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market update 18 January 2022 Summer is well and truly settled in. Growing degree days are either really good or the best they have been in the last four seasons. There has been no rain and the cyclone went past without any issues. A North Island southerly change coming early this week with a little rain predicted which could be a good thing. Potential evapotranspiration (PET) will be in the 3-5mm range for the next week. Picking and packing seems to be under control, all be it with some nervousness around labour availability. Summer has well and truly settled into Central Otago as well. The GDD's are easily the best in all of the stations we monitor with some of the harvest periods running 7 days ahead of the long-term average and these are similar to last season. Cherries are coming to the natural end of harvest with the peaches and nectarines continuing to ramp up. For the coming week there is a southerly change to go through with about 10mm of rain predicted and some lower night time temperatures. PET for the coming week will South Island also be in the 3-5 mm range. There may not be too much of an overlap between South Island and North Island supply. So, with there being a few gaps in supply from both main regions there is reason to be optimistic for the remainder of the season with regards to returns. Fruit stalls are still seeing lots of customers. cherries LOW MED HIGH Generally, there is about seven days or less of harvest go, and a little longer for stored fruit. Eating quality is really good as might be expected with the hot and dry conditions that have been experienced in the last three weeks. Those that have irrigation will be thankful. There is more fruit available than there is demand for but there is a lot of cherries being sold, all be it at lower prices. Lapins, Romance, Kordia, Sweetheart and Staccato are being offered. LOW MED HIGH apricots Sundrop harvest is largely complete. There is Vulcan, Clutha Gold and Clutha Fire available with some holding off Clutha Gold harvest to make sure the fruit is at eating maturity. Supply for next week is predicted to tighten. MED nectarines > There is good supply of the Honey nectarines and these are looking good on the shelves – big and red, as was the scenario last week. Classic style nectarines are short supply at present. From Hawkes Bay there is Fantasia, Venus, Red Gold, Sunglo, Orion, and Fire Bright but generally there are low volumes. Honey nectarines available include Mid Star, Honey Royale and Grand Candy. Late Star and Honey Glo will be starting soon. Central Otago is picking Spring Bright and Spring Red with a little white fleshed product starting to appear. Supply from here to is only moderate. MED peaches > The white fleshed Scarlet O'Hara and Coconut Ice are available. Velvet Sisters and Flamecrest are at the tidy up pick stage. The honey style Sweet Dream and Tropical Candy will be available for another week.

- Central Otago is picking Blazing Star, Mellow Yellow and Rich Lady with the first of Bright Princess being picked. Volumes  $\geq$ from here are expected to pick up sometime next week.
- The non-melting textured peach Tatura/Golden Belle is available. Supply will build as the week progresses.

plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
Varieties available include Primetime and Fortune. Black Doris with Amber Je	ewel soon availab	le from Hawkes	Bav. With

- Fortune now being picked there are reasonable volumes available. Promotions are helping to keep the category moving. Central Otago plums are not yet readily available, and so the market is being supplied from Hawkes Bay.

## 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.