



25 JANUARY 2018

North Island	It's been a little less intense this week for Hawkes Bay orchardists but everyone is still keeping their eyes on temperatures. Growers are having a hard time remembering a summer with similar conditions. Hot days and a fair bit of humidity are making sure no grower is relaxing until the fruit's in and packed. Late Hawkes Bay plums are 2-3 weeks away. Golden Queen peaches will follow on from Golden Belle.
South Island	It's fair to say it's been a little challenging for Central Otago growers – the intense and continual hot days teamed up with hot nights, are understandably having an impact on fruit, especially apricots. No respite for the trees means that growers are doing all in their power to get fruit to the market in the best possible condition. That said, the season's all but finished for apricots and cherries – so last orders now please!

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
Greatly reduced numbers available. Growers have finished picking now, and after the final pack outs, the cherry season will be over by the weekend. Harvesting and grading equipment will be cleaned, sorted and packed away. Main message: The next 10 days is your only chance – after this, the door will be slammed shut on the 2017-18 season.			
➤ Sweetheart/Staccato – from CO; if your customers love cherries – order as much as you can this week.			

apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
Central Otago apricots are in ample supply this week but their time is coming to an early end – due to so many weeks of excessive heat. Growers are doing their utmost to get fruit to retailers in the best condition.			
➤ Moorpark – from CO; available for two weeks. Not the greatest looking but it's a favourite for those who enjoy bottling.			
➤ Clutha Series – from CO; will be available for another two weeks.			
➤ Nevis – from CO; a late apricot, will be available from next week.			

nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
Hawkes Bay's nectarines are all but done for the season. Central Otago nectarines are available now, and are available in both yellow and white-flesh varieties.			
➤ Red Gold/Fantasia/August Fire/Orion/Venus/Summer Bright – from HB + CO; available now.			
➤ Late Star – from HB; finished harvesting but will be available in markets all next week.			
➤ Bright Pearl/Fire Pearl – from CO; white-flesh. Available now and building in volume.			

peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
To match the golden weather, there are ample supplies of golden peaches to enjoy. With all the heat, these beautiful peaches have superb sugar levels. Some are saying it's the best eating experience for peaches in years.			
➤ Elegant Lady/Flamecrest/Glowing Star – from CO; picking now and available next week.			
➤ Coconut Ice/Scarlet O'Hara – from HB; white-flesh. Still available on the market floor, but will be the last of HB's harvest.			
➤ Golden Belle/Golden Tatura – from HB; full on now – good volumes for another two weeks.			

plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
Plenty of options on the plum front this week. Consistent volumes are moving through stores.			
➤ Primetime – from HB; good volumes, but Hawkes Bay crops will lessen from next week.			
➤ Fortune – from HB + CO; red skin, yellow flesh. Good volumes. Will go for another few weeks.			
➤ Greengage – from HB; starts next week. Small volumes but high prices expected. Strong export interest.			
➤ Black Doris – from HB; decent numbers coming in this week.			
➤ Omega – from HB; starts next week. Another old favourite and sought after by many.			
➤ Amber Jewel – from HB; this will probably be the last week of sales.			

Market update by Denise Landow, NZ Market Reporter, Summerfruit New Zealand, email denise@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.

