



Specialty Crops Market News Division U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update

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Update for Week of October 10-16, 2021

This report provides trend analysis of the volume and prices of Seasonal Perishable commodities. Volume represents current week and prices represent open (spot) market sales by first handlers on product of generally good quality and condition unless otherwise stated and may include promotional allowances or other incentives. The charts provide graphic representation of the volume and prices of the major commodities this week based on seasonal volume.

Consumers are again seeing a scarcity of certain goods on store shelves as transportation shortages continue on a global scale. Sea ports all over the world are struggling to cope with an overabundance of empty containers needing to be repositioned, along with record amounts of new goods arriving to fulfill pent-up orders. Rates for air and ground transport keep rising along with fuel prices, and the price for crude oil is expected to increase through the remainder of the year. Customers are being warned by news media to place holiday orders early and to expect shipping delays. As holiday shopping increases seasonally, grower-shippers of specialty crop items can again expect growing competition in securing transportation for their commodities to markets.

Mexican avocado crossings through Texas are expected to remain about the same. Trading was moderate with a wide range in prices but generally trending lower on all sizes except 32s as heavy volumes, especially on smaller fruit - 60s, 70s, and 84s - continue.

Peruvian imports of blueberries arriving through the Philadelphia and New York City areas via boat are expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was fairly active at lower prices. Movement of Peruvian imports arriving through Southern California via boat is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was fairly active at lower prices. Gradual reductions in port delays for unloading continue as the federal government has gotten involved in brokering arrangements for the Port of Los Angeles to join the Port of Long Beach in 24/7 operations to clear the backlog. Mexican blueberry crossings through Arizona, California, and Texas are expected to increase. Trading was fairly slow early and slow later at lower prices. Demand trending lower as more competing product from Peru becomes available on the market.

Movement of Mexican cucumber crossings through Texas is expected about the same, with moderate trading on light available supplies. Prices were lower on medium and slightly lower on others, with most supplies reserved for contracts or previous commitments. Mexican cucumber crossings through Otay Mesa are expected about the same. Trading was active at slightly higher prices, with prices on medium and 24s slightly higher and others slightly lower. Most present shipments are from prior bookings or previous commitments. Cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona movement is expected to increase seasonally. Current supplies remain in too few hands to establish a market, with the first F.O.B. price report expected this week. Cucumber movement out of South Georgia is expected to increase. Trading was moderate with prices on medium fair quality generally unchanged and others lower. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement out of Western and Central New York is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was moderate with prices generally unchanged, though no FOB price report is currently being issued. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase slightly. Trading was fairly active at slightly lower prices.

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
- [Movement Report Details](#)
- [Generating Custom Reports](#)

For assistance please contact: jeff.main@usda.gov

[Custom Average Tool \(CAT\) Graphing tool and aggregated data source.](#)

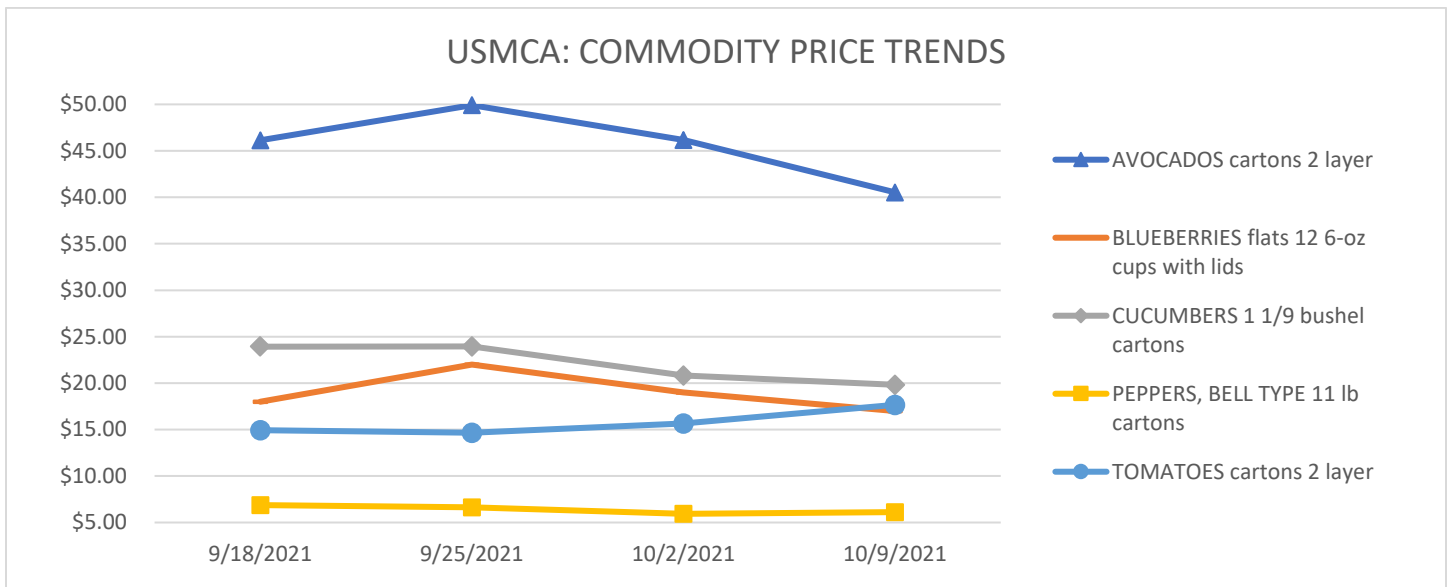
Movement of green bell peppers out of the San Joaquin Valley, California is expected about the same. Trading was moderate early and fairly slow later with prices generally unchanged. Quality is reported as generally good. Movement of Mexican crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was very slow early and active later at much higher prices. Most available supplies of green bell peppers remain reserved for contracts or previous commitments, with good demand on all sizes. Movement of Michigan bell peppers is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was fairly slow. Remaining supplies light and in too few hands to establish a market as rain and wet fields have slowed remaining harvest. The last report has been issued, with light shipments expected to continue over the next week. Green bell pepper movement out of South District California is expected about the same. Trading was moderate early and fairly slow later with prices generally unchanged. Supplies remain in too few hands to establish a market and no F.O.B. price report is currently being issued. South Georgia green bell pepper movement is expected to increase. Trading was moderate and the first report has been issued. Movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to continue seasonal decrease. The last F.O.B. price report of the season has been issued. Harvest of green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley, California is expected to begin the week of October 25th. Quality is expected to be generally good, and the first report has been issued.

Movement of Mexican tomato crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading was fairly active at much higher prices. Most present shipments from prior bookings or previous commitments. Demand improved to good for all sizes and packages. Supplies of 25lb cartons of 6x6 size are in too few hands to establish a market. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was moderate early and active later on light supplies as harvests were curtailed by high winds and unseasonably cool temperatures. Prices were much higher on all sizes and packages, with most present shipments from prior bookings or previous commitments. Movement out of Eastern Tennessee is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading was moderate early and active later at higher prices. Demand was good for light supplies as many growers expect to finish for the season within the next few days. Some quality issues apparent as the end of the season is here. Movement of tomatoes from Mexico crossing through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading was very active on very light available supplies. Prices were much higher and most current shipments are from prior bookings or previous commitments. Movement of tomatoes out of Alabama is expected to decrease. Supplies remain light with moderate trading early increasing to active later. Demand remains good although quality issues are apparent as most growers will finish within the next few days. Prices on medium were slightly higher and others higher. Light harvest has begun out of Florida West District, with light volumes increasing daily and more shippers expected to get fully underway next week. Prices are relatively high due to light supplies and good demand. Movement out of Western North Carolina is expected to continue seasonal decrease. Trading was moderate with prices generally unchanged.

The following table provides a four-week price trend of the highest traded commodities this week.

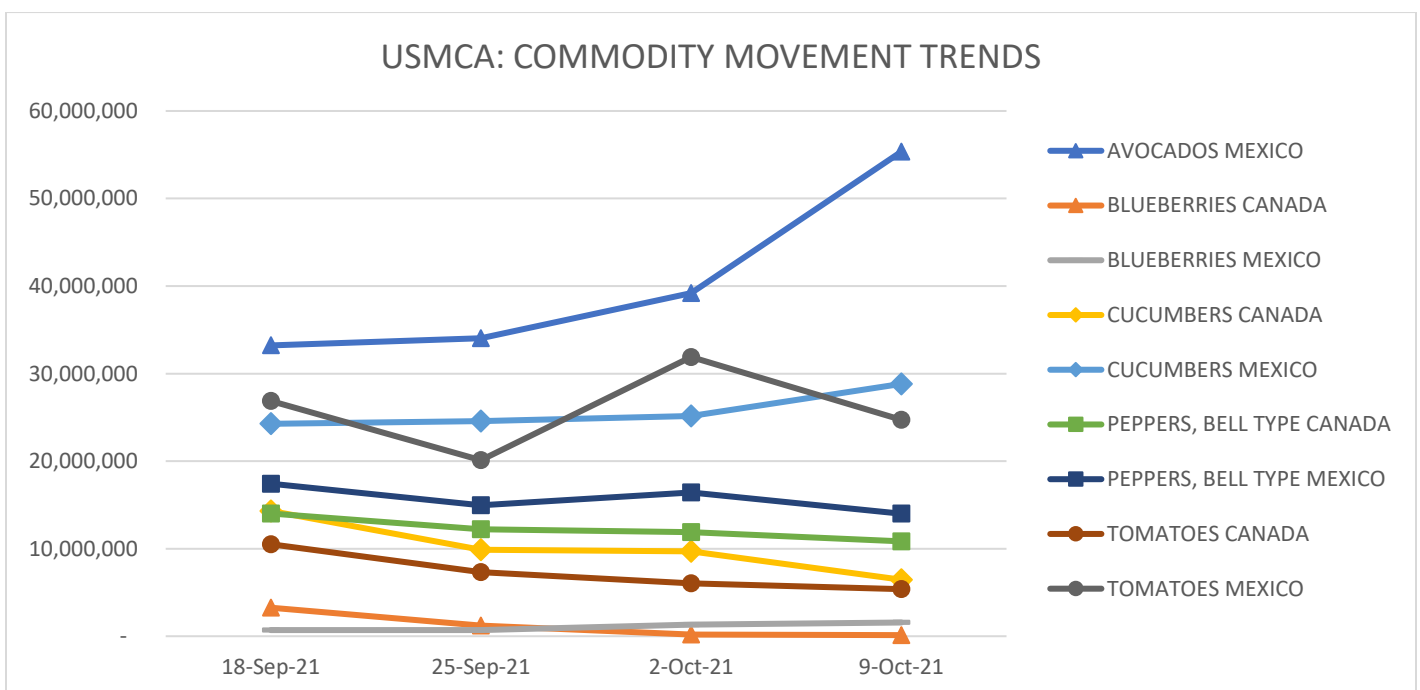
Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

Commodity	Package	9/18/2021	9/25/2021	10/2/2021	10/9/2021
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 46.15	\$ 49.92	\$ 46.18	\$ 40.54
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids	\$ 18.00	\$ 22.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 17.00
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 23.93	\$ 23.95	\$ 20.83	\$ 19.83
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb. cartons	\$ 6.88	\$ 6.63	\$ 5.94	\$ 6.13
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 14.95	\$ 14.66	\$ 15.66	\$ 17.66

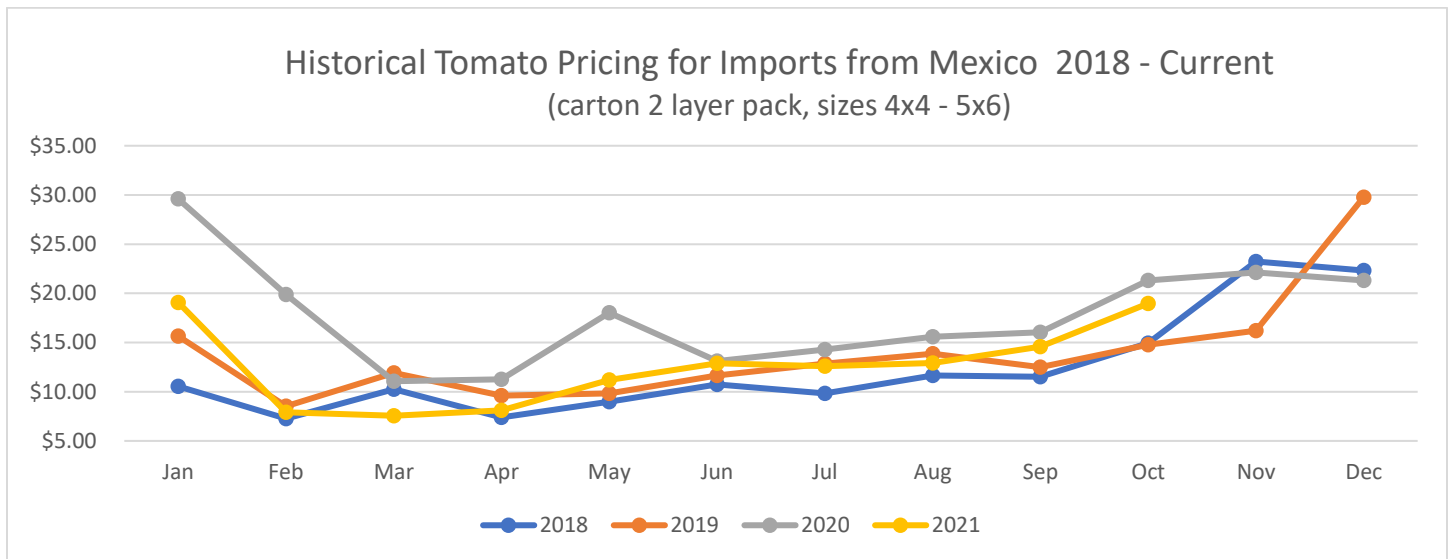


Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	18-Sep-21	25-Sep-21	2-Oct-21	9-Oct-21
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	33,218,443	34,035,313	39,186,215	55,353,851
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	3,256,833	1,213,135	173,861	124,826
	MEXICO	700,015	714,977	1,307,313	1,565,057
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	14,313,219	9,880,715	9,681,603	6,453,182
	MEXICO	24,264,698	24,563,957	25,172,217	28,822,784
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	14,015,365	12,214,463	11,905,166	10,835,480
	MEXICO	17,421,136	14,961,221	16,402,672	13,995,977
TOMATOES	CANADA	10,506,138	7,311,735	6,045,175	5,375,456
	MEXICO	26,878,186	20,109,419	31,894,597	24,700,903



The following chart, *Historical Tomato Pricing for Imports from Mexico*, is a four-year view of Mexican tomato prices at shipping point. Tomatoes are shown as they are the most consistently traded year-round. They have the highest volume of product moving between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, along with a high level of market coverage of tomatoes by USDA Market News.



To be regarded as "seasonal and perishable," agricultural products must meet the following conditions: (1) the products are fresh or chilled products falling under the following HS2002 tariff codes: 0701, 0702, 0703, 0704, 0705, 0706, 0707, 0708, 0709, 0803, 0804, 0805, 0806, 0807, 0808, 0809, 0810; (2) the products are marketed in raw form for consumption without "further processing" ("further processing" refers to e.g. crushing, juicing, canning, or any other process that transforms the product from its raw form); and (3) the products normally are marketed within eight weeks after harvesting.

For information on the imported volume and prices of the remaining Seasonal and Perishable commodities listed below please visit: <https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home>

- Potatoes
- Tomatoes
- Onions, shallots, garlic, leeks, and other alliaceous vegetables
- Cabbages, cauliflower, kohlrabi, kale, and similar edible brassicas
- Lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and chicory (*Cichorium* spp.)
- Carrots, turnips, salad beets (salad beetroot), salsify, celeriac, radishes, and similar edible roots
- Cucumbers, including gherkins
- Leguminous vegetables, shelled or unshelled
- Other vegetables, fresh or chilled: asparagus, eggplants, celery, mushrooms and truffles, peppers (*Capsicum* or of the genus *Pimenta*), spinach, artichokes, olives, pumpkins, squash, and gourds
- Bananas and plantains
- Dates, figs, pineapples, avocados, guavas, mangoes, and mangosteens
- Citrus fruit
- Grapes
- Melons (including watermelons) and papayas (papaws)
- Apples, pears, and quinces
- Apricots, cherries, peaches (including nectarines), plums (including prune plums) and sloes
- Other fruit: strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, loganberries, black, white, or red currants and gooseberries (other than kiwifruit), cranberries, blueberries, and other fruits of the genus *Vaccinium*, kiwifruit, durians, persimmons,
- Other berries; tamarinds