



market update



12 January 2022

North Island	<p>Summer has arrived and settled in! The growing degree days are as good as they have been for the last 5 years with no rain. For this week coming Metservice is suggesting hot and then mild temperatures with some rain early next week. We shall see. Potential evapotranspiration will be in the 3.5-5.0 mm/day range.</p> <p>The supermarkets have big, red and good-looking fruit with only one rot across four stores. For the first time this season it all looked excellent.</p>
South Island	<p>Summer has settled into Central Otago as well. The GDD is easily the best in most of the stations we monitor and very good in the other. There was no rain last week although a little drizzle is predicted for the coming period. Temperatures will be mild and then hot again.</p> <p>Cherry supply has reached that stage of the season where there is now more than enough. From famine to royal feast as one of the correspondents quipped. We will keep an eye on how the high volumes of available cherries are impacting the other stone fruit prices.</p>

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- For the first time this season there is plenty of cherries for sale and there will be pressure to move what is being offered. This is a reasonably normal outcome and a bit of a shame as these varieties are very good eating.
- Lapins is coming to the end of harvest in many orchards with Sweetheart and Staccato is the variety dominating the offer. Some growers will be finishing cherry harvest soon and starting peach and nectarine harvest.

apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- The last bit of Kyoto is to be sold from Hawkes Bay.
- Sundrop from Central Otago is a good way though harvest now. Other varieties that will be picked soon, perhaps later next week include Clutha Gold, others in the Clutha series and Kyoto. A new variety mentioned to me is Sweet Suzie.
- There will be other newer varieties for a little bit yet but we can see the beginning of the last of the main stay varieties.

nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- There is good supply of the Honey nectarines and these are looking good on the shelves – big and red. Honey Royale and Mid Star are still being picked with Late Star to start next week. The volumes of classic style nectarine are a bit short at present. There is demand for these varieties if they were available. From Hawkes Bay there is Bright Pearl, Fire Pearl and Majestic Pearl, all white fleshed varieties, plus classic yellow fleshed Fire Bright, Sunglo, Red Gold and Ruby Diamond. Next week there will be some more Sunglo followed by Orion.
- Central Otago is picking Diamond Bright, Red Free and Spring Bright with Spring Red and Kay Pearl due next week.

peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- The white fleshed Scarlet O'Hara and Coconut Ice are under way. Yellow fleshed peaches available include Velvet Sister, Flamecrest and there could still be some Doris and Blazing Star to be found.
- The honey style Sweet Dream is being picked.
- Central is picking Improved Flavorcrest, Blazing Star and Mellow Yellow with Rich Lady soon.
- The first of the golden, firmed fleshed peach Tatura/Golden Belle is starting to become available.

plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Varieties available include Black Diamond, Black Amber, some early Primetime and Fortune. Amber Jewel will not be too far away from harvest. Purple Majesty is now finishing.
- Rose Zee from Central Otago is now being picked.
- The market for plums is different to last season. Volumes available are down and as a consequence the price has remained at a more sustainable level.

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.