

## market update



09 Jan 2024

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North Island	The major markets are now in a more normal buying cycle as we are back to a standard five day working week – at least for some. Market sentiment has been described as steady, quiet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays then picking up towards the weekend.  Rots have been largely non-existent this season, until one line seen today.  Last week the temperatures in Bay View and the important Twyford area were good but not overly hot, which has slowed the ripening rate in those areas. Longlands was warmer again which has kept fruit maturity moving. Bay View has accumulated 731 growing degree days (GDD), and Twyford, 669. The Longlands station is now at 815 units, which is as good as it gets. This week coming, there is mild and hot days predicted with 35-50mm of rain for this time next week. This will be a similar amount to that which will be lost through evapotranspiration in that week.
South Island	Central Otago GDD are now about average in Ettrick and very good for the other stations. The range is from 459 to 523 at Rockview, and there was no rain last week. Central has rain in the forecast, with 35-40 mm to fall over the weekend. Temperatures are set to be mild and even cool on a couple of days.

cherries LOW MED HIGH

- Central Otago has many different varieties being picked at this stage. There are plenty of Lapins available with varieties such as Sweetheart, Romance and Regina, Kordia and Rainier. Skeena is still to come.
- ➤ There are good volumes available and that should continue for a while yet.
- Some Central Otago growers will be finishing harvest by the weekend and others in another week. Supply will continue until the end of the month from the later and non-traditional areas.

apricots LOW MED HIGH

- The last of Hawkes Bay Clutha Gold and Kyoto have been picked, packed and shipped to market. This leaves the market to the good volume of Central Otago supply.
- Varieties available include Sundrop, a little Kyoto, Orange Red and Clutha Sun from Central Otago. Clutha Gold will be about 10 days away.
- Small fruit size has again been flagged as a factor. Large fruit will find a ready market. There is some blemish from wind rub.

nectarines Low MED HIGH

- From Hawkes Bay, classic style Firebright, Red Gold and Sunglo are available now in light volumes. Honey style nectarines such as Majestic Pearl, Mid Star and Honey Royale are being picked with Late Star harvest expected mid next week. There should be good volumes of these for the next three weeks.
- > Moderate volumes of Central Otago nectarines such as Rose Diamond, Diamond Bright and Spring Bright will start next week.

peaches LOW MED HIGH

- > Tropical Candy and Sweet Dream are being picked now but in lower volumes than previous years as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle. These peaches will be available for two weeks. Donuts are on the shelves with Flattos from Central Otago due next week. Classic flavoured Velvet Sister, Flamecrest and Doris are about to start harvest, with a bit of Rich Lady still available. Scarlet O'Hara and Tatura Belle continue to be picked. Early peacharines are being mentioned for harvest next week.
- Central Otago has very little fruit available this week.

plums Low MED HIGH

- Earlier plum varieties are becoming harder to sell as more favoured varieties such as Black Diamond, some early Fortune and then Primetime become available.
- > Other varieties available include Shiro, Black Amber and Red Beaut.

Market update by Richard Mills, Technical Advisor, Summerfruit NZ, email richard.mills@summerfruitnz.co.nz

Note: The information supplied is based on communication with summerfruit growers, marketers, retailers and other relevant industry parties Information supplied on cherries, apricots, nectarines, peaches and plums can alter after publishing due to unexpected weather events, market forces, and other events relevant to the industry. Seek daily advice on supply from your summerfruit supplier.