

## ORGANIC MARKET NEWS



**AUGUST 9 - AUGUST 16, 2024** 

### **AUGUST ORGANIC PEACHES & NECTARINES**



#### **GOOD NEWS!**

Organic Yellow Peaches and Yellow Nectarines continue to be in good supply from California with late crop varieties, and Washington, known for size and quality. Conditions should remain this way until at least Labor Day, barring any significant weather events.

Organic White Peaches and White Nectarines will begin to drop in volume since Washington has less production on these varieties. Expect higher prices.

**Organic Red Plums** and **Pluots** are expected to continue in peak season through the end of August. **Organic Black Plums** are getting very tight and expected to finish for the season in mid-August.

**NOTE: Organic Apricots** and **Cherries** are done for the season.



#### OG BERRIES

GOOD NEWS! Organic Blueberries will remain promotable out of Oregon and Washington. Quality has been good, and fruit is eating very well. Volume remains plentiful.

**Organic Strawberries** are fairly promotable for mid-August. Quality has been excellent with decent volume. Then, supplies will slow down, and pricing will begin increasing in late August.

**Organic Blackberries** remain steady out of California. Quality is very nice and eating excellent. No changes in supply or pricing.

**Organic Raspberries** pricing will increase for mid-August after a short promotional week. Supplies are steady and quality has been excellent.



#### **OG WATERMELONS**

**GOOD NEWS! Organic Watermelons** will be promotable out of California. Quality is excellent.

The LOCAL PA Organic Watermelons season is beginning as well. Local growers will offer Organic Orange, Yellow, Seeded Sangria, and Red Seedless Watermelon varieties. Quality should be excellent, but volume is light, so please contact your sales rep for availability.

GOOD NEWS! Organic Mini Watermelons remain promotable out of CA and the LOCAL season is also beginning from Pennsylvania and Ohio. Volume is increasing. Quality and flavor are exceptional.

GOOD NEWS! It's an excellent time to promote Organic Cantaloupe and Honeydew from California! Supply is strong, quality is great, and prices are the lowest they have been this summer.



#### **OG ONIONS & POTATOES**

Organic Shallots from Peri & Sons is back in stock in 12/10oz paper trays and 5lb bulk. Availability is going to be sporadic in August as the season gets going and the supply chain refills. It's possible that there will be a small occasional gaps between regions in California until Nevada starts peak season in mid-September.

**Organic White Onions** are now back in stock. After this one arrival, there will be another gap in supply until we new crop Nevada **Organic Onions** start in September.

New crop **Organic Russet Potatoes** are starting out of both Washington and Wisconsin. Pricing is down just slightly from what we had been seeing out of California. Large **Organic Count Russet Potatoes** remain very tight but are expected to improve in terms of availability in August.





### **OG HARD SQUASH**

Central PA Produce Coop is now in full swing with LOCAL Organic Acorn, Delicata, Kabocha, and Spaghetti Squash.

The first arrival of LOCAL New Jersey Organic Butternut Squash is now available, with PA LOCAL supplyto begin in mid-August.

LOCAL Organic Delicata Squash is going to be a pretty abbreviated season out of Central PA Produce Coop, and it is possible that this item will be tight until other growers start closer to September.



#### **OG APPLES & PEARS**

Washington **Organic Gala Apples** will transitioning from 2023 storage crop to new crop fruit in mid-August. Things will be slow out of the gate, but excellent supplies are expected for the season once the pipeline fills up.

New crop California Organic Bartlett Pears are available in limited supply, and we will move into new crop Washington in a couple of weeks beginning with Organic Bartlett and Red Starkrimson Pears towards the end of August.



#### **OG MANGOS**

**Organic Mangos** have seen a shift in supply to larger fruit for the remainder of the Mexican season. There will be no more 12ct fruit, and 10ct fruit will also be tighter. 8ct will be more prominent.

NOTE: Organic Ataulfo and Mallika Mangos are finishing for the season in mid-August. The Organic Nam Doc Mai variety is finished.



#### **OG CELERY**

Organic Celery and Celery Hearts continue to have steady availability from California in mid-August. Costs remain consistent, however some shippers are experiencing promotable volumes and are offering deals at favorable prices!



#### OG AVOCADOS

**NOTE: Organic Hass Avocado** pricing is increasing and volume will be down as we fully transition to "Flor Loca" new crop fruit!

Equal Exchange Organic Fair Trade Hass Avocados will have fruit the week of 8/12 as the start their 2024/2025 season in Mexico after being out of stock for the past 2 months.



#### **OG GRAPES**

GOOD NEWS! California Organic Grapes have top-notch quality. The varieties are strong and only getting stronger for the Greens and Reds.

On the specialty side: Organic Thomcord, Champagne, and Candy Snaps from California.



#### **OG KIWIFRUIT**

GOOD NEWS! Organic Green and SunGold Kiwifruit are in excellent supply for an exciting month of promotion from Zespri out of New Zealand.



#### **OG ASPARAGUS**

NOTE: Organic Asparagus availability will be limited and tightening up quickly out of Mexico. Rain and hot temps are slowing harvests. Expect rising prices and limited volume.



**OG TOMATOES** 

LOCAL 15lb Organic Vine Ripe Tomatoes are in season and will be our primary source if quality and supply are in our favor. Heavy rains from Hurricane Debby will slow mid-August yields in the mid-Atlantic.





**OG SWEET CORN** 

GOOD NEWS! LOCAL Organic Sweet Corn from Lancaster County, PA is in season!



#### **OG CHARD**

**Organic Chard** is being sourced from California. **LOCAL** harvests should return in September for the late summer/fall season.



#### **OG FIGS**

California peak season Fresh Organic Brown Turkey and Black Mission Figs are going strong! The quality has been excellent. These will be available in a 12/8oz clamshell.



#### **OG BROCCOLI & CAULIFLOWER**

Organic Broccoli availability and cost are steady in early to mid-August, however volume is still expected to change later in the month and become progressively more limited. Supplies from Quebec will continue to gap for the bunched pack into mid-August, however strong supplies of Organic Broccoli Crowns will remain available from Quebec.

NOTE: Organic Cauliflower volumes have become restricted due some quality challenges as August continues, while cost have begun to rises quickly due to the limitations of volume. These unfavorable conditions are expect to persist through the latter stages of August.



#### **OG TROPICALS**

Several popular Florida grown **Organic Tropicals** will be available for the middle of August: **Organic Starfruit**, **Green Skin Avocados**, and **Longans**.

GOOD NEWS! Organic Royal Star Papayas have made a rebound and will be in good supply for the middle of August.

**ALERT! Organic Pineapples** will continue to be in very short supply for August. All orders are being prorated. This is expected to last for at least the rest of this month, possibily into September.

**ALERT! Organic Yellow Pitahaya** will gap again for the middle of August.



#### OG I FTTUCE

**Organic Romaine** and **Leaf Lettuce** continues to be primarily sourced from Quebec, Canada, and remain in peak conditions in August. Supplemental supply volume from various regions in the Northeast and California remain available in the case of any shortages.

**Organic Iceberg Lettuce** from California remains consistent in mid-August. Costs are fair and quality is strong, however promotional opportunities are not available.

**Organic Romaine Hearts** continue to experience robust supply in August. Promotional volume and costs should encourage expanded offerings and promotional opportunities in mid-August!

#### **OTHER STORIES**

 Organic Muscadine Grapes from the Carolinas are in season.





- Organic Valencia Orange prices are extremely high still with quality concerns caused from heat waves.
- NOTE: Organic Lemon supplies continue to struggle from all current regions. We are strictly in Argentina fruit due to cost and quality. California's District 3 will start in September, providing relief for the Organic Lemon market.
- GOOD NEWS! Organic Mini Seedless and Euro Seedless Cucumbers will be promotable into the end of August with product out of Canada.



## **CONVENTIONAL MARKET NEWS**

**AUGUST 9 - AUGUST 16, 2024** 

### PEAK SEASON CALIFORNIA GRAPES ARE HERE!





GOOD NEWS! Peak season for California Grapes is here in the Central Valley. Mid-August through mid-October will be the best time of the year to promote one of America's favorite snacking fruits!

Stronger varieties are being harvested, adding to the supply of California **Grapes**. The heat still remains an issue, causing delay in coloring on the **Red Grapes**. Quality is outstanding and varieties are strong, so promote with confidence.

The XL and Jumbo SKUs of **Green Seedless** will be "Stella Bella," "Summer Diamond," "Applause," and "Sweet Globe." The LG SKUs will be a mix of varietals that provide the best value equation. **Red Seedless** for mid-August will be "Ruby Rush," "Sparkle," "Summer Bliss," and "Sweet Celebration" on the XL and Jumbo SKUs; while LG will be "Flames" and "Magenta."

Specialty Grapes from The Grapery include:  ${\bf Cotton}$   ${\bf Candy}$  and  ${\bf Gum}$   ${\bf Drops}.$ 



#### **CV BERRIES**

LOCAL premium Sweetest Batch Driscoll's Blueberries continue to be available out of New Jersey. Quality is excellent, and flavor is outstanding on this late season variety. Peruvian Jumboz Blueberries from Family Tree Farms are available as well with excellent size and quality.

GOOD NEWS! Blueberries continue to be promotable out of British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest. Shippers thought supplies would be slowing down, however another flush of fruit is coming on. Quality is fair to good overall. It is shippable, but nothing out of the ordinary.

**Blackberries** continue to be steady out of California. Quality has been nice, and fruit is eating very well. No changes in pricing.

GOOD NEWS! Raspberries continue to be steady out of Baja and California. Quality is good overall, and eating excellent like candy! Supplies will be steady with promotable pricing available.

**Strawberry** supplies will slow down this week out of California. The season is past peak and volume is on the downward trend. Expect pricing to increase with tightening supplies. Fruit has been eating excellent, sizing up smaller with slight bruising this time of year.



#### **CV MELONS**

GOOD NEWS! Cantaloupes and Honeydews continue to peak on large fruit out of California. Prices have become more attractive, especially on large fruit. August is a great time to push and promote Melons!

Eastern Athena-style Cantaloupe bins will be available from Virginia. Pennsylvania growers will need a week to recover from heavy rains.

**Golden Dew** and **Sugar Kiss Melons** will be the specialty varietals for mid-August promotion.

**Watermelons** will tighten up a bit after a few days of rain move through the East Coast growing regions from Hurricane Debby remnants. Quality has been excellent and eating very well.

**Mini Watermelons** will be available out of California. Small **LOCAL** programs will start as the weather clears up.



#### CV STONE FRUIT

Yellow Peaches out of California and Washington, and also LOCAL Pennsylvania and New Jersey, continue in excellent supply with great quality and are expected to remain this way until early September.

In California, Yellow Nectarines continue in season, though with less volume after the heat wave. White Nectarines and White Peaches are in a varietal gap to star the month, but better supplies are expected in mid-August.

White Donut Peaches from LOCAL Pennsylvania orchards and California are in good supply for mid-August.

Red, Black, Green, Yellow, and Mottled Pluots are excellent looking and tasting great.

**Cherry Plums** are in season from California through early September. **Italian Prune Plums** are in season from Michigan.

NOTE: Washington Dark Sweet Cherry growers are expected to be done packing for the season by mid-August. Volumes in the supply chain will dwindle and run out by the week of August 19th and the Cherry season will be over.





#### **CV TOMATOES**

**LOCAL Vine Ripe, 2-Layer, Roma,** and **Snacking Tomato** varieties are tightening up but quality is amazing. We are starting to see the effects of the extreme heat we had that caused bloom drop.

**NOTE:** Heavy rains from Hurricane Debby will limit harvests and create tight supplies for mid-August, particularly on **Vine Ripe Tomatoes.** Other regions will need supplement the local supply.



#### CV LOCAL VEG

LOCAL Green Beans are coming out of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Quality of what is coming in is outstanding. The higher market has caused demand to slow. This market is on the downswing faster than anticipated.

**LOCAL** New Jersey **Scallions** are starting. The quality is outstanding.

**LOCAL Herbs** continue in season - New Jersey **Dill**, **Mint**, **Cilantro**, and **Parsley** are in season.



#### **CV LETTUCE**

GOOD NEWS! In mid-August, the Lettuce category continues to experience robust supply volume and good quality from Quebec, Canada and the Salinas Valley of California.

Romaine and Leaf Lettuces remain steady during mid-August. Iceberg and Romaine Hearts are very promotable with consistent high volume and outstanding quality, in addition to promotable pricing.



#### CV BROCCOLI

**Broccoli Crowns** production continues to be limited in August from Maine, however California production has improved in the early portion of the month. Expect primary volume to be sourced from California during mid-August at a fair price and with excellent quality.

Conditions should remain consistent to through mid-August, with the hope of improvement to Maine supply by later portions of the month.



#### CV BAGGED RADISH & PARSNIPS

**ALERT!** Our primary year round producer of **Bagged Radishes** and **Bagged Parsnips** has been gapping due to low yields from the heat.

**OUTLOOK: Bagged Radishes** will return to steady supply during mid-August. **Bagged** and **Bulk Parsnips** will be back in good shape by late August.



#### CV HASS AVOCADOS

**ALERT! Hass Avocados** prices have increased considerably since Mexico's "Flor Loca" crop has been slower than expected to get started. Expect fruit to be more hard and green with the transition.

Part of the delay is a new dry matter/oil requirement for this year's crop, which is forcing growers to keep fruit on the tree longer. 48sz and larger fruit will be tight for the month of August.



#### CV CAULIFLOWER

GOOD NEWS! Cauliflower remains in abundant supply volume and very promotable pricing from California in August.

**Orange, Purple,** and **Green Cauliflower** is in modest supply from California.



#### **CV SWEET ONIONS**

**LOCAL PA Simply Sweet Onions** are in peak season, and quality looking very nice.

**Vidalia Sweet Onions** will start to wind down for the 2024 season during August.



#### **CV MANGOS**

**Mangos** from Mexico have tightened as the crop continues to move north.

We will soon have non-hot water treated "Keitt" **Mangos** as well as some "Kent" and "Tommy Atkins" varieties. Sizing will continue to be larger with plenty of 8 and 9ct, and very few to no 10 or 12ct.





#### **CV FIGS**

Fresh Figs are in peak season from California with both Brown Turkey Figs and Black Mission Figs in stock. The quality has been great to start the season!



#### **CV SWEET CORN**

GOOD NEWS! Sweet Corn continues to be promotable from LOCAL growing regions. Quality has been excellent and eating extremely well.



#### **CV MANDARINS**

**Mandarins** are in excellent supply on the East Coast from several import growing regions. The "Halos" brand is steady with nice quality.

GOOD NEWS! Expect promotable prices for the month of August on all other brands of import Mandarins.

#### **OTHER STORIES**

- ALERT! Pineapple supplies will be very limited for the month of August. Shippers are prorating all orders heavily. Prices are up.
- Imported Cara Cara Oranges (bulk/bagged) and Minneola Tangelos are available.
- Brussels Sprouts volume has finally improved in mid-August! The remainder of the month will not experience any flushes in production or promotable prices, however, both should continue to trend in the right direction. NOTE: Ocean Mist is still working to refill their retail pack Brussels Sprouts pipeline. Orders on mesh bags and microwave packs have been cut or prorated during August.
- Celery volume continues to be plentiful in August with promotable pricing and strong quality. These conditions continue to make for promotional opportunities in mid to late August.
- Rambutan is in season in a 6/12oz clamshell, along with bulk white flesh Dragon Fruit and Yellow Pitahaya Dragon Fruit.
- Look for a price break on all Zespri Kiwifruit in our Green and SunGold lines!
- NOTE: Asparagus supplies will start to tighten up as rain and heat move through Mexico, slowing down harvests and creating supply and quality issues. Peruvian supplies remain steady but with increased demand, expect pricing to climb. Quality out of Peru has been nice and solid, Jumbo/XL sizes continue to be extremely limited.
- Red Currants are in season out of the Pacific Northwest.





#### **CV POTATOES**

LOCAL 10/5lb Jersey Fresh Red and White Potatoes are now available, and quality is looking very nice for the first of the season crop.

LOCAL 10/5lb Jersey Fresh **Gold Potatoes** look to be delayed again. They're expected around 8/16.

The next arrival of 10/5lb Green Giant **Gold** and **Red Potatoes** will both be new crop Idaho. New crop Idaho **Russet Potatoes** in bags and count will get started later in August.



### **CV APPLES & PEARS**

**Envy Apples** are now in season from New Zealand in 40lb cases. Fruit has arrived with excellent quality.

Eastern and Western **Gala Apples** are expected to transition from old crop to new crop by mid-August. There may be some very small supply gaps between some packs through the transition.

Eastern old crop **Gold Delicious Apples** are done for the season. New crop Eastern **Ginger Gold Apples** will get started in mid-August!

California Bartlett and Red Starkrimson Pears are in excellent supply and are expected to seamlessly transition to Washington fruit towards the end of August. Industry supplies are expected to be slightly shorter this year, leading to higher prices.







### **CROSS MERCHANDISE IN YOUR PRODUCE DEPARTMENT!**

Get your shoppers thinking Caprese Salad, homemade Margarita Pizzas/Flatbreads, and other summer salads feature tomatoes, herbs, and fresh cheese!

- BUF Fresh Mozzarellas
- Soli and Goodness Gardens living Basil and big pack basil tubs
- · Fresh Garlic and Sweet Onions
- Mini Seedless Cucumbers and Euro Seedless Cucumbers
- · Olive Oil, Sea Salt, Black Pepper



CODE: 62752 - CV Mozzarella Buffalo Boconccini 8/7oz BUF Creamery UPC: 7707363540244



CODE: 62751- CV Mozzarella Buffalo Ciliegine 8/7oz BUF Creamery UPC: 7707366540206



CODE: 62750 - CV Mozzarella Buffalo Ovoline 8/7oz BUF Creamery UPC: 7707363540282



CODE: 23156 - CV Tomatoes Heirloom 15 lb Cedar Meadow LOCAL PA



CODE: 23036 - CV Tomatoes Vine Ripe JBO 25lb LOCAL (PA, DE, NJ)



CODE: 21450 - CV Tomatoes Vine Ripe 4x5 20lb 2-Layer LOCAL PA & DE



CODE: 21440 - CV Tomatoes Vine Ripe 4x4 20lb 2-Layer LOCAL PA & DE



CODE: 44470 - OG Tomatoes Vine Ripe 15lb LOCAL - Christ King PA



CODE: 41421 - OG Tomatoes Cherry Rainbow 12pt Open Top LOCAL Lady Moon Farms PA



CODE: 41358 - OG Tomatoes Heirloom 10lb LOCAL Lady Moon Farms PA



**CODE: 235227** - CV Herb Basil Hydroponic 6ct Goodness Gardens

**CODE: 235292** - CV Herb Basil Hydroponic 12ct Goodness Gardens



**CODE: 230647** - OG Herb Basil Living 6 ct Soli Organic











# It all starts with our buffalo.

Surrounded by mountains, rivers, and lush grasses, our goal is to keep our buffalo in a natural, low stress environment to make the milking process as enjoyable as possible.





















"Ovoline" is an Italian word that translates to "egg sized." This is our largest sized offered. The cheese comes in large pieces allowing for easy slicing.



### **BOCCONCINI**

Bocconcini means "little bites." This cheese comes in smaller, egg-shaped pieces that can be easily skewered or served alone. Bocconcini works best when wrapped in prosciutto or paired with similar sized vegetables.



**CILIEGINE** 

Ciliegine is our smallest cheese. Meaning "cherry-sized" in Italian, this cheese comes in cherry tomato sized pieces. This size can be thrown atop a salad, served on a cheese plate, or eaten alone!



## **AUGUST 5 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

Back for the 9th straight year, our annual Four Seasons Produce/Zespri Kiwifruit Display Contest always strikes gold, while putting "green" into the registers. Green and SunGold varieties, both conventional and organic are now very promotable with outstanding eating quality. SunGold kiwi has become a consumer home run, and in some areas now outsells the classic Green Kiwifruit we all grew up with. What a "golden" opportunity to boost the tropical category sales in your department! It's time to get the kiwi fun started, get creative, and make kiwi the centerpieces of your next awesome display!

### **DISPLAY CONTEST CRITERIA:**

- Build an amazing kiwi display that any Kiwi Bird would be proud of! ALL fruit **MUST** be purchased from Four Seasons Produce. We will have both conventional and organic bulk and packaged kiwi available. All codes for product and Point of Sale are listed on page 2.
- Both **Green AND SunGold** kiwi must be in your display in order to qualify for entry.
- Utilize the super high graphic Zespri bins, boxes and point of sale signage in your displays. Point of sale signs will be available through your Four Seasons Sales Rep or Merchandiser. These Zespri bins will look great anywhere in your department and store.
- All displays must remain up for at least one week.
- Email your display contest entry photos to <a href="mailto:contests@fsproduce.com">contests@fsproduce.com</a> by **Thursday, September 5, 2024**.







FOR MORE DISPLAY TIPS AND IDEAS ON BUILDING A "KIWI KASTLE", PLEASE CONTACT YOUR FOUR SEASONS SALES REP OR MERCHANDISER!











### DISPLAY CONTEST PRIZES:

(displays will be judged on overall eye appeal, use of Zespri POS, and must have met all display contest criteria)

### **Most Creative Display:**

1st Place--\$300

2nd Place--\$200

3rd Place--\$100

### **Best Small** Store Display: (3 registers or less)

1st Place--\$300

2nd Place--\$200

3rd Place--\$100

### **Best All Organic:**

1st Place--\$300

2nd Place--\$200

3rd Place--\$100

### Highest YOY % of Increase:

(will need scan data from store in order to qualify)

1st Place--\$300

2nd Place--\$200

3rd Place--\$100

### **Entry Prize**

**EVERY CONTEST ENTRY WILL** RECEIVE A SUPER COOL ZESPRI SUNGOLD KIWI T-SHIRT JUST FOR ENTERING!



228266 CV Kiwi NZL 36 sz 102 ct Volume Filled 225074 CV Kiwi 12/1 lb Zespri Clamshell 224710 CV Kiwi SunGold NZL 13 lb 27 sz 44 ct 224712 CV Kiwi SunGold 8/1 lb Clamshell

#### OG

228305 OG Kiwi 36-39 sz 102/115 ct Volume Filled 225078 OG Kiwi 12/1 lb Zespri Clamshell 208486 OG Kiwi SunGold 13 lb 22/25 sz 37/41 ct 224713 OG Kiwi SunGold 8/1 lb Clamshell

#### **POS Material Codes**

225669 POS Display Bin 1 ea Zespri 231310 POS Display Bin SunGold OG 1 ea Zespri 228487 POS Display Bin SunGold 1 ea Zespri 228488 POS Display Box Formed GreenKi 1 ea Zespri 221149 POS Display Box Formed SunGold 1 ea Zespri 23386 POS Kiwi SunGold Display 1 ea 240106 POS Kiwi SunGold Promo Tower 1 ea

### **PRODUCT CODES:**













FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ZESPRI KIWIFRUIT, OR FOR COOL DOWNLOADABLE RECIPES FOR YOUR CUSTOMERS, PLEASE VISIT: WWW.ZESPRI.COM





