Weekly Market Review August 29, 2024

Overview

The impacts of Tropical Storm Debby have yet to be felt to their fullest, but we expect to see major damage to the agricultural industry up the eastern seaboard that could impact the local summer and fall programs. Items that could be impacted are local corn, bell peppers, hot peppers, squash, cucumber, stone fruit, berries, beans and fall items such as sweet potatoes and pumpkins. We are currently assessing this with our grower partners. Tomato markets have eased back, and we are seeing some stabilization of supply and market this week. We will need to keep a close eye on this as transition from local deals in the east will be on the horizon and a potential shortfall in the west is expected as California may end early. The current table grape supply and demand out of California is strong. Pineapples are very tight and expected to be tight through August; shippers are asking to be flexible on sizing to navigate the shortfalls. In the west, tighter supply available to market on Mushrooms; weather impacts and viral pressure have caused supply shortfalls across the region on all varieties. Growers are hoping this will improve over the next six weeks. Limes are getting short as well. Mexico has adjusted harvesting due to the quality of the older crops while waiting for new crop to ramp up. Fruit will be lighter in color as we will see size distribution lean heavier to mid-range or larger. The Loca crop continues to trend toward avocado sizes 60 and smaller, with the market nearing a \$20 difference between the 48s and 60s. Supplies of larger fruit and #2s will be extremely limited for the next 4-6 weeks. We advise adjusting sizing programs where feasible to optimize costs. During weeks 39-43, it is prudent to be cautious regarding market fluctuations, as two transitions will take place: the Mexican harvest will shift from Flora Loca to Aventajada, and the complete wrap-up of both California and Peru will increase demand for Mexican produce. Over the long term, since July and the beginning of Mexico's fiscal year, shipments to the US have fallen short by 40 million pounds compared to projections. It is important to note that the 2024/25 crop from Mexico is projected to reach 2.5 billion pounds, an increase from the 2.3 billion pounds recorded in the 2023/24 season. When considering this 6-week shortfall alongside the anticipated larger crop, we can expect an increase of several million pounds in our weekly forecasts. In summary, shipments are lagging in a year with a larger crop, and there will be ample fruit available for promotions from late October through the first quarter of 2025. Overall, volumes for 2025 are anticipated to rise from Mexico, California, Peru, and Colombia. The supply conditions from Guatemala have improved thanks to better weather patterns. Nevertheless, forecasts indicate that the weather may become more volatile in the upcoming 10 to 14 days, potentially leading to delays in harvesting, quality concerns, and reduced yields. The possible items affected are snow peas, sugar snap peas, French beans and baby-peeled carrots. Out of the Salinas Valley, we are seeing steady supplies and quality on most items, but we do still have some outliers. The Brussel sprouts market is no longer extreme but is still escalated. Supplies have improved a lot, and we should see the market continue to come down. Endives, escarole, leeks, cilantro and fennel are still escalated but are trending down. Supplies are improving. Green onions are at the extreme trigger. They are extremely tight and are suffering from the weather in their growing regions. Expect these to stay escalated for at least a few more weeks. Cilantro is also very tight. You can expect to see growers holding to averages on cilantro and green onions. Cauliflower has also reached the extreme trigger. Quality is okay but supplies are tight. Some growers are holding to averages. Broccoli is still escalated but is trending down. We should see relief soon. Spinach is not escalated yet, but is on the watchlist due to tight supplies. Some growers are prorating. Excessive heat in the San Joaquin Valley citrus growing areas have heavily affected supplies on the Valencia Orange crop. Most shippers are reporting potential "Gaps" in production of up to 2 to 3 weeks between the end of the Valencia crop and the beginning of the Navel season.

<u>Alert</u>

- Asparagus **ESCALATED**
- Artichokes ESCALATED, EXTREME (ON SOME SIZES)
- Avocados ESCALATED
- Bell Pepper (All Colors) ESCALATED
- Bok Choy **ESCALATED**
- Broccoli Florets and Crowns ESCALATED
- Brussel Sprouts –**ESCALATED**
- Carrots ESCALATED
- Cabbage, Red ESCALATED
- Cauliflower EXTREME
- Cilantro ESCALATED
- Endive and Escarole ESCALATED

- Fennel, Anise ESCALATED
- Green Beans **ESCALATED**
- Green Onions –**EXTREME**
- Hot Peppers (Red Fresno) **ESCALATED**
- Leeks ESCALTED
- Limes **ESCALATED**
- Mushrooms- ESCALATED
- Napa **ESCALATED**
- Lemons EXTREME ON SMALL SIZES
- Parsley (Curly & Italian) **ESCALATED**
- Pineapple ESCALATED
- Tomatoes (Rounds) ESCALATED

Watch List

- Corn
- Eggplant
- French Beans
- Ginger

- Lettuce Iceberg Liner
- Lettuce Romaine and VA Blends
- Lettuce Green Leaf and Red Leaf
- Melon Honeydew

- Oranges
- Snow Peas & Sugar Snap Peas
 - Spinach

Weather SALINAS, CA

,							
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
67° 55°F	68° 54°F	69° 55°F	71° 56°F	73° 54°F	79° 58°F	80° 59°F	81° 58°F
AM Fog/PM	AM Fog/PM	Partly Cloudy					
XNARD, CA							
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
70° 59°F	70° 60°F	72° 60°F	75° 61°F	76° 62°F	80° 64°F	80° 65°F	81° 66°F
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M Clouds/PM	AM Clouds/PM	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
AKERSFIELD,	CA						
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
101° 68°F	101° 71°F	103° 73°F	103° 70°F	99° 71°F	103° 74°F	105° 75°F	106° 75°F
**					***		***
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
ALISCO, NAYA							
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
79° 66°F	79° 66°F	80° 66°F	78° 66°F	79° 66°F	80° 66°F	81° 66°F	82° 67°F
1111	1111	1111	1111	1111	444	444	11/1
Scattered	Thunderstorms						
AN QUINTIN,	ВАЈА						
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
74° 63°F	75° 63°F	77° 64°F	81° 65°F	80° 66°F	81° 68°F	82° 69°F	84° 69°F
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	AM Clouds/PM	Partly Cloudy	AM Fog/PM	AM Fog/PM	Sunny	Sunny
ENDERSONV	ILLE, NC						
Thu 8/29	Fri 8/30	Sat 8/31	Sun 9/1	Mon 9/2	Tue 9/3	Wed 9/4	Thu 9/5
91° 66°F	88° 65°F	85° 65°F	83° 65°F	79° 64°F	70° 60°F	68° 57°F	69° 57°F
1111	1111	1111	1111	1111			
PM	PM	PM	PM	Scattered	AM Showers	Showers	Showers
hunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms			

Fruits & Vegetables

Avocados: ESCALATED California hasn't reported their final harvest numbers from last week yet. Mexico however reported a 10% increase, while Peru is down 36%. The Loca harvest is strong in Mexico, with more & more orchards becoming available each week, and projections show enough availability to supply demand shifting back to their COO. Peru's volumes were under 5M pounds last week. Most programs are ending at this point, and those continuing for a few more weeks have their exit plan in place. The same week

last year brought 11.6M pounds of Peru to the US, so while YTD numbers are comparable to last season, the final numbers will show a down season. New fields came into production this season, which were planted 3-4 years ago, and without that added volume, the short Peru season would have been more extensive. If the weather is favorable during the off-season, Peru will return with much stronger volumes next season.

Bananas: Steady supply and quality remain good across the country.

Pineapples: ESCALATED Supply was lighter this week and quality remains good. Sizing is going to be a challenge over the next few weeks, and we may need to be flexible on sizing as 5-6ct fruit is very short with 7-8's plentiful. The need to be flexible on sizing may be necessary to maintain consistent supply.

Table Grapes: Excellent supply will be available out of California this week. Quality out of California is mostly good as the crops are taking the heat wave better than expected. We are getting concerned the end of the season could fall short due to crop loss.

Berries

Strawberries: Daytime temps in the high 60's to low 70's and nighttime temps in the mid 50's. We are seeing less mildew on fruit this week due to less fog coming in the mornings. The sizing has decreased a bit. Growers see darker, soft, and overripe fruit issues, along with mildew due to foggy mornings. Both methods have good sheen, small-to-medium size, strong red color, and good flavor. Labor is tight, especially with school right around the corner. Santa Maria's fall crop has continued to see good, strong fruit as the season picks up. Counts will hold in the low to mid-teens with a nice sheen and firmness, with issues of misshapen fruit, bronzing, and mixed sizing still around. Plants are loaded with flowers, so we are expecting large numbers to be produced during the peak. All FC acres are in a consistent harvest schedule and will be cycling some nice fruit and entering a peak in the middle of September to early October. Most blocks show good shape and firmness with crooked tips and light bronzing around. Overall appearance looks decent, and crews are working hard to sort through small, crooked, bronzed, and soft fruit. Seeing some minor bruising in the pack, but nothing too concerning. Growers are expecting an increase in organic and conventional volume in the coming weeks in this area.

Blackberries: Blackberry quality is decent, with sizing between the medium to large range, good sheen, mostly black, and good firmness. Due to high temperatures in the regions, growers do see red cell regression in some ranches and soft, leaking fruit as the days continue to be hot. Rain has caused some concern for instances of mildew. Blackberries' volume has passed its peak and will steadily decline throughout August until we pick back up in early October. Watsonville Blackberries look great, with medium-to-large sizing, and most have great flavor. The attached calyx seems to still be a minor occurrence, and we are seeing some issues of smaller fruit. Overall, production is currently at our peak for blackberries in Watsonville. Growers are expecting continually strong production through August and September.

Raspberries: Daytime temps still in the high 70's and low 80's out of Mexico. Overall, fruit looks decent with a decent red color, with some fruit lighter in color in the pack due to picking a bit early ahead of the heat. Sizes are mostly medium, with larger berries here and there. Counts are 35-52. Growers do see some overripe, crumbled fruit, and mildew from the high moisture environment from the rainy season, but crews are doing their best to keep them out of the packs. Raspberries' volume stays steady through August until we pick back up in September. Watsonville Raspberries' production has sharply declined and will finish within the next few weeks. Overall, the color is a nice dark red due to the warm temperatures underneath the hoops, and the sizing of the raspberries is medium-sized on average—very little availability out of Watsonville.

Blueberries: Growers continue to see some issues of shriveling, scarring, and deformities. Seeing rain everyday so far in the blue growing regions. Production is trending to a yearly low due to the high heat, rain, and humidity. Conventional wise, volume is expected to be low through August/September and then start ramping back up a bit towards October. Organic wise, volume is in a bit of a gap, and small volume will trickle in here and there until we get steady, but small, volume toward mid-September. Production out of Oregon has dipped a bit but was steady this week. The weather has been overcast with some rain, with days in the low 70's and are seeing more potential rain this weekend. Oregon has continued producing strong volume and good to fair quality this week. We are seeing issues of mold and smashed berries in packs here and there. Organic production is at a peak and will have decent production through September. We are mid-to late season for OR blues and expect supplies to last through early October. Out of British Columbia, availability of quality fruit took a drastic shift down in estimates and are expecting more rain this upcoming week. Our quality teams have been working diligently to keep packs clean which has resulted in steep cuts in estimates this week due to the rain. The weather has been cooler which should help with quality of the fruit in future weeks. Volume is expected to somewhat return once the rain lets up, but we have passed the peak. Only conventional fruit from here. Quality is okay, and are seeing issues of soft fruit, shriveling, mildew from the rain. A small volume will start around the beginning of October from Chile. Fruit has a nice size, color, and flavor. Small volume will start around mid-October from Peru.

Citrus

Oranges: WATCHLIST The California Valencia orange crop has experienced challenges to quality from high thrip pressure during the growing period. Thrip is a small insect that damages the exterior of the fruit in the early growing cycle. This thrip pressure was caused from the rainy conditions early in the year during the growing period, causing an excessive scarring appearance with a high percentage of fruit not suitable for shipping. In addition, the recent heatwave caused some fruit to drop to the ground which will not be harvestable. Due to these conditions, many growers/shippers are reporting lighter than normal supplies for the balance of the California Valencia season. Most shippers have curtailed harvesting, covering regular business only, but will not have additional supplies. Even

with curtailed harvesting, some growers see a potential "GAP" in production between the end of the Valencia season and the beginning of the Navel season, possibly up to 2 to 3 weeks. Import Navels are available.

Lemons: EXTREME ON SMALL SIZES Light supplies continue on small sizes in California and will continue light until new crop District 3 Lemons get started towards the end of September. Import Lemons are arriving with small fruit available. Supplies on Lemons from Mexico continue to be very light as drought conditions have affected available fruit to pick. Flexibility on sizing and loading areas will be mandatory to get orders filled on orders loading in California!

Limes: ESCALATED The market remains strong as supplies continue to decline. In addition, extreme weather conditions in Mexico from high temperatures and humidity have affected quality, showing light coloring and excess skin breakdown. We expect to see defects continue to surge through the first half of September. Improvement is expected as we approach Q3 2024.

Grapefruit: We are seeing significant changes in grapefruit from California. Mainly due to the record heat through the summer, we are seeing record low pack outs and anticipate a gap in production until the Desert crop gets started in late October.

Imports/Specialties: Import lemons, oranges and mandarins are available.

West Coast Lettuce

Iceberg: WATCHLIST Lettuce supplies are light this week. Growers should be able to cover all contract business, but the open market volume will be limited. We are entering the fall season and crops will begin to see yields decline. Quality looks very good.

Iceberg VA: Quality and supply look good. Demand has increased.

Romaine, & Romaine Hearts: WATCHLIST Romaine and romaine heart supplies are good. Growers do expect yields to start dropping with fall approaching. Quality looks very good.

Green Leaf and Red Leaf WATCHLIST: Production in the Salinas Valley is steady. Overall quality is very good with good movement. Supplies have decreased a bit, so we are going to leave this one on the watch list.

Butter: Production in Salinas Valley is steady. Overall, the quality is good.

Eastern and Western Vegetables

Green Bell Pepper: Better supply this week out of Michigan, the Carolinas and West Coast as we get into the last summer regions of the season. Good supply on choice peppers with larger sizes drawing a premium. Overall quality is good.

Color Bell Pepper: EXTREME Very light supply continues mostly due to the heat on the West Coast; however, we are slowly turning the corner on supply and quality. We are also seeing a bit more availability out of Canada and Mexico this week which will certainly offset the need to pull from the West Coast. We recommend subbing orange or green pepper over the next two weeks.

Mini Sweet Pepper: Supply will be hit and miss this week loading in California.

Mixed Chili Pepper: ESCALATED Supplies in general are good across most varieties out of Mexico and California. In the east, we could see gaps on hot peppers based on the track of Tropical Storm Debby. The shortest item this week is Fresno Peppers.

Eggplant: WATCHLIST Tighter supply from all domestic growing regions is putting upward pressure on price and there are very limited crossings available in Nogales and McAllen. We suspect markets will be hit and miss now through the fall transition in late October.

Slicer Cucumbers: Supply will be lighter this week crossing through Otay and McAllen. Domestically, some of the local regions are scratching such as Tennessee and Michigan. Overall, the quality is good, but markets will be higher.

English Cucumbers: Stable supply and good quality will be available this week.

Pickles: Supply and quality are good this week.

Green Beans: ESCALATED Supply remains light this week and quality hit and miss due to weather-related pressure.

French Beans: WATCHLIST Production continues to improve.

Zucchini/Yellow Squash: Supply has tightened up in the east, particularly on yellow, while supply in the west is stable. Quality is good.

<u>Herbs</u>

Good supply and quality on all herbs except for dill, albeit improved, which is being affected by weather in Mexico, Peru and Colombia. Chervil production continues to be low.

HERB	SUPPLY	QUALITY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Arugula	Steady	Marginal	USA
Basil	Steady	Steady	USA/MEX
Opal Basil	Steady	Steady	USA
Thai Basil	Steady	Steady	USA/MEX
Bay Leaves	Steady	Steady	USA/COL
Chervil	Limited	Limited	USA
Chives	Steady	Steady	MEX
Cilantro	Steady	Steady	USA/MEX
Dill	Steady	Steady	USA/MEX
Epazote	Steady	Steady	MEX
Lemongrass	Steady	Steady	USA
Marjoram	Steady	Steady	USA
Mint	Steady	Steady	USA
Oregano	Steady	Steady	USA
Italian Parsley	Steady	Steady	USA
Rosemary	Steady	Steady	USA
Sage	Steady	Steady	USA
Savory	Steady	Limited	USA
Sorrel	Steady	Steady	USA
Tarragon	Steady	Steady	MEX
Thyme	Steady	Steady	USA
Lavender	Steady	Steady	USA
Lemon Thyme	Steady	Steady	USA
Lime Leaves	Steady	Steady	USA

Melons

Cantaloupe: Lower cantaloupe production and much stronger demand has elevated the larger sized fruit which have been struggling for the majority of the summer. With the impact of bloom drop negatively affecting yields, we anticipate the cantaloupe market to hit double digit levels very soon especially as local regional deals begin to wind down. Our growers will be breaking new fields this week that will provide us with a sizing profile that includes 12s and even some numbers on 15s for the first time this summer. Overall quality remains strong on all sizes as we are seeing great color and brix levels holding in the 14-16% range.

Honeydew: WATCHLIST Honeydew availability is down and mostly impacted by bloom drop. This has caused a GAP in supply for smaller sized fruit and pushed markets higher this week. Sizing is running strongly towards the larger sizes with 4Js accounting for as much as 70% of the daily pack out. Honeydew 5ct are limited and honeydew 6ct and 8ct are in a demand exceeds supply situation. We are hoping some new field blocks will break over the next two weeks, which will provide some much-needed relief, but until then, flexibility of sizing will be required at time of loading.

Golden Honeydew: Supply available out of California.

Watermelon: Stable supply available as fruit is being harvested from a number of regions: North/South Carolina, California, Illinois, Michigan, Texas as well as Mexico.

Mixed Vegetables

Artichokes: ESCALATED, EXTREME (ON SOME SIZES) Overall supplies are still light. The markert has hit the extreme trigger on the 12-24ct. Quality is good.

Arugula: Supplies and quality are both good.

Asparagus: ESCALATED Southern/Northern Baja production has remained the same this week, still heavy on smaller sizes. The Central region continues to wrap up their production due to seasonality. Peruvian volume continues to improve, but mostly with smaller sizing. Southern Peru has started to harvest. Their production should be available in the next 7-10 days. White asparagus continues to be limited until November. Markets continue to be less active on smalls and standards, more active on large, XL and jumbo.

Bok Choy: ESCALATED Quality is good, but supplies are still limited. The light supplies will keep the market escalated.

Broccoli/Broccoli Crowns: ESCALATED Quality and supplies continue to improve but some growers are still seeing lighter supplies, which is keeping the market slightly escalated.

Broccolini and Sweet Baby Broccoli: Quality and supplies are good.

Brussels Sprouts: ESCALATED The outlook for supplies is improving. The market is still escalated, but is no longer extreme and is trending down as volume is increasing. Quality is good. We should see more relief as supplies improve.

Carrots: (JUMBOS, MEDIUMS and CELLOS): Steady supplies continue with good quality. Supplies from Mexico are improving.

Cauliflower: EXTREME Quality is okay, and the supplies will be lighter for the next few weeks. The market is currently at the extreme trigger. Some growers will be holding to averages.

Celery: Quality and Supplies are okay. There are some heat issues and insect pressures.

Cilantro: ESCALATED The market is active and supplies are very tight. High demand has continued. Growers should be able to cover normal volumes.

Corn: WATCHLIST Supply is hit and miss in the east due to transitional gaps and poor quality is prevalent due to insect pressure. In the west, supply is stable. Markets remain firm this week.

Fennel: ESCALATED The fields are seeing lower yields and therefore there is a shortage in supply. Pricing will stay escalated until supplies improve.

Garlic: New crop California Garlic has started. The quality is very good with very good demand.

Ginger: Supplies and market are steady

Green Cabbage: Supplies are steady with very good Quality. Demand is good.

Green Onions: EXTREME Due to the extreme heat we have seen over the past few weeks, the supplies have gotten very short on green onions. Prices remain escalated, and many growers will be holding to averages. Supplies are very tight.

Mushrooms: **ESCALATED** Supply was lighter this week, particularly on Cremini's. In the west, growers from Canada to California are dealing with supply shortfalls across the entire category due to weather impacts as well as virus pressure. We expect to see improved availability in approximately six weeks.

Napa Cabbage: ESCALATED Quality and supplies are improving.

Parsley: ESCALATED (Curly, Italian): Supplies are improving quality is fair.

Rapini: Quality is good, but supply continues to be light. The market is strong and therefore the supplies will continue to be light.

Red Cabbage: ESCALATED Pricing is escalated, and quality is good although supplies continue to be tight. Market remains very active, but things do seem to be improving.

Spinach: WATCHLIST Quality is good, but some growers are seeing very tight supplies due to soil temperature and germination. Expect to see some prorates.

Spring Mix: Supplies are good with very good quality.

Snow Peas and Sugar Snaps: ESCALATED Guatemalan snow peas production continues to improve. We should see an increase in sugar snap peas next week. Peruvian peas are available in Miami, but recent quality is a concern. Markets are less active, with more peas becoming available. Out of the west, the supply of snow peas is steady, while sugar snap peas remain limited due to lower yields in production.

Onions: ESCALATED

There is a high demand anticipated for the upcoming week to meet the supply. Production in California has decreased, as some summer shippers have already completed their deals. The recent high temperatures may lead to quality issues. Washington started in a very small way on yellow and reds. The initial size profile is expected to be on the smaller side, which is typical for early varieties. New Mexico is also experiencing a small onion profile currently, resulting in an increase in the price of jumbo yellow onions. Late varieties are generally more visually appealing than early varieties. New Mexico will end for the season in the next 5-7 days. By the beginning of September, we will transition to Idaho and Washington.

Potatoes:

The market continues to feel stable on all sizes and grades for the moment. We continue to see 40ct/50ct/60ct remaining tight. They are available in mixer quantities, but heavy volumes do not seem to be available now. Smaller size potatoes continue to remain plentiful and challenging to move. There is not much further for the market to fall here, as growers are at the point where it would not make any financial sense to pack them at lower pricing levels. While relief was widely expected for this coming year, nobody thought the FOBs would be quite as low as they currently are. At this point, there does not seem to be a scenario where the market turns around any time before the Summer. The positive news is that quality is strong throughout the state, and there should be no shortage of available products in all sizes and grades. In fact, there will likely be an overlap of this year's current crop into next year so next year could unfortunately be a tough year for grower returns as well.

Tomatoes: East Coast

- **Round Tomatoes: ESCALATED** Supply is stable this week on greens and VR's across all eastern producing regions. With the additional volume in the east and more volume in the west, there seems to be more of a balance this week in the market. Good availability across the larger sizes with quality much better as well. We still recommend subbing to romas as we see volatility in the round market continuing through November.
- **Roma Tomatoes**: Good supply available this week. Quality is outstanding.
- Grape Tomatoes: Good supply available this week. Quality is outstanding.
- **Cherry Tomatoes:** Supply is stable with moderate demand. Quality is good.

Tomatoes: Mexico

- **Round Tomatoes: ESCALATED** Growers are dealing with quality and supply issues out of Jalisco; the best quality is being harvested on the Baja. We are seeing much better volume crossing in Otay this week. Sizing is off a tad with larger fruit being the shortest. We expect to see volatile markets continue through October where we will see flushes of fruit then tighten back up once again until November. We recommend subbing to romas to avoid supply interruptions.
- Roma Tomatoes: Good supply available in Otay, Nogales and McAllen this week. Quality is outstanding
- Grape Tomatoes: Good supply available and quality is very nice.
- Cherry Tomatoes: Steady supply and good quality available crossing through McAllen and Nogales.
- **Medley Grape Tomatoes:** Good supply available this week and quality is good.
- **Tomato on the Vine:** Steady volume available this week.

California Tomatoes – EXTREME

• There will be more fruit available this week as growers break newer blocks and hopefully bring some stability to the market for the next few weeks.

Other Fruit:

Apples: Washington State Apple Crop continues to produce good supplies and good quality products. The Core Varieties, Reds, Golds, Galas, Fujis, Gr Smiths, and Honeys, will make it to a new crop. Galas are down 600,000 boxes from last year, but the state still shows availability that will likely last for the new crop.

Pears: The crop appears to be 5 weeks from being finished for the Season. The Bosc Crop is finished for the Season, and Red Anjous should be done in the next 4 weeks. Northwest Bartlett Crop should start around August 8th, leaving us about a 2-week gap between old Anjous and New Crop Barts. The Wenatchee Valley Pear crop was devastated due to freezing temps in February. The Yakima Valley and Hood River Growing Regions were hurt but not nearly as badly as Wenatchee. Bottom line – Pear crop will be extremely tight the entire `24/'25 season.

Cherries: Almost done for the season.

Tree Fruit: Lighter supply available as the season winds down on peaches and nectarines. Good volume available on red and black plums.

Kiwi Fruit: Supplies are tight out of Chile and markets are firming up.