# Sysco Market Corner

Published on: September 27, 2019

Ingredients for your success

# **Hot News**



#### **Seafood**

The Maine lobster harvest is significantly behind driving the market higher. 5% increases to tariffs assessed on several seafood items imported from China to start in October.

#### Cheese

Cheese markets turned right back around from last week's 5-year high to trade at seasonal expectations.

#### **Pork**

There is a new case of Asian Swine Flu overseas, and hog exports are expected to increase, which will likely drive hog markets higher in the near future.

### Seafood

There are 5% increases to tariffs assessed on several seafood items imported from China to start in October.



# **Poultry**

The whole bird market is a bit stronger after hitting bottom. All breast markets were steady as retail features continue to struggle with the sale of breast meat. Overall wing demand should hold steady as we move deeper into their peak seasonality. Tenders are steady but will continue to react to the breast market.



# Grains/Oils

Following last week's jump in the soybean oil, traders started to relax and those high levels have moved back down, but still remain higher. This has taken Canola and palm higher, too. Markets are expected to move lower, though as crude oil has moved lower. Soybean harvest is just now starting and Canola harvest is moving along.



### Beef

Harvests have been smaller recently, allowing inventory levels to adjust without much of a drop in the markets; however, Prime, Choice and higher grade product markets are higher. Ribs are higher due to availability. Tenders are flat, but cooler temps and the upcoming holidays, hint at higher markets. Loins have dipped as demand has fallen as has ground beef attracting retailers.



# Dairy

Block and barrel cheese markets have fallen since last week. The market has moved back to seasonal levels. Cream availability varies from region to region for churning moving butter slightly higher. Seasonal butter demand is expected to increase. Milk and cream markets are higher. Egg markets are lower based on good supply.



#### Pork

The whole hog market is steady as there are many hogs for harvesting; however, there is a new case of Asian Swine Flu which will likely drive hog markets higher due to exports. Export demand is driving butts higher. Loins are steady, but supply is waning. Bellies seem to have found there bottom and looking to move higher into October.



#### Seafood

The Maine seasonal lobster harvest is significantly behind, driving the market higher and likely to continue this trend, putting pressure on warm water tails, driving this market higher. The salmon market is steady to weak as European whole fish availability is ample. Domestic scallop markets are slightly higher but supply is good.

# Sysco Warket Corner

**Published on: September 27, 2019** 

## Ingredients for your success

# Top Produce Items

#### **Asparagus**

The market is coming down as volume continues to improve from Mexico and Peru. Quality is good to very good.



#### **Avocados**

Mexico is the main supplier to the U.S. and currently harvesting two blooms with a good mix of sizes, as #2's are still fairly tight.

#### **Limes-Alert**

The lime market continues to adjust as availability improves on 200s and larger. Additional inbounds from Colombia and Guatemala have contributed to the perception that market has peaked and will go back

#### **Mix Berries**

Blackberries: Supplies are down due to the production decline in CA. Blueberries: There are good supplies this week, but a supply gap is anticipated for about two weeks as we get through the transition to new growing regions. Raspberries: Market is unsettled due to high heat is causing a decline in production.

#### **Strawberry**

The high temps in Salinas and Watsonville, CA continue to affect production. Ranches are pulling out of production resulting in a slight shortage of supplies. Supplies will be light for a few weeks or until volume in the southern regions improves. The strongest quality continues to be out Oxnard.

#### **Broccoli** -Alert

Broccoli quality is fair with visible brown bead, hollow core, and mildew. Occasional blue-green color cast and some under-sizing in crowns. Supplies remain unsettled on commodity and value-added broccoli. Active markets are expected for the next 2-3 weeks. Broccolini is also now short in supply.

#### **Cauliflower**

Quality is fair to good with occasional yellowing and light mold present. The market is stronger this week as 9cts are very tight with 12cts average at best. Field reports next week will be

#### Melons

The cantaloupe market is steady, and quality is good. Honeydews are in good supply and quality, and the market is steady.

#### Citrus

The lemon market is steady, but demand is strong on large sizes. Small sizes are becoming more readily available and quality is improving. The orange market is increasing on small sizes but steady on large. Quality is fair to good with re-greening and scarring being seen. Navels are starting in November.

#### **Lettuce Leaf**

Markets remain unsettled. High temps may affect quality and availability in the coming weeks. Iceberg: Quality is poor to fair, with under-sizing, sunburn, seeder, mildew, and dehydration. Leaf: Quality is fair, with seeder, misshape, insect damage, and tip burn. Romaine: Poor to fair quality

#### **Onions**

The market is steady with Super and Colossal sizes demanding premium on tighter supplies. Sporadic rain is expected which could slow harvest and put pressure on the market.

#### **Peppers**

Good supplies and quality in the East on green bells. Stronger demand in the West. Good supplies and quality on colored hells

#### Broccoli

Supplies remain unsettled on commodity and value-added broccoli. Broccolini is also now very short and limited in supply for next week.

#### **Iceberg and Romaine**

Markets are unsettled due to quality issues and less usable yields coming out of the fields. Expect the markets to remain stronger as we head into the fall transition.

#### Limes

Extreme heat and lack of rain has affected the quality and size of limes. Larger sizes are very tight, with 230 and 250ct volume slightly better.

#### **Green Onions**

Quality is fair as high heat and humidity from monsoons and tropical storms affect production. Sizing is coming in very small at this time as well.

#### **Salinas Valley Heat Advisory**

Temperatures in the Salinas Valley are warming up again. Several crops will be impacted. Look for next week to have more detailed updates on each commodity.

#### **Tomatoes**

East: VA's autumnal crop is producing steady round and grape volume but expected to finish in the next 2-3 weeks. TN volume is steady on romas and rounds. Quality is good. West: Northern CA round fruit is steady, but quality is inconsistent among growers. Mexican volume is steady on all varieties with no quality concerns.

