

# ORGANIC MARKET NEWS



MAY 26 - JUNE 2, 2023

# ORGANIC STONE FRUIT SEASON BEGINS

California **Organic Cherries** are finally here in steady supply, and all signs point to a peak in early June. Prices are high to start but will come down, and then there will be some promotional opportunities during parts of June.

Organic Yellow & White Peaches and Nectarines out of California are just ramping up in late May and should move from sporadic supplies to good steady volumes as we move into June.



**Organic Apricots** are now in season from California. They are in supply with sporadic arrivals and high prices to start.

Organic Plums and early Pluots will arrive in early to mid-June.





#### **OG BERRIES**

GOOD NEWS! Organic Strawberry prices will be promotable out of Baja, Mexico and California. Baja is starting wind down some and California harvests remain strong. Supplies are very plentiful for late May.

**Organic Blackberries** will remain steady. Central Mexican fields will begin closing as we transition to domestic crops in early June. Keep this fruit moving as we approach the end of the season.

**Organic Blueberries** are shortening up as wet weather moves through the Georgia and North Carolina fields limiting harvests. California fruit is still being harvested but new areas are delayed, limiting availability as well. Quality has been nice, **LOCAL** New Jersey **Organic Blueberries** will start in the second week of June.

**Organic Raspberry** prices are steady. Harvests and availability remain good, and quality has been very nice out of California and Baja.



#### **OG MELONS**

**Organic Watermelons** are available out of Mexico. Quality is exceptional right now on new harvest fruit. Sizing is larger (45ct bins) as we are in new crops.

**Organic Mini Watermelon** harvests continue. Volumes are improve daily as new blocks begin harvests. Fruit is sizing larger on the new harvests. Quality has been exceptional.

**Organic Cantaloupes** are in good supply out of Mexico and part of SoCal, so expect plentiful supply going forward.

**Organic Honeydews** are gapping for late May but will ramp back up with new crop fruit in early June.

**Organic Variety Melons** will start becoming available in June.



# OG TOMATOES

GOOD NEWS! New crop Organic Grape and Cherry Tomatoes from Lady Moon Farms out of Georgia have started with new crop field-grown fruit.

**Organic Grape Tomatoes** from NatureSweet will be available starting in June out of Mexico in a 10oz pack.

**Organic Roma Tomato** prices are expected to increase slightly into June. Quality is outstanding and availability will be steady out of Mexico.

Greenhouse Organic Tomatoes in the Savoura brand from Quebec will be in good supply and quality for late May and early June: Organic Beefsteak, Cluster, Cocktail, and Cherry Onthe-Vine.





#### **OG GREENHOUSE CUCUMBERS**

Organic Cocktail Mini Cucumbers from NatureSweet will be available in early June.

**Organic Euro Seedless Cucumbers** will be cleaning up and will increase into the beginning of June with product out of Canada and Mexico. The main flush of product seems to be coming to an end. Quality is outstanding.



#### OG PEAS

The California Organic Peas season remains strong. Organic Snap Peas and English Peas have remained strong, as well as Organic Purple Snow and Snap Peas.

**Organic Snap Peas** are being offered in bulk 10lb or 12oz compostable trays. As June approaches and temperatures rise, supply volume will begin to taper off.



# **OG KIWIFRUIT**

NOTE: Organic Green Kiwifruit will be limited over the next month with gaps expected.

Zespri **Organic SunGold Kiwifruit** from New Zealand will be available around the beginning of June!



# **OG GREENS & LETTUCES**

LOCAL Pennsylvania and New Jersey Organic Greens and Lettuces continue to have excellent availability and stellar quality.

GOOD NEWS! Expect all Organic Lettuce varieties, including Organic Iceberg Lettuce and Organic Romaine Hearts, and Organic Greens to be sourced locally in early June. Promotional opportunities will be available on both commodity groups throughout June.



# **OG PEPPERS**

NOTE: Organic Color Bell Pepper supply from Canada has quickly tightened. Yields have fallen on all varieties in late May and prices have begun to increase. Expect supplementary product from Holland to help fill the shortages left by Canadian suppliers.

**NOTE:** Similarly, **Organic Green Peppers** remain limited. Supplies from Georgia are available, but yields remain limited. Additional production from California is available at an elevated price.



# **OG BEANS & BRUSSELS**

ALERT! Organic Green Beans and Brussels Sprouts from Mexico continue to experience limited availability in late May.

Both with continue to have some availability in early June, but prices will be elevated, and availability will be scarce.



# **OG CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI**

GOOD NEWS! Organic Cauliflower conditions from California have vastly improved in late May. Expect strong supply and promotional opportunities to begin June. Quality will remain nice as availability and pricing improve.

Organic Broccoli and Broccoli Crowns are finishing in North Carolina following Memorial Day. Production from California remain consistent and will be the main source of product as June begins. LOCAL Pennsylvania product will be available in June, but production will be limited. The season will be short.



#### OG CABBAGE

**Organic Cabbages** are currently sourced from the Carolinas. Supplies will remain steadily for late May.

LOCAL Pennsylvania Organic Cabbage will begin harvest in early June. Organic Green Cabbage will be the first to begin in early June, followed by Organic Red Cabbage and Organic Specialty Cabbage in mid to late June.



# OG SALAD GREENS

**ALERT!** Quality issues in the field and speed to maturity are impacting fill-rates on **Organic Baby Arugula** and **Baby Spinach**, particularly on the bulk 3 and 4lb packs.





# OG GRAPES

New crop **Organic Grapes** have outpaced the conventional crop with a full array of **Organic Red, Green, and Black Seedless Grapes** on the road currently out of Mexico and available starting 5/30. **NOTE:** Pricing is starting out on the high side due to light overall **Organic Grape** availability.

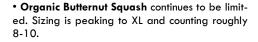


# **OG WARM VEG**

GOOD NEWS! East Coast Organic Zucchini and Cucumbers from Lady Moon Farms in Bainbridge, Georgia continues to yield strong supply. Look for promotional opportunities in June!

**Organic Yellow Squash** from South Carolina continues to have good availability. Quality is excellent, and promotional opportunities will be available during June.

**Organic Eggplant** supply is limited in late May as Lady Moon Farms is in-between their Florida and Georgia crops. As Georgia yields improve in late May, supply volume will normalize. Expect price increases.



• Organic Cosmic Crisp Apples are expected to wrap up for the season towards the end of June.

 New crop Organic Diva Apples out of New Zealand have arrived in limited supply.



# **OG ARTICHOKES**

GOOD NEWS! Organic Artichokes are back consistently on shelves as supplies have vastly improved during May. Expect consistent availability and continual improvements in price. Sizes are trending larger, and quality is outstanding!



# **OG TROPICALS**

GOOD NEWS! Mexican Organic Mango volumes are promotable! With growers beginning to transfer further north, large sized fruit will be a little more limited than 10 and 12ct fruit.

**Organic Ataulfo Honey Mangos** have finished up down south and will be better shelf-life from northern regions and quality should improve.

**Organic Hass Avocado** volumes are looking good into early June from Mexico. Pricing should remain steady over this time.

Equal Exchange Fair Trade fruit will be limited as they are in the final weeks of their Mexican season. Expect rich, high oil content fruit to close the season

**Organic Pineapple** supplies from Costa Rica have been good. Quality has been excellent. Fruit should be in good supply through the end of May.



# **OG SWEET CORN**

GOOD NEWS! Organic Bi-color Sweet Corn has become available from California in late May. Although not plentiful, supply will be available for Memorial Day and immediately after. Quality has been excellent.



# **OG CITRUS**

**Organic Mandarin** supplies continue to be good and we expect to see promotional opportunities until mid to late June on "W. Murcott" and "Gold Nugget" varieties.

**Organic Lemon** prices are increases a little as we switch districts and imports are not yet available.

**Organic Limes** are flushing with some of the most promotable prices of the year.

**Organic Navel Oranges** are peaking on large sizes and continue producing. Supplies should dwindle and finish for the season mid to late June.

# **OTHER STORIES**

- Organic Gala, Granny Smith, and Honeycrisp Apples out of Washington are very limited and some imports will come into the mix to keep the pipeline full.
- ALERT! Organic Celery remains limited from California as Mexican supply continues to fill the void left due to weather related shortages in California. As June approaches, Mexican supply will conclude. Product grown in Santa Marie, California will begin in late May. Expect prices to remain elevated into mid-June as volume builds.
- Supplies have been good on Organic Royal Star Papayas from Mexico. Overall quality has been good! Pricing will be steady.
- Organic Jackfruit will be available through the month of May.
- Organic Asparagus fields in Mexico have transitioned and new fields have shown some promising quality. There is also product from California, local New Jersey, and Washington. Quality of the domestic asparagus is outstanding.



# **NEW FROM SOLI ORGANIC!**











# NEW ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE FROM GT KOMBUCHA!





# FOUR SEASONS MEMORIAL DAY SCHEDULE

# SATURDAY 5/27:

Normal office and delivery schedule.

# **SUNDAY 5/28:**

Normal office and delivery schedule.

# **MONDAY 5/29:**

Normal delivery schedule, office open 8:00am - 12:00pm, taking orders for Tuesday 5/30 delivery.



Please contact your sales representative with any questions.

Have a happy and safe Memorial Day!

# NEW FROM SAVOURA



235654 - CV Tomatoes Cocktail On-the-Vine "Cocktalio" 9/1 lb Savoura clamshell UPC: 8 11594 10115 4



235655 - CV Tomatoes Cherry On-the-Vine "Cerizo" 20/5.3 oz Savoura clamshell UPC: 8 11594 10115 4





231339 - CV Tomatoes Cherry On-the-Vine "Cerizo" 8/1.5 lb Savoura Family-Pack box UPC: 8 11594 00004 4





229867 - CV Tomatoes Cluster 8/4 lb Savoura Family-Pack box UPC: 8 11594 00037 2







227745 - OG Tomatoes Beefsteak 12/1 lb Savoura Bio Tray Pack UPC: 8 59812 00018 6



# **CONVENTIONAL MARKET NEWS**

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# **PROMOTABLE STRAWBERRIES**



GOOD NEWS! Strawberry prices will be promotable out of California for late May and into June! Pricing is coming off and supplies are plentiful. Quality is nice with big fruit, but there are some slight challenges from all the rain in the growing areas this past winter. An occasional berry with bruising can be expected. This is great time to push promos and keep fruit moving.

**Blackberry** prices will begin to tighten up as we are now in transition from Central Mexico to USA crops. Georgia fruit is beginning, and California crops are also starting lightly. Rain on the East Coast could limit the Georgia harvests.

**NOTE: Blueberries** have tightened up due to rain impacting Georgia and North Carolina harvests. Volume has become limited and prices are rising to help slow down demand. Quality has been nice but expect some slight issues after the rain moves through. **LOCAL** New Jersey harvests should start around the 2nd week of June.

**Raspberry** supplies continue to tighten up as we transition out of Central Mexico to California. Quality should be nice but harvests remain limited and pricing continues to increase.

Four Seasons will have some availability of Driscoll's **Specialty Berries** including "Sweetest Batch" Blueberries, Raspberries, and Strawberries, "Berry Big" Strawberries, plus Rose and Tropical Bliss Strawberries.



# **CV PEPPERS**

**NEW!** "Dulce Italiano" Peppers will be available from NatureSweet out of Mexico for June. Quality will be outstanding.

GOOD NEWS! 11lb Hothouse Color Bell Peppers will have promotable opportunities into June out of Four Seasons from certain shippers. Display builders!

15lb **Elongated Sweet Red Peppers** have now started to increase in price and are tightening up as we head into the end of May with product out of Mexico and California.

GOOD NEWS! Mini Mix Sweet Peppers are in transition to different fields in Mexico. Our grower partners are shipping plenty of product and be able to promote in an uncertain market through June.

GOOD NEWS! Jumbo Green Bell Pepper prices are falling fast with crown picks out of Georgia and new fields starting in Mexico.



# **CV TOMATOES**

**Beefsteak** and **Cluster Tomatoes** remain affordable and promotable though prices are starting to rise into the beginning of June with ads and increased pulls.

**Grape** and **Cherry Tomatoes** are starting to tighten up slightly, and market pricing is increasing out of Canada and Florida, but still reasonable. Mexico is still bringing the cheapest product with great quality at this time.

Mini Mixed Snacking Tomatoes and Cocktail Tomatoes generally remain promotable.

Vine Ripe Tomato prices continue to rise, and we have seen the highest spike in weeks with fields winding down and pulls picking up as we head to summer, and demand rises before local product begins. We will continue with 2-layers out of Mexico and 25lb bulk out of Florida. Quality will be excellent from both regions.

**Roma Tomato** prices will increase moderately heading into June out of Mexico and Florida. Quality is fantastic.



# CV STONE FRUIT

**Yellow Peaches** are now in good supply out of California.

Eastern **Peaches** continue to be sporadic from Georgia and South Carolina, with better supplies expected when local New Jersey and Pennsylvania get started at the end of June or early July.

California Yellow & White Nectarines and White Peaches and Donut Peaches are just starting to trickle in but more consistent supplies are expected as we move into June and prices are expected to come down to promo levels.

California **Cherry** harvest volumes are expected to increase after Memorial Day with prices expected to come down for early June.

Washington **Cherries** are expected to begin in mid-June and peak in mid-July. Promotable **Cherries** are coming for June!

Apricots are in season, and in firm supply.





# **CV KIWIFRUIT**

**SunGold Kiwifruit** from Zespri are in good supply as the New Zealand season has started.

California grown "Mighties" label **Green Kiwifruit** clamshells will be available in good supply. These will be offered in a 16/1lb clamshell and will be steady for the month of May.

**Green Kiwifruit** supplies are limited as Italy and Greece are finishing up and Chilean fruit has been tight in supply. New Zealand fruit from Zespri is expected to start sometime around the middle of June.



# **CV ASPARAGUS**

GOOD NEWS! Asparagus prices are falling fast.

LOCAL Asparagus out of Delaware or New Jersey is rolling in and quality is outstanding! The local deal is coming to an end within the first two weeks of June as shippers are already starting to end fields. There is also Asparagus available in Michigan too once NJ and DE finish up.



# **CV POTATOES**

California grown premium bulk (A, B, & C size) **Red, White, Gold Potatoes** will get started for the end of May. Expect to see a noticeably nicer **Potatoes** overall.

We will see the first of the season Green Giant **Red** and **Gold Potatoes** out of Arizona at the end of May. Pricing will be elevated but quality will be outstanding.



# **CV LETTUCES**

**GOOD NEWS!** 

**CALIFORNIA:** Good availability and affordable pricing is helping to make **Iceberg** and **Romaine Hearts** more promotable. Quality is hit or miss and doesn't seem to have the longest shelf life.

LOCAL: New Jersey Leaf and Romaine Lettuces are readily available with great quality and promotable pricing heading into June.

**QUEBEC:** New crop **Lettuces** are expected to start mid-June.



# **CV LOCAL VEG**

LOCAL Baby Bok Choy, Bok Choy, Green Squash, Yellow Squash, Napa Cabbage, and other Cabbages are available out of New Jersey.

We are expected to see more product out of New Jersey at the end of May with **Pickle Cucumbers**, **Cucumbers**, and **Peppers** by the middle of June. Pennsylvania will follow this trend.



#### **CV CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI**

GOOD NEWS! Cauliflower growers had a flush of product in late May. Prices have bottomed out. Cauliflower will be promotable after Memorial Day.

California shippers continue to push **Broccoli Crowns.** The east coast is experiencing some gaps in product. There is a wide range in pricing. The market will easily move as one coast pushes or pulls back.



# CV TROPICALS

Del Monte "Pink Glow" Pineapples will be available again for late May and June.

Hass Avocado supplies continue to remain steady for the month of May. Despite Mexico's main crop winding down, expect pricing to remain steady for early June with supplies expected to be solid through the end of the month. Peruvian Hass Avocados are off to a later start, but fruit will be starting soon.

**Red Skin/White Flesh Dragon Fruit** will be available in limited quantities for late May.



# CV CUCUMBERS

Large and Super Select Cucumbers will be promotable into the end of May with flushes out of Mexico and GA.

Greenhouse **Seedless Cucumber** prices are expected to remain steady at this time. Quality is outstanding.



# **CV GRAPES**

**ALERT! Grapes** have been sporadically becoming available out of Mexico to arrive in late May, but it will still be very tight until early June when sugar levels start hitting correctly.

Supplies will be limited and expensive to start June but pricing will drop during the month as volumes finally on come in Mexico at the same time Coachella, California ramps up on **Green** and **Seedless Grapes**.

Cotton Candy Grapes will be available in early June.





# CV VIDALIA SWEET ONIONS

Vidalia Sweet Onions continue to be a great item to promote and currently in the peak of the season. We will see this market price push up as we get into mid-June.



# **CV MELONS**

There is a nice flush of Specialty Melons available out of Mexico: Golden Kiss, Honey Kiss, Dino Melons, and Tuscan Cantaloupes.

Import **Cantaloupes** and **Honeydews** have all but finished up while new crop fruit from Yuma, AZ has just started harvesting here in late May.

**NOTE:** Athena-style Cantaloupes will be very tight through the beginning of June until Georgia starts up.

Seedless Watermelons continue to be tight overall out of Florida. With hot temps finally expected in late May in the Northeast, expect a surge in consumer demand. Growers continue to have light harvests overall out of Florida. There is a gap expected in early June from Florida to Georgia as the Georgia crops are delayed due to some cold temps and rain.

**Mini Seedless Watermelon** prices will rise to compensate for freight from the West Coast. The off-shore deal has finished up and we will move into Mexico and Texas crops. Quality has been excellent.

- ALERT! Celery prices continue to climb across most vendors. There are few offering moderate pricing in comparison. All sizes are limited, and overall prices will hold high as we head into June.
- ALERT! Brussels Sprouts prices continue to climb. Each week there is less availability, driving the prices higher each week. No relief is expected until mid to late June.



# **CV SWEET CORN**

**Sweet Corn** is transitioning into Georgia with outstanding quality.



# **CV MANGOS**

More **Sugar Mangos** from Columbia will be arriving for early June! These sweet mini mangos are auite the treat!

GOOD NEWS! Mangos are in excellent supply. Mexico has plenty of fruit, mainly Tommy Atkins and some Kents. Pricing has fallen with importers dealing on fruit. Some fruit in the marketplace has had a higher degree of ripeness with fruit from more southern regions.

Keep promoting Ciruli Brothers "Champagne" Ataulfo Honey Mangos while harvests are abundant and prices are affordable.

# CV APPLES de Apples from New

New **Lemonade Apples** from New Zealand have arrived in 19lb. euro boxes!

Eastern **Snap Dragon** and **Wild Twist Apples** have finished for the season.



# **CV CITRUS**

Mandarins from California are finished with larger sizing, so some may want to jump into the import market. Fruit from Peru and Chile are showing light color but good flavor and great quality.

**Grapefruit** crop (Star Rubies) are peaking on smaller fruit, supply remains in great shape and this season should run into August.

**Lemons** are showing excellent quality out of District 2 while peaking on larger fruit. Smaller fruit has become tight, and cost has risen.

**Meyer Lemons** have finished until New Zealand crop starts in July.

**Limes** continue to flush on fruit out of Mexico as most sizes are promotable. Lime bags are back in stock.

**Navel Oranges** are peaking on larger fruit. Small fruit has gotten tight and pricing is rising each week. This crop looks to go through July. Imports have entered the states in a limited way.

Cara Cara Oranges are finished on large fruit with some smaller fruit still in the pipeline. Expect Cara Cara Oranges to finish in early June.

# **OTHER STORIES**

- GOOD NEWS! Jumbo 12ct Artichokes remain promotable as we head into June.
- GOOD NEWS! Green Bean prices continue to fall quickly and will continue into the end of May. This is caused by better weather and availability. Quality is fantastic and beans are very promotable.
- Black Mission Figs are done for the season from Mexico. A small supply from Peru will be
- available until the domestic season begins. Expect gaps in supply. Domestic **Figs** are expected to start around the middle of June with some **Green** and **Black Mission Figs** expected.
- GOOD NEWS! Green Squash out of Georgia is promotable into the end of May, and is showing a great quality crop with their first picks. Local Squash has started out of New Jersey, and Pennsylvania will follow.