



North Island

There is now a definite autumnal feeling in Hawkes Bay with only the harvest of the late plum variety Malone to come. The Mangaweka orchard has started harvest of its later varieties.

A comparison of the growing degree days shows how a 10% change can be so significant to having a fabulous growing season as Central Otago has seen, to a challenging season as seen in Hawkes Bay. Maybe this is why I keep an eye on this parameter. The data below is from 1 September 2022 to the present.

Area	GDD 2023	GDD 2022	Unit change	% change
Bay View	1206	1301	-95	92%
Twyford	1123	1302	-179	86%
Longlands	1275	1378	-103	93%
Renwick	1071	1121	-50	96%
Cromwell	964	941	23	102%
Clyde	977	882	95	111%
Roxburgh East	838	760	78	110%
Ettrick	943	869	74	109%

South Island

There are a solid 3 weeks of fruit still to be harvested. The cooler days and nights will slow progression of harvest, but this is seen as business as usual. A touch of short-lived snow has been seen on some of the tips of nearby hills.

The fruit in supermarkets from Central Otago and Waitaki looks exceptionally good, reflecting the hot dry growing season.

cherries

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Finished

apricots

LOW

MED

HIGH

- All finished apart from a very small cleanup of a late block. There is a little bit of fruit still to be delivered to smaller markets.

nectarines

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Nectarines are all from Central Otago now with a reasonable range still available. Supply is a little tight at present but is expected to build this and into next week.
- August Red and Bon Bon are currently being picked with August Fire to follow. Early blocks have started picking August Fire.

peaches

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Golden Queen harvest from Hawkes Bay is a trying situation. From Central Otago there Tatura Star available with Queens to follow soon.
- Peacharines are available from Central Otago and now from Mangaweka, although this North Island fruit might not yet have entered the supply chain.
- CalRed and Plus Plus are still available.

plums

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Hawkes Bay is selling the last of the Royal Star, and Malone harvest is about 1 week away. Mangaweka has now started picking Omega.
- From the later Central Otago harvest areas there are last deliveries of Freedom and harvests of Omega.
- Yellow fleshed Son Gold and Luisa are available in limited volumes.
- Angelino from Central Otago is still ripening on the trees and might still be a week away.

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.