



market update



30 November 2022

North Island

The more coastal areas of Hawkes Bay such as Bay View and Twyford have had lower than normal growing degree days (GDD), with more inland areas being very close to the five-year average. The coming week looks to be a continuation of last with mild to warm days, warm evenings and bits and pieces of showers. Cloudy is the dominant term in the forecasts and is what has been experienced for the last few weeks. It is still spring and we are looking forward to more settled growing conditions shortly.

The early varieties of apricot, nectarine and peach are largely picked and sales of those varieties will finish soon as we wait for the next tranche to become available.

There was more Summerfruit to be found in retail stores compared to last week – as one might expect. There seems to be sufficient people around for harvest at the moment.

South Island

Clouds are dominating both the Marlborough and Central Otago forecasts as well. GDD in both these areas is normal or close to normal, but the lack of consistent sunshine is again a little frustrating. There is no substantial rain in the forecast, and a few cold nights are still possible in Central Otago. Cherries are now being picked in both districts.

On-orchard jobs in Central Otago are being completed in preparation for the bigger picks to come. Harvest of main crop cherries are still thought to be behind last season even though the GDD is bang on normal.

cherries

LOW

MED

HIGH

- In Hawkes Bay Sonnet and Samba as well as the last of the Rosann are being picked and sent to market. Santina is starting to be harvested and will continue over the weekend. This variety seems to be showing the effects of a light crop and rainfall a few weeks ago. Growers are wondering when Lapins will be ready and whether it will last for the Christmas market.
- Blenheim is into the big picks of Rosann as well as harvesting Samba. Sonnet will start at the weekend and Lapins perhaps sometime next week. The helicopters have been flying again to dry fruit quickly and reduce the potential for splitting.
- Central Otago is now well into Burlat harvest as well as some Chelan to be picked soon or at the weekend. This fruit is now appearing in the North Island.

apricots

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Sales of the early varieties will finish soon, with Sundrop the next variety available. The poor set of all but the early varieties in Hawkes Bay suggest there will no real volume of apricots until Central Otago product comes on stream in the New Year.

nectarines

LOW

MED

HIGH

- MayGlo and Polar Light sales have now all but finished, with Armredark available. Diamond Bright and Rose Diamond is starting. There will be a bit of a hole in supply for a week until Early Star starts in about a week.
- More fruit that expected is being packed into punnets.

peaches

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Spring Crest and the very small volumes of Spring White are in the market with Spring Fire under way from early areas. The volume of Spring Fire will continue to build this week.
- June Lady and Spring Lady are still a week away.

plums

LOW

MED

HIGH

- Plums are not being talked about at all!

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.