



market update



16 JANUARY 2019

Overview	Cherry supply is balanced now but will only have a couple of weeks to go. The season is finishing on a strong note in contrast to the difficult season for Hawkes Bay and Blenheim. Peaches are apparently selling well, as are the newer 'IP' nectarines. There has been comment that some fruit is eating well, but another fruit from the same line not so. Very hard to pinpoint the why of it, but maybe cool chain is implicated.
North Island	Rain early in the week has slowed down harvesting and is allowing stored fruit to be packed and shipped. We are not expecting any interruptions to supply. Size of peach is continuing to be big and is selling well.
South Island	The cooler than normal nights are enabling cherry harvest to proceed with some control. The large fruit are being picked at optimum maturity. The rain in Central has been variable across the district but seems to have not caused too much damage. Peach, nectarine and plum supply has not yet started.

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Otago fruit is big and firm and from what I have seen in the supermarkets looking pretty good. A retailer told me this morning that the punnets were moving quickly as he placed more on display. Lapins will be coming to an end, Sweetheart, Kordia and Sweet Valentine are being picked and packed now, with Staccato about a week away. Once the Staccato is picked it will indicate that the end is near for 2018-19 cherry harvest. 			

apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central Otago Sundrop and Dunstan are in retail stores and looking very good from the offering that I have seen. This fruit is looking good and eating well. Sundrop will be available for a little bit longer as we move over to Vulcan, Clutha Gold and Clutha Sun next week. As was the situation last season, export quality fruit is selling well. 			

nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Good orders are being received especially for the bigger, sweeter fruit. ➤ Spring Bright season has finished. ➤ A little Fire Brite and Red Gold nectarines are being sold at the end and beginning of their seasons, while Fantasia will start harvest at the weekend. ➤ Good volumes of the Hunny series are available, while the Classic series are coming to an end out of Hawkes Bay. Pearl series are a bit lighter on supply at present. ➤ Late Star is expected to start mid to late next week. 			

peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Old school varieties available include Rom Star, Velvet Sister and Flavourcrest. After the trees have dried there will be Elegant Lady and some Coconut Ice picked. Sweet Dream and Tropical Candy (Honey series) are available in good volume and will be available for a bit longer. ➤ Scarlet O'Hara is nearly finished and there will be a bit of a hole in the white flesh peach market for a few days. ➤ Tatura Belle (AKA Golden Belle) is getting the very occasional nibble pick. The industry is looking forward to this getting under way. 			

plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ From Hawkes Bay there is the remaining Black Amber, Black Diamond and Purple Majesty to move through the system. ➤ Hawkes Bay is in full swing with Fortune and Primetime and this scenario will last for another couple of weeks. ➤ Central Otago is selling the last of its Rose Zee and not anticipating harvest of Fortune for another 10-14 days. 			

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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.