

SCHIFF'S FOOD SERVICE, INC

MARKET REPORT MAR. 25, 2024

Asparagus - The market is strong and increasing daily as the volume has declined due to shippers closing fields early.

Avocados - The market has advanced rapidly from a lack of harvest. Strong demand for smaller avocados and #2's and coupled with 4-5 days of no harvesting in Mexico for the upcoming Holy Week. Supplies and markets are not expected to stabilize before the 2nd week of April, depending on demand.

Berries - Blackberry supplies are steady, and markets are down. Blueberry supplies and quality are good from Mexico. The market has increased with the reduction of offshore fruit. Raspberry supplies and markets are steady. Quality is good.

Strawberries - Supplies from FL and Mexico are declining while CA increases. Mexico has good quality with CA being very good and markets are steady.

Broccoli - The broccoli market is active as the transition North continues with fair to good supplies to cover from both regions.

Cauliflower - The cauliflower market has settled but is still elevated. Supplies are tight.

Celery - Markets are steady with good supplies and moderate demand.

Lemons - There is a shortage of small lemons, while larger sizes are plentiful. Demand is modest, there is significant interest in smaller sizes, leading to higher markets due to their limited availability. Suppliers are prorating up to 50% on 165/200cts and subbing larger sizes.

Limes - Supplies are still limited crossing in from Mexico, in particular 110-175cts. Markets are active as demand has been light.

Oranges - Are peaking on 40/36 /56cts Navels. There are still plenty of Choice grade.

Cucumbers - Supplies in the East are lighter, and the quality is good. Demand has increased significantly and is moving very well while the market has leveled out. In the West there is a possible gap as volume is down and quality issues surface.

Eggplant - Eastern supplies are tight, and the market remains high. Quality is hit or miss in the southeast. Western supplies are moderate, the market is strong, and quality is good.

Grapes - Supplies are expected to improve later this week but will not meet demand. Discussions of managing remaining supplies to hold through the import season especially for green are in progress. Demand exceeds supplies.

Lettuce - The iceberg market remains active, and supplies are tight. Leaf lettuce supplies continue to be lighter this week and are expected to be lighter for several weeks.

Melons - The cantaloupe market is stagnant, with a possible uptick in the market as we near Easter. Sizing is strong on 9cts and good on 12cts; quality is great.

Onions - Onion supplies in the Northwest are going to wrap up quickly in the next 7 to 14 days, and we do not expect enough volume from TX/Mexico to fill the void. The market has increased on red onions and other colors remain steady at current high levels.

Peppers - The eastern green bell pepper market has fallen off due to quality issues from the weather. Colored bells supply is tight, and the markets are high.

Potatoes - Supplies are very light on 40/50cts from most suppliers; 90/120cts are plentiful. This will continue through the summer. Demand is following supply accordingly. Markets are steady and the quality is good.

Squash - Eastern squash markets have leveled off and supply is good in the southeast. Domestic quality has been good. Western volume and markets are steady.

Tomatoes - Cherry varieties remain on alert status due to lack of availability from Mx & FL. Roma markets remain stable from both the East and West. The round market is also stable due to increased availability from MX.

Schiff's Food Service, Inc. - 7 Stauffer Industrial Park - Taylor, PA 18517