Summerfruit	market update		
North Island	18 March 2020 For those that are still picking plums, Hawke's Bay can anticipate bits and pieces of rain in the coming week, some mild and warm temperatures with a possible 27°C maximum on Sunday. PET will be in the 2.5-4.5mm/day range.		
	Some folks are telling me there is almost enough peach and nectarine on offer and others that there is more on offer than they can sell. The consistent comment is that there are still too many plums and that the retail price has fallen back on last week.		
	Covid-19 is already messing with fruit in general. Some of the exported fruit goes on passenger planes that are no longer flying. For example, blueberries that were to go to Australia are looking for a home and there have been cancelled apple orders.		
South Island	Central Otago has had a dry week with mild daytime temperatures and cooler nights. More of the same is anticipated this week with bits and pieces of rain, PET in the 2-3mm/day range falling back to less than 2mm next week. The ground frost indicator on the Portal had a 60-80% chance for frost on Tuesday, 17 March.		
	Some supply that was due to be drip-fed to the market is now being offered in total – a bird in the hand I have been given confusing market information today, something we should not be surprised about. I guess the silver lining for the summerfruit industry is that we are all but finished, but the stories for individuals could be more interesting.		
cherries	LOW MED HIGH		
All finished.			
apricots	LOW MED HIGH		
	cots are finished, but they can still be found on a few shelves. I have been waiting to say that's it; but n giving. This fruit is looking good and eating well and retailing at around \$8/kg. Probably ex-export fruit.		

nectarines

> Nectarines are all now from South Island supply.

Summer Blush is still available. August Fire and August Red are now under way and should be available for up to three weeks.

Nectarines are still selling reasonably well with most, but not all, orders being filled. On average supply and demand are in a similar space.

MED

peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH	
<ul> <li>From Central Otago there are Tatura Star, Cal Red, Flatto and Plus Plus, but not for much longer.</li> <li>As with the nectarines, peaches are selling reasonably well still.</li> <li>We have peacharines supply from both Central Otago and Mangaweka.</li> <li>On average supply and demand are in a similar space.</li> </ul>				
plums	LOW	MED	HIGH	
There are still plenty of plums available. There is now a combination of North and South Island supply of the same variety.				

Freedom is available from both Islands, and there is a little Omega to be packed still in Central Otago. Angeleno from Central Otago will be available in good volumes.

Royal Star from Hawke's Bay is nearing the end of harvest, but will be available for a while yet. This plum is dominating the Hawke's Bay stores.

Market update by Richard Mills, NZ Market Support, Summerfruit New Zealand, 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.