



Specialty Crops Market News Division

U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement

Seasonal Perishable Products Weekly Update

Agricultural Marketing Service

Issued Weekly

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Update for December 18, 2024

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.

Agricultural Weather Outlook, provided by Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB December 18: A cold front currently stretching from the Great Lakes States to Texas will race eastward, clearing the Atlantic Coast (except Florida) on Thursday. A trailing system will help to focus a band of Northern snow, starting on Thursday across the northern Plains and persisting into Saturday along the northern Atlantic Coast. Snow showers will continue into the weekend downwind of the Great Lakes, accompanied by a short-lived cold spell. By early next week, a mild, dry weather pattern will develop across much of the country, with lingering cold weather largely limited to the Midwest and Northeast. Once storminess departs the northern and eastern U.S., the next round of meaningful precipitation should arrive during the weekend across northern California and the Northwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for December 23-27 calls for the likelihood of warmer-than-normal weather nationwide, except for near- or below-normal temperatures along and near the Atlantic Coast. Meanwhile, near- or above-normal precipitation across much of the country should contrast with drier-than-normal conditions in a few areas, including the Desert Southwest and an area stretching from the southern Appalachians into the Northeast.

Asparagus movement of Peru imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to increase this week in preparation for the holiday pull, then decrease next week due to holiday harvest schedules. Trading is fairly active. Prices are slightly higher. 11-pound cartons of bunched green jumbo are mostly 35.75-38.75, extra-large are mostly 34.75-34.95, large are mostly 30.95-32.75, standard are mostly 28.75-30.00, small are 26.00. White large re 38.75-41.00. Supplies jumbo and extra-large are very light, others are light due to vessel delays. Shippers expect heavy loading through December 20. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Arizona, California and Texas is expected to decrease seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are generally unchanged. 11-pound cartons/crates of bunched large are 34.75-36.75, standard are mostly 32.75. Extra services are included. Prices represent few spot market sales.

Avocado movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to decrease due to holiday harvest schedules. Trading early was moderate, late is fairly active. Prices of conventional 36s and organic 60-70s is generally unchanged, others are lower. Cartons of 2-layer Hass 32s are mostly 76.25-78.25, 36s are mostly 72.25-74.25, 40s are mostly 66.25-68.25, 48s are mostly 49.25-51.25, 60s are mostly 38.25-40.25, 70s are mostly 21.25-23.25, and 84s are mostly 17.25-19.25; organic 48s are mostly 65.25-67.25, 60s are mostly 42.25-45.25, and 70s are mostly 36.25-38.25. Extra services are included.

Cucumber movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected about the same. Supplies of large are light. Trading is slow. Prices of medium and large are much lower, small and 36s are slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are mostly 6.95-8.95, fair quality are mostly 5.95-6.95, ordinary quality are mostly 3.95- 5.95; small are mostly 5.95-6.95, large are mostly 6.95-8.95. Cartons 24s are mostly 3.95-4.95 and 36s are mostly 5.95-6.95. Movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to increase. Trading of large is moderate, others are slow. Prices of large are higher, medium are slightly lower. 1 1/9-bushel cartons medium are mostly 10.95-11.95, fair quality are mostly 7.95-8.95, ordinary quality are mostly 6.95; large are mostly 14.95-16.95. Quality and condition are variable. Movement from

For more information on:

- [Shipping Point Report Details](#)
- [Movement Report Details](#)
- [Generating Custom Reports](#)

For assistance please contact: jeff.main@usda.gov

[Custom Average Tool \(CAT\) Graphing tool and aggregated data source.](#)

Central and South Florida is expected to increase. Prices include palletizing and precooling. Prices of 1 1/9-bushel cartons WAXED medium are mostly 14.00-14.35, fair quality are mostly 10.00-10.35. Carton 24s are mostly 4.00-6.00. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to decrease seasonally. Supplies are very light and in few hands. Quality is variable. Most present shipments from prior bookings and/or previous commitments. Light and sporadic crossings expected to continue. Movement from Central America imports through South Florida ports of entry is expected to increase slightly and remain fairly light as additional shippers expect to harvest light volumes this week with production expected to increase moving into the middle of January. Trading is slow. Unofficial prices from trade sources of product from Honduras, 1 1/9-bushel cartons waxed medium are 14.00, fair quality are 12.00, ordinary quality are 10.00, large are 9.00. Cartons 24s waxed are 6.00. Quality generally good.

Green Bell Pepper movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Trading is very active at slightly lower prices. 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large are mostly 30.95-32.95, large are mostly 26.95-30.95, medium are mostly 20.95-24.95; fair quality large are mostly 20.95-22.95, medium are mostly 18.95-20.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Coachella Valley, California is expected to increase seasonally. Trading is moderate. Prices are generally unchanged. 1 1/9-bushel cartons extra-large are mostly 30.95-32.95, large are mostly 28.95-30.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Central and South Florida is expected to increase. Trading is very active. Price includes palletizing and precooling. 1 1/9-bushel cartons jumbo and extra-large are mostly 38.35-40.35, large are mostly 36.35-38.35, fair quality are mostly 34.35 -36.35. Quality is generally good. Movement from South Georgia is expected to decrease sharply as shippers are finished for the season. Supplies are insufficient to establish a market.

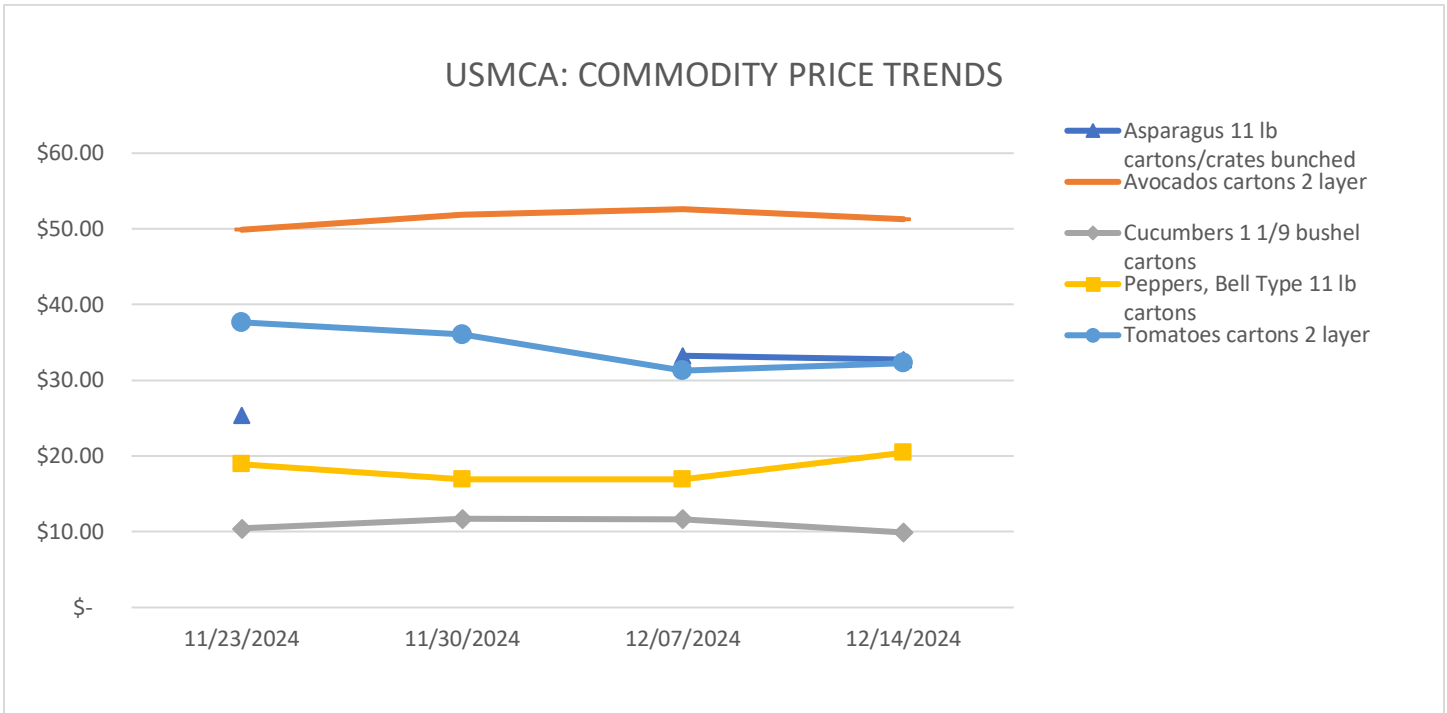
Tomato movement from Mexico crossings through Texas is expected to increase. Trading of 4x4-4x5 sizes are fairly active at slightly lower prices, others are fairly active. Prices of 5x5-5x6s and 5x5-5x6 sizes are higher, 4x4-4x5 sizes are slightly lower, others are generally unchanged. Vine Ripes cartons 2-layer 4x4-4x5s are 34.95-38.95, 5x5-5x6s are mostly 36.95-42.95; 25-pound cartons loose 4x4-4x5 sizes are mostly 34.95-38.95, 5x5-5x6 sizes are mostly 38.95-40.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Central and South Florida is expected to remain about the same. Trading is fairly active. Prices include extra services. 25- pound cartons loose. U.S. Combination or Better and 85% U.S. One or Better Mature Greens 5x6s are 41.35, 6x6s are 39.35, 6x7s are 25.35-31.35. Movement from Mexico crossings through Otay Mesa, California is expected to decrease seasonally. Available supplies are light as most present shipments are from prior bookings and/or previous commitments Trading early was moderate, late is active. Prices are much higher. Cartons 2-layer Vine Ripes 4x4-4x5s and 5x5-5x6s are mostly 38.95. Quality is generally good. Movement from Mexico crossings through Nogales, Arizona is expected to increase seasonally. Available supplies are very light and in few hands. Trading early was moderate, late is active. Prices are much higher. Vine Ripes 2-layer 4x4-4x5s and 5x5s are mostly 40.95, 5x6s are mostly 38.95-40.95. Quality is generally good.

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

Four-Week Price Trend in U.S. Dollars

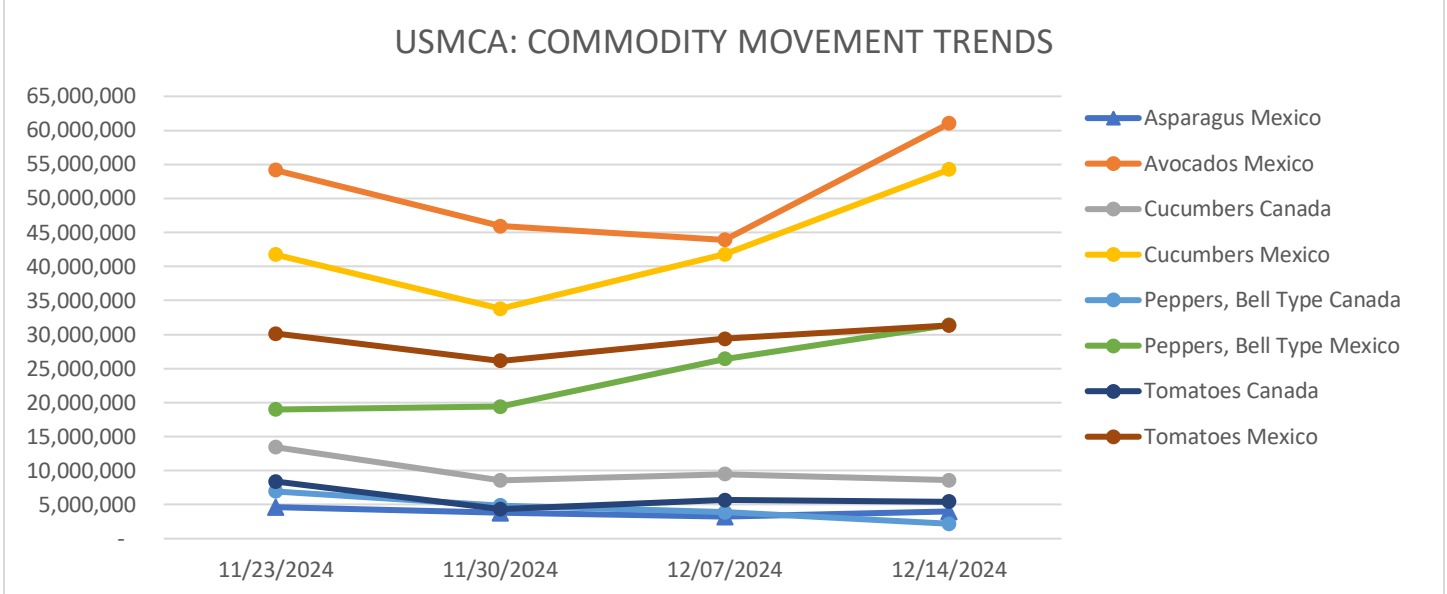
commodity	package	11/23/2024	11/30/2024	12/07/2024	12/14/2024
Asparagus	11 lb. cartons/crates bunched	\$ 25.35	N/A*	\$ 33.25	\$ 32.75
Avocados	cartons 2 layer	\$ 49.89	\$ 51.89	\$ 52.61	\$ 51.25
Cucumbers	1 1/9-bushel cartons	\$ 10.45	\$ 11.72	\$ 11.64	\$ 9.91
Peppers, Bell Type	11 lb. cartons	\$ 18.93	\$ 16.93	\$ 16.93	\$ 20.44
Tomatoes	cartons 2 layer	\$ 37.66	\$ 36.03	\$ 31.28	\$ 32.28

*Data Not Available

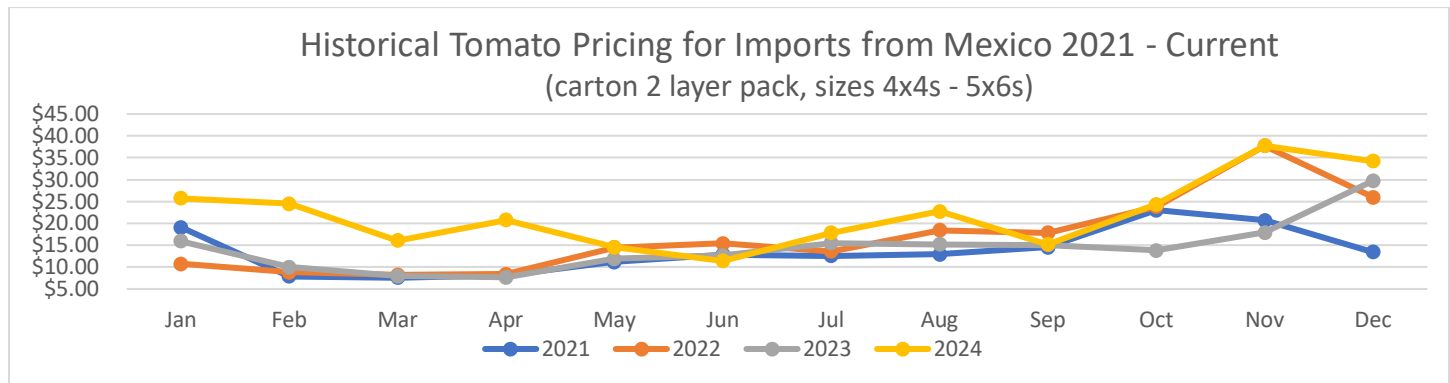


Four-Week Movement in Pounds

COMMODITY	ORIGIN	11/23/2024	11/30/2024	12/07/2024	12/14/2024
Asparagus	Mexico	4,629,988	3,788,115	3,243,841	3,969,671
Avocados	Mexico	54,169,093	45,924,640	43,898,668	61,015,597
Cucumbers	Canada	13,431,617	8,567,861	9,464,349	8,604,587
	Mexico	41,736,015	33,797,424	41,779,152	54,237,756
Peppers, Bell Type	Canada	6,930,118	4,894,088	3,892,586	2,192,483
	Mexico	18,978,365	19,383,593	26,401,996	31,409,273
Tomatoes	Canada	8,393,606	4,338,354	5,665,167	5,446,132
	Mexico	30,147,728	26,108,188	29,354,020	31,342,161



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 remaining Seasonal and Perishable commodities listed below please visit:

- Movement <https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home>
- Prices <https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/>

- 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