



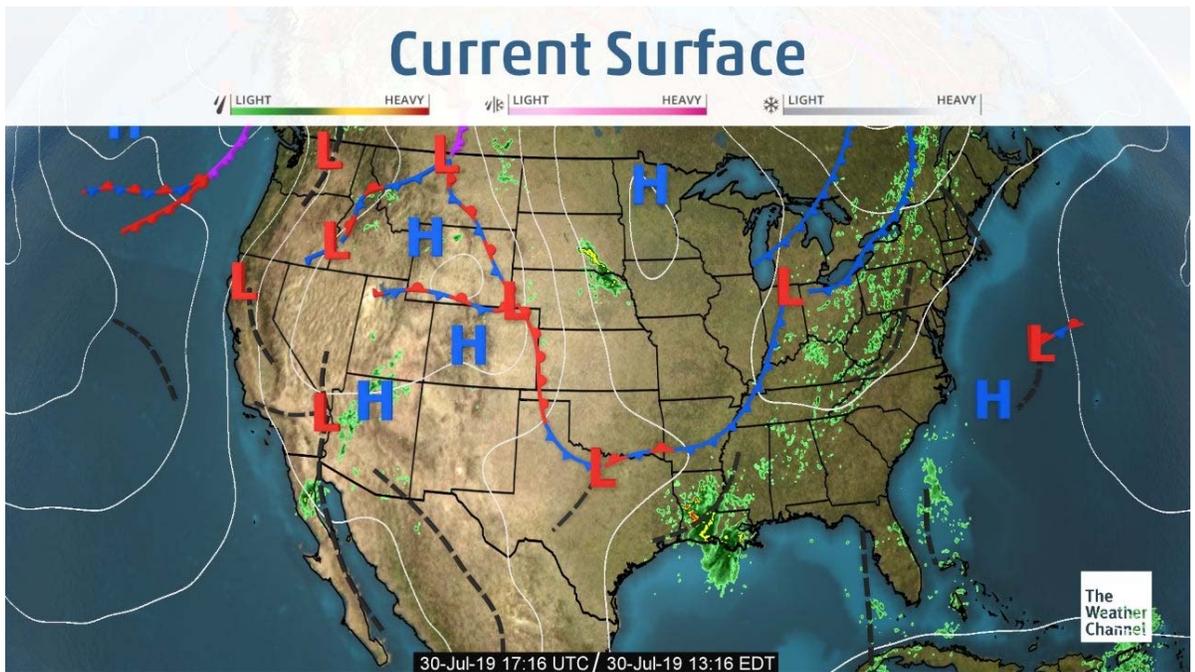
All Things Produce—News, product features, recipes and more.

August 2, 2019

Weather:



Near seasonable temperatures with marine layer conditions along the coast look to continue through the week across California. High pressure builds and expands west over the weekend with a warming trend through next week. Showers and thunderstorms look to continue across Central Mexico becoming more isolated to the north with near-normal temperatures expected into next week. Florida will see seasonal temperatures with showers this week in front of a tropical disturbance approaching the region. The system currently south of Puerto Rico is not likely to become a storm as it tracks toward Florida this week. Heavier showers and thunderstorms begin Friday through the weekend with up to an inch expected across the region Friday and Saturday.



Bell Peppers:

Eastern: Green bell pepper supply is still very light although some new regions have started production. There is light supply coming from the mountains of North Carolina, but most of the supply is in the south. New Jersey has passed its peak but still has a steady supply. Some quality issues have shown up after rain up and down the coast followed by high temperatures. Michigan and Ohio have started a light supply with good quality. Most of their supply is Jumbo size product. Expect supplies and pricing to stay steady through the week.

Western: Green Bell Pepper- Moderate supplies of green bell peppers are being harvested in Bakersfield and Fresno areas of CA. Mostly choice grade continues to be packed. Very light supplies of large and extra-large retail grade bell pepper being packed. Quality on green bell pepper from these areas is good. Choice grade Green bell peppers supply meets demand. Retail grade green bell pepper demand currently exceeds supply.

- **Red Bell Pepper-** Good supplies of red bell peppers are being harvested in the Bakersfield and Fresno growing areas. Mostly choice grade currently being packed from these districts. And the quality is mostly good. Market on red bell pepper is steady and showing some strengthening.



Citrus Lemons:

California domestic supplies continue to remain tight on 140's and smaller and this will continue for most of the summer. Market prices on small size fruit are coming off, looking at high \$20's to low \$30's on choice and fancy fruit. Offshore supply continues to improve weekly on inbounds on both coasts which have been helping offset domestic supplies. We're hearing great feedback on the export quality.

Lettuce Iceberg

Good supplies and light demand is the story of this commodity. Expect steady supplies for the entire week. Multiple shippers are willing to flex on volume type orders. This market will tighten up next week as indicated from a few shippers. There are no lettuce value-added items on escalators and for now, no averages are being watched. The weights and quality of this commodity are good. Weights are at 40-44 pounds on wrap and defects are minimal. Aside from misshapen heads slightly, minor insect damage and puffiness, expect solid lettuce for the week.

Lettuce Leaf:

The market is steady on romaine and expect this to continue for the entire week. Escalated pricing does not exist for any value-added item containing romaine as well as all leaf items. Romaine hearts are much stronger in production as well. Green and red leaf have been reported on the strong side. Aside from occasional fringe burn, mildew, and insect damage, multiple reports show the defects are minimal and the overall quality is strong industry-wide. The weights on romaine are averaging 32-38 pounds and green and red leaf range from 22-26 pounds.

Onions:

Yellow onion markets out of California and New Mexico are steady to slightly lower. Demand continues to be active in these areas with supplies winding down for the season. Red onions in both regions are in good supply with markets also declining. White onions remain limited with firm prices. Northwest suppliers are starting up harvests and expected to begin quoting sometime next week. Limited numbers will be available to start with a very active demand. We are anticipating the yellow onion market to remain relatively firm over the next 7-10 days. The Northwest will ramp up in supply and California/New Mexico will push the season-ending supply to make way for the Idaho/Oregon and Washington season. Red onions will be plentiful and white onions will kick in around mid-August and slowly ramp up as we approach September.

Potatoes:

Idaho potato markets continue to rise as storage Burbanks wind down for the season. Shippers continue to limit the number of potatoes released from cellars and cut back production schedules to stretch out the remainder of the storage supplies. Quality on late storage Burbanks will exhibit more external and internal bruising with an occasional hollow heart. New crop Norkotahs are expected to begin mid-to-late August. Expect markets on all sizes to continue to climb over the next 4-5 weeks due to limited supplies and heavy demand. Colorado and Washington's markets are also rising with an increase in demand. Kansas is starting up with limited supply. Nebraska will start early August and run through January. Wisconsin is expected to start on August 12.



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Tomatoes:

Eastern: Eastern summer programs are harvesting between scattered showers intermittently halting picking schedules. The market is mostly steady from last week and is not forecasted for much change in the first week of August. Mature Green tomatoes in VA will move past peak production next week and begin to contract against lighter harvests. TN farms are still producing in a light way and volume is building into August. NC is harvesting Vine Ripe to supplement round offerings in the east. Roma tomatoes are steady this week with farms harvesting in AL, NC, and TN. A boost in supply is expected in the coming weeks as more farms further North begin harvesting during August. Grape tomatoes continue to improve this week by a dollar or two as harvest begins to spread out. In addition to VA, local deals in AL and NC have begun in a light way to help meet demand. High precipitation has affected quality, increasing shrink in packouts but there is enough good fruit to produce a quality finished product.



Lemons

Lemons add acid, which can heighten other flavors, and a bright, tangy flavor to foods. Lemons are full of vitamin C, folate, fiber, and potassium. Lemons are most commonly used in desserts, but lemon juice just may be the perfect, gentle acid for homemade salad dressings, and it has other savory uses as well.

140 ct. Sofo #270290



Red Peppers

Red bell peppers are simply green bell peppers that have been left on the vine to ripen! Peppers are actually fruits because they are produced from a flowering plant and contain seeds. Red peppers are sweeter than green, because they sweeten more as they continue to ripen.

11 lb. Sofo #260525



Chopped Romaine

Romaine lettuce is packed with nutrients. The vitamins, minerals, phytonutrients and fiber found in romaine lettuce are especially good for the prevention or alleviation of many common health complaints. Romaine's vitamin C and beta-carotene content make it a heart-healthy green. Vitamin C and beta-carotene work together to prevent the oxidation of cholesterol.

6/2 lb. Sofo #270492