



# market update



14 December 2021

<b>North Island</b>	<p>It feels as though someone has stolen summer and given us spring in lieu.</p> <p>This week is a lot like last week from the weather point of view. Hawkes Bay has had very good growing degree days, GDD, right up there with the best over the last 5 seasons, along with 40-50 mm of rain. This coming week we are expecting another 50 mm, mostly on Wednesday with bits and pieces to follow. The temperatures will be warm to hot with potential evapotranspiration in the 2 to 6.5mm/day range.</p> <p>For the first time I'm getting feedback that there are not enough workers, both on orchard and in sheds as well. Packers are grading hard to ensure keeping quality remains up to standard.</p> <p>Supermarkets are struggling to get enough fruit, especially cherries and strawberries, in this all-important week leading up to Christmas, while demand is being dampened by wet weather across the North Island. We are wondering if there will be a significant exodus of Aucklanders and what the implications on fruit sales might be. A confusing scenario.</p>
<b>South Island</b>	<p>Marlborough has continued accumulating very good GDD, has had a relatively dry week but is expecting another 60mm of rain in the coming period. Temperatures will be mild to warm with PET of 0.5 – 5 mm/day. There are now fewer workers in Marlborough with people moving south to Central Otago, and the growers here are highlighting that some more people are needed.</p> <p>Central Otago generally has another very good week of GDD accumulation, and is expecting another warm week. PET will be in the 2-5mm/day range. Unfortunately, there is 20 mm of rain in the forecast but the hope is that like last week the predicted rain will not happen. The number of available workers for picking and packing is causing some concern.</p>

<b>cherries</b>	<b>LOW</b>	MED	HIGH
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- There are not enough cherries reaching the shelves. Marlborough and Hawkes Bay volumes are being hampered by rain, early Central Otago varieties are lighter than ideal, although there is now enough to get some Central Otago fruit onto the North Islands shelves.
- From Hawkes Bay there is Modesto, Dawson, Lapins, Santana and Stella. Rainier may start soon from blocks with rain covers. Marlborough is harvesting Lapins and some Stella and beginning to think about Skenna and Sweetheart.
- Burlat from Central Otago should be finished, with Santana, Sonnet, and late blocks of Rosann available. Dawson is starting in some orchards but not in others. Some of the crops are earlier than we expected a week ago; light crop loads with warm moist conditions will do that. Those that focus on export are only just getting under way now.

<b>apricots</b>	<b>LOW</b>	MED	HIGH
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- From Hawkes Bay Royal Rosa is still on some shelves, and contrary to last weeks comments looked nice and clean, and is reported to be eating well. Sundrop harvest is now well underway and will underpin the market until Christmas when Kyoto and Cluthagold will be picked. Weather is disrupting the harvest meaning pickers don't turn up or go home early.
- Nibble picks of Royal Rosa will start soon in Cromwell and build from there.

<b>nectarines</b>	<b>LOW</b>	<b>MED</b>	HIGH
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- Early Star is the dominant classic style variety at present. Other varieties available are some left over Armredark, a few Pearls, Diamond Brite, Big Bang and Rose Diamond. Coming at the end of this week or soon after that, will be Mayliss, Ruby Giant and Honey Fire.
- Volume is generally starting to pick up.

<b>peaches</b>	<b>LOW</b>	MED	HIGH
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- Peaches to are still in short supply. Varieties available include Spring Fire, Spring White and Spring Lady, Coraline and the Donuts. Rich Lady will be available later in the week if it is not already.
- Look for small volumes of Spring White and Springcrest out of Centra Otago.

<b>plums</b>	<b>LOW</b>	MED	HIGH
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- Rose Zee is the dominant variety, along with a few Red Beaut and Wilsons Early plums. Purple Majesty will be picked at the end of the week or early next week.

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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.