



# market update



16 February 2022

<b>North Island</b>	<p>Is there a feeling of autumn in the air, or just a wet and cooler period during February that is making it feel that way? The growing degree days, GDD, are easily the best of the last few years in the non-coastal areas when we consider the year to date, but the curve has been flatter during this last week. That combined with yet more rain, high humidity for part of the week and then a couple of cooler nights – it's been a difficult week. There are now crops that might not get picked as the fruit is split or already fallen to the ground. A reality of fruit growing! This coming week should be mild and then warming with no rain. Potential evapotranspiration will be in the 3-4 mm/day range. This will be helpful for the fruit that has yet to ripen.</p> <p>Sales in general are said to be steady as we look at the tail end of the season. There has been a shift away from loose fruit to pre-packs from supermarket customers, likely a COVID-19 response.</p>
<b>South Island</b>	<p>Central Otago has had a dry week and the fruit that I observed was looking excellent. There might be some rain at the weekend, but otherwise it looks dry with mild temperatures. PET will be in the 2-5 mm/day range. This looks to be another good week for managing harvest in a season that is still running ahead of normal, and ahead of last year. Do we now need to redefine normal?</p> <p>As we start switch to autumn mode we will be watching for cold nights with parts of the region already recording a 3°C night time temperature.</p>
<b>cherries</b>	
	LOW      MED      HIGH
➤ There might be a tiny volume still to be found	
<b>apricots</b>	
	LOW      MED      HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The last of Clutha Gold will be in the logistics pipeline.</li> <li>➤ Nevis harvest in volume is just beginning. Supply should be good for the next two weeks which will include a little Vulcan.</li> <li>➤ There is some good looking fruit on the shelves.</li> </ul>	
<b>nectarines</b>	
	LOW      MED      HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ When August Fire finishes that will be the end of nectarine harvest for Hawkes Bay.</li> <li>➤ Central Otago is now picking a good range of nectarine varieties, and has a similar range to last week. These include the white fleshed Pearls, classic varieties such as Red Free, Red Gold, Fantasia, Orin, Venus, Summer Bright, plus Honey Water, Zephyr and Mid Star. Early blocks of Late Star will start harvest this week.</li> <li>➤ Quantities of white flesh nectarines will be good for this week and then finishing, yellow fleshed fruit will be well supplied for another two weeks and then start to taper off.</li> <li>➤ Flatto nectarines are available.</li> </ul>	
<b>peaches</b>	
	LOW      MED      HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Demand is good and volumes not being satisfied. I counted a grand total of 33 standard peaches in one supermarket this morning.</li> <li>➤ There might be a little yellow fleshed peach available such as Tropical Candy but generally there will be a hole in supply for a couple of weeks.</li> <li>➤ White Flatto and Gold Flattos are being picked and packed in Central Otago</li> <li>➤ The firm fleshed peach Golden Belle is being picked in Central Otago and Tatura Star is available from Hawkes Bay. Golden Queen harvest is due early next week in Hawkes Bay.</li> <li>➤ Peacharines might be hard to come by for a while due to the previous weather conditions.</li> <li>➤ Blackboy peaches have now started</li> </ul>	
<b>plums</b>	
	LOW      MED      HIGH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Fortune sales should finish mid next week.</li> <li>➤ Other varieties available include Amber Jewel, Autumn Honey, Freedom, Greengage, Omega (and Te Mata Gold), Red &amp; Black Doris, Louisa and Angelino. Fortune which is also available from Central Otago.</li> <li>➤ Flavour King pluots are being harvested.</li> <li>➤ Royal Star and Malone are still a wee way off yet.</li> <li>➤ There are plenty of plums to move and there is some demand.</li> </ul>	

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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.