

# Fresh Finds Market Update



Market Update  
September 20 2022

## Fruit Update

- **Apples** – A much smaller crop than projected is shaping up for Apples this year which will be down about 25%. Varietals are starting up while Fuji, Pinks, and Reds will be very tight with a 3 week delayed picking schedule.
- **Berries**– Very hot temps will lead to a small increase in supply but quality will suffer. High heat on strawberries usually leads to a lot of bruising and quicker decay. Raspberry volumes have started to increase at a slow pace. PNW Blues and Blacks are still available.
- **Stone Fruit** – PNW Peaches and Nectarines are still looking good and will have decent volume up until the end of the month. Organics for both are also looking strong.
- **Grapes** – Red, Green, and Black grapes are all available and in good supply with promotional volumes. Quality has been great.
- **Citrus** – Imported Navels and mandarins are available now with excellent quality. Small sizing is prevalent in both Lemons and Limes leading to good bag volume but bulk is hurting a bit
- **Melons** – Heat is also affecting the quality in Cantaloupes and Honeydew just like in strawberries. Supply is a bit lighter and quality issues will stick around until it cools off in Cali. Bin Watermelons will be ending this week with a switch to carton watermelons



## Robotics in Ag



- Robotics in agriculture are becoming more prevalent as it becomes harder to find workers
- There are robots who are able to weed fields, pick fruits and vegetables based on color and ripeness, and plant perfectly straight row crops
- Startups are being acquired at a fast pace to increase the abilities of more established companies. Expect the pace to quicken on these new innovations

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## Veg Update



- **Lettuce** – High heat is causing quality and availability problems throughout California
- **Celery** - High heat is starting to affect quality with some burn on stalks. Lower demand is allowing for prices to remain steady
- **Broccoli & Cauli** – Lighter yields were already an issue and with the high heat now the market is tightening
- **Onions** – PNW onions are in the building with good quality and availability. Green onions are struggling from the high heats just like the lettuces and will keep jumping in price

*Lettuce Markets are still very high with quality issues due to the high heat in California along with drought problems*

- **Potatoes** –Potatoes from the PNW are in full swing and the quality is excellent. Mt Vernon Potatoes are just starting and look excellent. Pictures to the side.
- **Peppers** – Green peppers are local with great quality and availability. Colored peppers are getting a bit tighter but still a good value
- **Asparagus**– Asparagus pricing should get better by the start of Oct. when Mexico starts picking
- **Organics** – OG vegetables out of Cali are suffering worse than their conventional counterparts due to the heat
- **Corn** – Local corn is coming to an end this week



## PNW Fruit Sizing

- The weather this past year has been interesting for PNW growers and is causing a lot of headaches for all sides
- With the cooler start to the year everything has been 2-3 weeks behind schedule for picking. That has been true for summer items as well as fall harvest
- This has hurt repeat sales on the front end but has also lengthened the seasons for many products to keep sales going well after they would normally be done

