



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

Agricultural Marketing Service

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## **Update for Week of November 5-11, 2023**

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.

As of 2019, there were more than 60,000 schools participating in the popular Farm to School initiative. These programs are designed to be mostly local and community based. Local farmers and growers supply schools with fresh produce, which cafeterias turn into delicious meals for students to enjoy and expose them to healthy eating. Funding for these programs have grown every year and the increased funding is helping to fund more local food purchases, school infrastructure, coordination and also for technical assistance. The small farm industry and local government officials are working together to make Farm to School more accessible to other school districts. "It's an idea that has bipartisan support," said Sunny Baker, senior director of programs and policy at the National Farm to School Network. "Farm to School is really easy," she said. "We call it a triple win. It's a win for kids. It's a win for farmers, it's a win for schools and the community."

Peru imports of blueberries 2023 crop through Miami, Philadelphia and New York ports of entry is expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices barely steady. Flats 12 1-pint cups with lids large 47.00-55.00. Movement is via boat. Quality generally good. Movement of blueberries through Arizona, California and Texas are expected to increase seasonally. Trading fairly active at lower prices. Prices lower. Flats 12 6-ounce cups with lids mostly 28.00-30.00. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable.

Movement of avocado 2023 crop crossings from Mexico through Texas is expected about the same. Trading 60s and 84s fairly slow, others moderate. Prices 40-48s slightly lower, 60-84s lower. Cartons 2-layer Hass 36s mostly 52.25-55.25, 40s mostly 43.25-44.25, 48s mostly 38.25-39.25, 60s mostly 25.25-27.25, 70s mostly 17.25-18.25 and 84s mostly 15.25-17.25. Extra services included.

Movement of cucumbers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Trading fairly active. Prices 36s higher, others slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 14.95, large mostly 14.95-16.95, fair quality mostly 12.95 and ordinary quality mostly 7.95-8.95. Cartons 24s mostly 6.95-7.95 and 36s mostly 7.95-9.95. Quality generally good. Movement of cucumber from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium and large mostly 17.95-18.95, fair quality mostly 15.95-16.95 and ordinary quality mostly 11.95-12.95. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Quality variable. Cucumber movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase seasonally as more shippers begin the season. Trading fairly slow. Prices much lower. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium mostly 10.35-12.35, fair quality mostly 6.35-7.35. Cartons 24s mostly 5.00. Volume has doubled since the previous week, and prices are expected to drop as the week progresses. Demand improved to moderate later in the

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week. Quality generally good. Movement of cucumber out of Georgia is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices medium slightly lower, others unchanged. Waxed 1 1/9-bushel cartons/crates medium 14.35-16.85 and fair quality 10.35-10.85. Cartons 24s 7.35-8.85. Quality generally good.

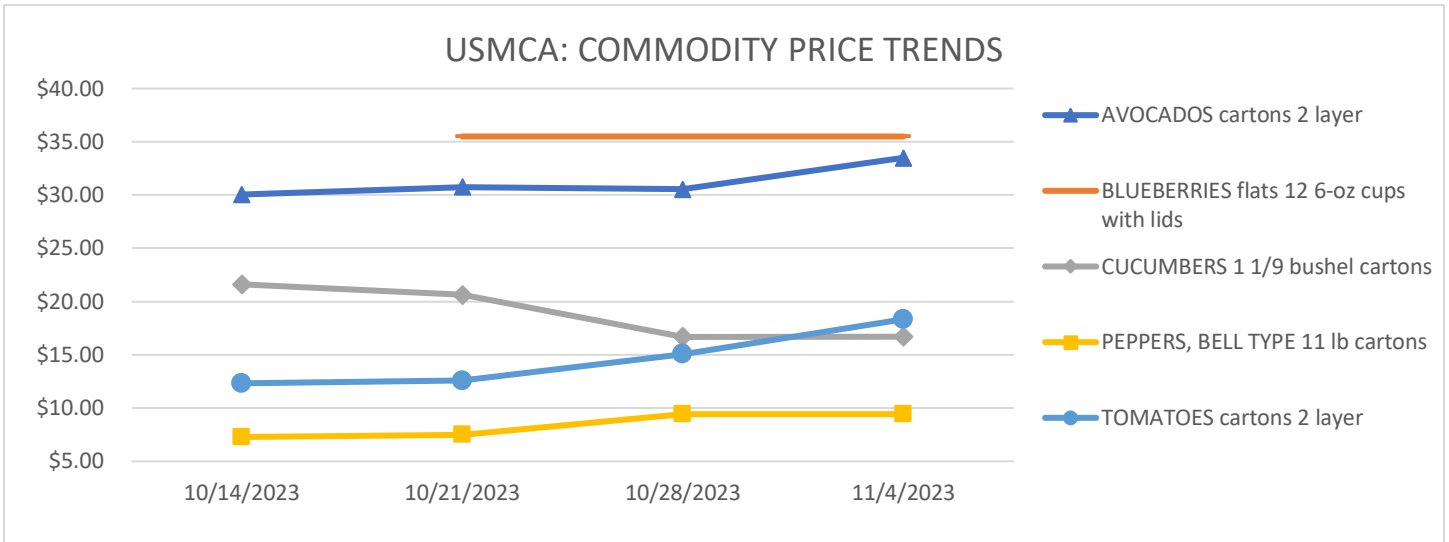
Green bell peppers out of Coachella Valley California movement is expected to increase seasonally. Trading moderate. Prices 1 1/9-bushel cartons green jumbo 16.95-18.95, extra-large 18.95-20.95, large 14.95-16.95 and irregular sized fair quality mostly 12.95. Quality generally good. Movement of green bell peppers from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Supplies insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of November 12<sup>th</sup>. Quality generally good. Movement of green bell peppers out of Central and South Florida are expected to begin with very light shipments. Expect sufficient volume and number of shippers for first F.O.B. report within 5-7 days. Movement of green bell peppers out of San Joaquin Valley California is expected to decrease sharply as most shippers are finished for the season. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Lighter shipments are expected to continue for the next two weeks. The last F.O.B. report is expected to be issued within the period.

Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected about the same. Trading early active, late moderate. Prices lower. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 17.95-18.95, 5x5-5x6s mostly 16.95 and 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes mostly 17.95-18.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes 15.95-16.95. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Florida West District is expected to remain about the same. Trading moderate. Prices slightly higher. Prices reported are for Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. 25-pound carton loose, 85 percent U.S. One or Better 5x6 size mostly 17.00, 6x6 size 14.00-15.00 and 6x7 size mostly 10.00-12.00. Demand remains moderate, but prices are slightly higher. Smaller sizes are expected to be harvested in the coming days. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central and South Florida is expected to increase seasonally. Trading moderate. Prices reported are for Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. 25-pound cartons loose 5x6 size mostly 14.95-16.95, 6x6 size 14.95-17.00 and 6x7 size mostly 10.95-12.95. Volume is increasing day by day as more growers start the season. Larger sizes are at a minimum as the season moves forward. Extra services included. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa is expected about the same. Trading very active. Prices slightly higher. Cartons 2-layer vine ripens 4x4-4x5s mostly 17.95-19.00, 5x5s mostly 16.95-17.95 and 5x6s mostly 16.95. Supplies light. Quality generally good. Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Supplies in too few hands to establish a market. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. The first F.O.B. report is expected to be issued the week of November 19<sup>th</sup>. Quality generally good. Tomato movement out of Central District California is expected to decrease sharply as most growers are finishing for the season. Supplies are insufficient and in too few hands to establish a market. Lighter shipments are expected to continue through November 11<sup>th</sup>. The last F.O.B. report was issued this week.

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

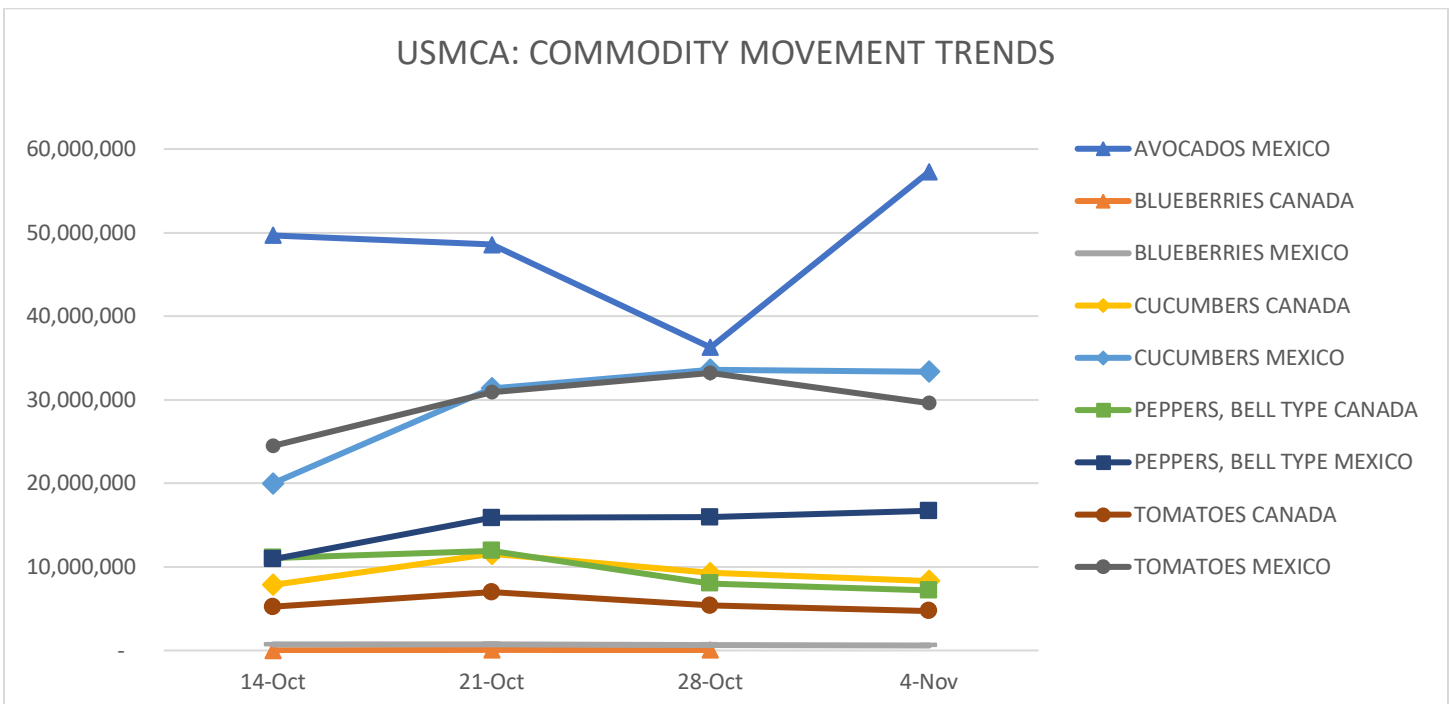
**Four Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars**

Commodity	Package	10/14/2023	10/21/2023	10/28/2023	11/4/2023
AVOCADOS	cartons 2 layer	\$ 30.05	\$ 30.75	\$ 30.55	\$ 33.50
BLUEBERRIES	flats 12 6-oz cups with lids		\$ 35.50	\$ 35.50	\$ 35.50
CUCUMBERS	1 1/9 bushel cartons	\$ 21.62	\$ 20.62	\$ 16.71	\$ 16.70
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	11 lb cartons	\$ 7.29	\$ 7.50	\$ 9.43	\$ 9.43
TOMATOES	cartons 2 layer	\$ 12.33	\$ 12.58	\$ 15.08	\$ 18.34

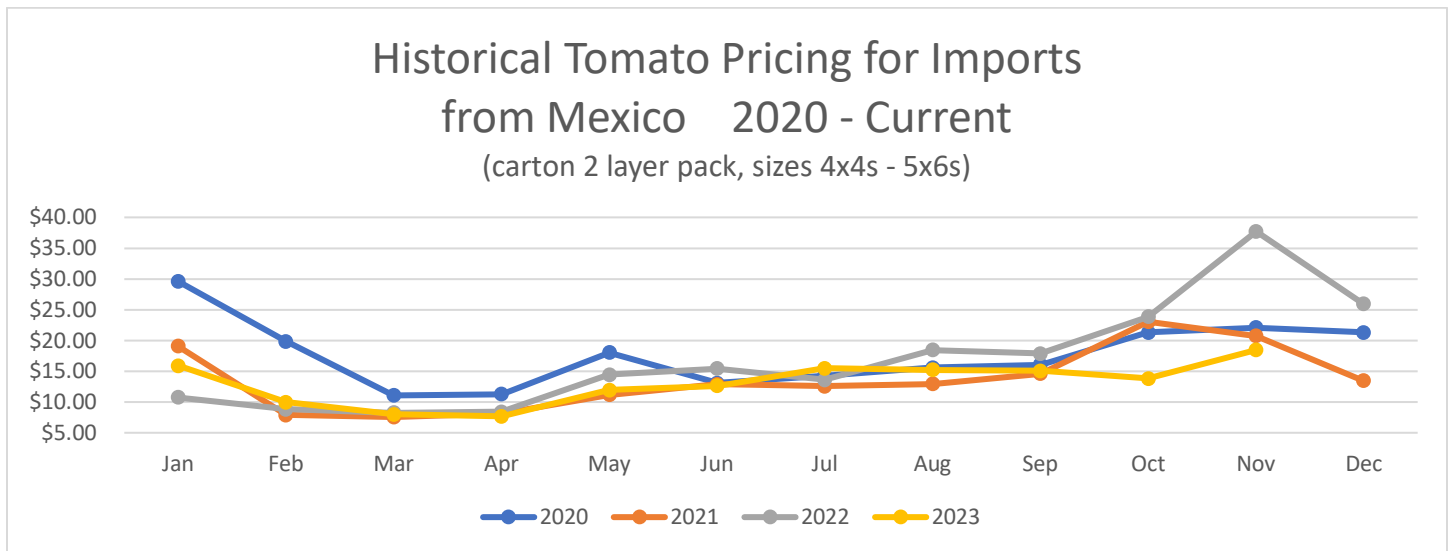


### Four Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	14-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct	4-Nov
AVOCADOS	MEXICO	49,686,479	48,563,962	36,261,848	57,287,643
BLUEBERRIES	CANADA	21,806	69,258	40,414	
	MEXICO	698,172	728,596	662,578	592,461
CUCUMBERS	CANADA	7,848,522	11,567,018	9,296,995	8,343,344
	MEXICO	20,005,816	31,389,283	33,586,084	33,372,146
PEPPERS, BELL TYPE	CANADA	11,070,252	11,914,811	8,033,149	7,186,102
	MEXICO	10,919,992	15,856,939	15,930,037	16,716,541
TOMATOES	CANADA	5,211,959	6,984,744	5,359,383	4,713,164
	MEXICO	24,482,436	30,901,547	33,206,932	29,610,922



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