



market update



28 December 2022

North Island	<p>Is summer arriving? Last week, the pre-Christmas week, was very good for retail in the produce sections, of which Summerfruit was a significant contributor. Cherries sold very well and there are good volumes to be bought this week and into next. We will be interested to observe what happens to the cherry volume once exporting gets under way in earnest. With the increase in temperatures there is hope that retail sales will pick up again at the weekend and as people return after new year.</p> <p>Fruit external quality continues to pleasantly surprise considering the amount of rain up till now. A function of growers working hard and a supply chain that has not needed to store fruit.</p> <p>Hawkes Bay is soon to move into 'main crop' varieties with more volume but just for now there is a bit of a hole in supply. Last weeks accumulation of growing degree days (GDD) was better but the season long calculation is still low. This week is predicted to have mild temperatures, be dry with considerable cloudiness. This will translate to being able to manage the picking and packing in a tidy manner.</p>
South Island	<p>Marlborough now has average GDD, is expecting a mild and sometimes hot and dry week. A perfect finish to their season.</p> <p>The Central Otago summer seems like it has arrived or is about to. The GDD are now at a good normal level. This week will be at worst warm and at times hot. There is no real rain in the forecast. One of the weather forecasters is suggesting that 'abundant sunshine' is now the order for this coming week. While cherry harvest will be full on, there is also a smattering of apricot, nectarine, peach and plum starting to be picked. All of this volume will remain close to home, mainly in the gate sale operations.</p> <p>Last year was a boomer for gate sales and this year has reportedly started in the same manner.</p>

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hawkes Bay is finished harvest. ➤ Marlborough is tidying up the last of the Lapins and Stella. I thought last week would be the final pick, but there is just a little still pack. ➤ There are good volumes of fruit being delivered to markets, not always on time but there is no shortage of fruit. Some are picking Dawson, some are still waiting to start. Fulfur, Sonnet, Santina and Samba sales should be finishing. Stella and Bing are staving for some while others are at the end of these varieties. Most of the Lapins will be under way next year. 			
apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Apricots continue to be in very short or even non-existent supply. Clutha Gold and Kyoto are being tidied up and finishing in Hawkes Bay. We are guessing that there has been about 1/10th of the normal volume. ➤ Sundrop and Gabriel from Central Otago is colouring but not really ready to go in most orchards. The early maturing blocks have begun. Next week should see a ramping up of volume available. 			
nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We are about ¾ of the through Spring Brite sales and at the end of Honey Fire sales. Gaylene as well as the white fleshed Mayliss, Crystal and Pearl available. This weekend will see some volume of the Honey Nectarine Mid Star become available and Firebrite will add to the portfolio soon. ➤ Next week, AKA next year, there will be Honey Royal from Hawkes Bay and maybe some volume from Central Otago. 			
peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mellow Yellow, the first of the non-melting golden peaches is for sale now and the first Golden Belle from early areas is perhaps 7-10 days away. Once they start there should be good volumes of Golden Peaches available. ➤ Lady Red is in full swing, while Rich lady and Improved Flavorcrest are coming to an end. Spring Lady is available in light volumes. The early varieties such as Spring Crest and Spring White are being picked in Central Otago and going straight to gate sales. ➤ Next week should see the start of Honey Peach, Flamecrest and then Scarlet O'Hara. 			
plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Purple Majesty harvest is nearing the end of harvest and there are still Black Amber in market. ➤ Nibble picks of Fortune have started in Bay View. 			

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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.