

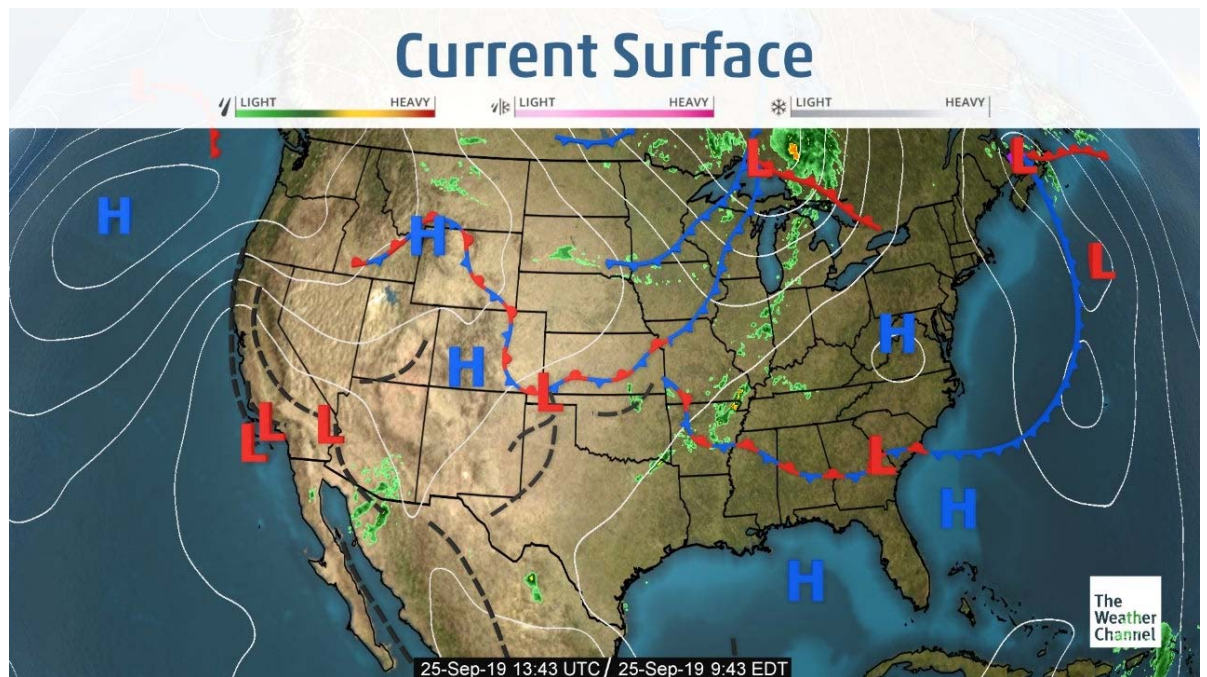


All Things Produce—News, product features, recipes and more.

September 27, 2019

Weather:

One more hot day in California in front of a rapid cool down. The return of the marine layer and coastal drizzle moves through over the weekend into early next week. This system brings a chance of light rain to the valley over the weekend followed by another system late next week. Scattered showers and thunderstorms continue across Central Mexico into the weekend with much lesser amounts in the north. The upcoming desert acreage will receive another day or so of heavy rains, strong winds, possible hail, and flooding as tropical moisture fuels these systems. This may affect the young seedlings recently planted in the region. Florida will see a few light scattered showers with seasonal temperatures into next week.



Bell Peppers:

Eastern Green Bell pepper is in full swing around most of the eastern half of the country. The mid-west is still in good supply but over the peak of the season, their weather is very good for growing produce and quality in most places is very good. The northeast is going strong with their fall crop, quality is good but starting to show wear from heat. Virginia and the mountains of North Carolina and Tennessee are in steady supplies, keeping most of their product in the south. South Carolina is starting with good volume. A few shippers in Georgia will start this weekend with light volume.

Western: Green Bell Pepper continues to be harvested in the Oxnard, Hollister, and Stockton California area. Currently, both retail and choice grade being packed from all districts. Quality of green bell pepper from Oxnard, Hollister, and Stockton are good. Both Retail/Choice grade of green bell pepper meets demand. Moderate supplies of green pepper are being harvested in Baja California, where quality is good.

Good supplies of red bell pepper continue to be harvested in the Hollister and Oxnard growing district. Both retail and choice grade being packed. Supplies from Oxnard and Hollister are expected to remain steady through the month of September. Good supplies of Mexican Hot House bell pepper also crossing into San Diego, CA, and Nogales, AZ. Market on red bell pepper continues to decrease this week with good supplies being harvested from all districts. Moderate supplies of Red bell pepper continue available to load in McAllen, TX.



Citrus Lemons:

Domestic supplies on 140's and larger continue to remain snug. We've seen a high demand for domestic supplies, and imports supplies seem to be winding down. Suppliers are doing their best to cover orders day to day as we transition to District 3 (Coachella/Mecca/Yuma area). Current supplies are being harvested from District 2 (Southern California Region) are winding down a lot faster than expected. District 3 (California Desert/Arizona Region), supplies are light to start but gradually increase over the next few weeks. Markets remain firm and expected to stay active as we head into October.

Lettuce Iceberg

Yields are lighter with some suppliers while other shippers are expecting steady supplies at least until the end of this week. There is a slight gap in pricing in the marketplace. The warm weather has created issues in quality. Upon arrivals, defects that have been identified include misshapen heads, mechanical, discoloration and brown butts. These defects are a direct result of the warm temperatures in the growing regions both north and south. Santa Maria and Salinas will continue to be the main growing regions for this commodity. Weights are ranging from 39-43 pounds. Huron will begin production the third week in October.

Lettuce Leaf:

Demand overall continues to be moderate to light on romaine in the marketplace. Some shippers have reported lower yields due to crop loss. This has caused a gap in pricing, depending on the supplier. Common defects include mechanical, fringe burn and slight insect damage but these defects are minimal. The overall quality continues to be above average. Weights are reported between 30-34 pounds. Romaine hearts will have moderate availability all week. Red and green leaf, as well as butter, will have steady supplies all week. The weights on green and red leaf range from 19-22 pounds.

Onions:

Onion markets in Idaho/Oregon and Washington have stabilized with a slight upward trend on red onions. Rain this past weekend slowed production in the Northwest. Temperatures have increased for the balance of this week but a cooling trend starting next week will slow things down again. Yellow, red and white onions continue to be in good supply with excellent quality. Larger size super colossal and colossal yellow also showed a slight increase. Utah and Colorado have started up with all three colors; light on super colossal yellow as well. Quality is outstanding this year as weather has been cooperative in those regions.

Potatoes:

Idaho potato markets continue to decline as shed floors are full and demand is light. Size profile continues to lean to the smaller sizes with 40 count limited. The weather has improved for this week but a cold front with forecasts of rain and possible snow flurries will slow down production and firm up markets. As we continue harvests of new crop potatoes keep in mind #2 grade potatoes are limited as Norkotah new crop will produce an abundance of #1 grade product. Suppliers will be subbing into carton counts for #2's to fulfill orders. For the 10oz #2's, suppliers are leaning to the 60 count and 70 count size while 6oz #2's will be in the 90 count to 100 count range. Some minor quality issues in the new crop Norkotahs may be seen in the way of skinning, white mold, wet potatoes (wet boxes), soft potatoes and immaturity. Washington, Colorado, and Wisconsin are also seeing slight drops in the market but Idaho is leading the charge. Now is a good time to buy Idaho potatoes!



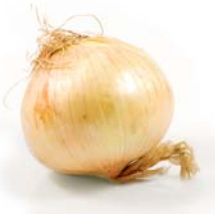
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Tomatoes:

Eastern: Round supplies are improving in the east helping to soften the market for the short term. North Carolina and Tennessee are benefiting from favorable weather, while Virginia begins to wrap up for the season. Similarly, Roma availability has increased but supply continues to be light until Florida begins harvesting again near the month of November. The grape tomato market may begin creeping back upward as Virginia winds down and begins transition south to Florida.

Western: California has experienced more favorable temperatures helping to improve quality, but overall volume has started to turn down as farms move past their peaks of the season. Volume is building in Mexico where crops are also beginning to transition to Fall plantings. As California winds down through October, Mexico crossings will continue to build, so that supply is continuous while foreign and domestic operations overlap. Recent rains in Mexico may slow yields initially with stronger supply expected before mid-October. Grape and cherry tomatoes have improved slightly from the past couple of weeks but are mostly steady now while supply is still limited. It will still be a couple of weeks before harvests are expected to improve, and the hope is for better markets when Mexico begins harvesting in greater volume in the first half of October.



Jumbo Onions

A **Spanish onion** is a type of **onion** that is typically about the size of a softball, has a fine grain, and a yellow or white skin. It's known for its very mild flavor, with many people finding it sweet enough to eat raw.

50 lb. Sofo #260640



Red Onions

These deep purple beauties are really the odd-guys out in the **onion** family. They are fairly similar to yellow **onions** in flavor, though their layers are slightly less tender and meaty. **Red onions** are most often used in salads, salsas, and other raw preparations for their color and relatively mild flavor.

25 lb. Sofo #261030



Roma Tomatoes

Roma tomato or **Roma** is a plum **tomato** popularly used both for canning and producing **tomato** paste because of their slender and firm nature.

25 lb. Sofo #261212