60°F
E 5 MPH	E 3 MPH	NNE 6 MPH	N 9 MPH	N 5 MPH	N 7 MPH	NNW 7 MPH
	Precip 10%	Precip 60%	Precip 30%			

Ruskin, Florida, Weather Forecasts - [AccuWeather](#)

Wed Dec 6	Thu Dec 7	Fri Dec 8	Sat Dec 9	Sun Dec 10	Mon Dec 11	Tue Dec 12
82°F	77°F	65°F	61°F	63°F	65°F	69°F
64°F	60°F	50°F	47°F	45°F	49°F	58°F
SSE 10 MPH	E 7 MPH	NE 11 MPH	NNW 13 MPH	N 10 MPH	NNE 6 MPH	SSW 13 MPH
	Precip 30%	Precip 60%	Precip 20%			

- **Western Growing Region(s) Weather Forecast:**

Coeahella, California, Weather Forecasts - [AccuWeather](#)

Wed Dec 6	Thu Dec 7	Fri Dec 8	Sat Dec 9	Sun Dec 10	Mon Dec 11	Tue Dec 12
76°F	75°F	78°F	79°F	79°F	79°F	78°F
49°F	45°F	46°F	48°F	48°F	50°F	58°F
WNW 15 MPH	WNW 8 MPH	BNW 5 MPH	W 6 MPH	W 5 MPH	SSW 6 MPH	W 7 MPH

Nogales, Arizona, Weather Forecasts - [AccuWeather](#)

Wed Dec 6	Thu Dec 7	Fri Dec 8	Sat Dec 9	Sun Dec 10	Mon Dec 11	Tue Dec 12
67°F	59°F	65°F	73°F	74°F	71°F	72°F
40°F	33°F	34°F	38°F	38°F	39°F	43°F
ESE 7 MPH	ESE 19 MPH	E 11 MPH	E 9 MPH	ESE 7 MPH	ESE 5 MPH	E 6 MPH

Code to Color Alerts:

Market generally with-in normal ranges and steady from last week for both pricing and quality. Any price changes can be expected to be \$2.50 or less with no major changes in quality. Also, no change in the growing region(s) and no news that could drastically affect pricing in the future.

Some news included concerning the market that may indicate a moderate change in pricing and/or quality. FOB pricing is generally up or down between \$2.50 and \$5.00 from the previous week. It will also be used to indicate news that may have a drastic impact on the price, quality and/or availability in future weeks (versus the following week). Finally, this color will also be used to indicate a commodity that continues to be outside the normal range as far as price, quality and/or availability.

News included that indicates a major change in the market from the previous week as far as pricing, quality and/or availability. May see price changes, up or down, in excess of \$5.00 per case. This color will only be used to indicate a major change from the previous week.

**Important note:** This market report is only a snapshot of the various commodity markets as of the morning of the date of the report. When we expect a trend to develop, we will express that expectation. However, commodity markets are subject to actual supply and demand levels and can change quickly due to weather and other unforeseen factors. Therefore, please be aware that markets may change from the time this report is published and the time prices are set for the following week. If such changes are dramatic, we will publish a revised market report.