

Fresh Finds Market Update



Market Update
September 27 2022

Fruit Update

- **Apples** – A much smaller crop than projected is shaping up for Apples this year which will be down about 25%. Fuji and Reds should start first week of Oct and Pinks first of Nov.
- **Berries**– Hot temps and rain have really hurt the berry market. Berries will be soft and quality will be subpar for the next few weeks. Raspberry volumes have started to increase at a slow pace from MX. PNW Blues and Blacks have finished for the year.
- **Stone Fruit** – Peaches and Nectarines have about two weeks left in the PNW as volume starts to come down slowly for both Organic and Conventional.
- **Grapes** – Red and Green Grapes are available with good quality. The heat in California has stalled production so volume will decrease a bit.
- **Citrus** – Imported Navels and mandarins are available now with excellent quality. Small sizing is prevalent in both Lemons and Limes as well as light production will lead to small price hikes.
- **Melons** – Extreme shortages in melons because of the rain in Cali combined with the heat will cause markets to rise quickly. Watermelon bins are done for the year and we have moved back to carton watermelons. Good quality on the watermelons.



Top Inflationary Items



- August saw quite a few items jump in prices because of demand and low availability
- In Fruit, Cherries were up 26.4%, Mandarins up 12.4%, and Grapes up 11.1%
- Vegetables skyrocketed because of the heat and availability with potatoes at 60.4%, Lettuce up 24%, and Asparagus up 19.8%

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Veg Update



- **Lettuce** – High heat is causing quality and availability problems throughout California and is just getting worse
- **Celery** - High heat has affected the quality with lighter color. Lower demand is allowing for prices to remain steady
- **Broccoli & Cauli** – Market has tightened because of the rain and heat but should level off
- **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

Rain and high heat have affected almost every item grown in California leading to price hikes on a lot of Veg

- **Potatoes** –Potatoes from the PNW are in full swing and the quality is excellent.
- **Peppers** – Green peppers are local with great quality and availability. Colored peppers are getting a bit tighter but still a good value
- **Asparagus**– Asparagus market seems to be coming off a bit with good quality
- **Organics** – OG vegetables out of Cali are suffering worse than their conventional counterparts due to the heat
- **Corn** – Local corn is done with cello wrapped corn from Mexico in the building that looks good



Inflation in August

- Inflation continues its upward trend in stores with Fresh up 13% and Frozen up 15% over August 2021
- The high inflation has not hurt overall unit movement with most people still cooking from home and needing ingredients
- Basket sizes are down again in August but shopper frequency is up about 2% per buyer making up for that

