



# market update



22 February 2022

**North Island**

Retail in general is said to be steady, with some stone fruit is still in over-supply and others undersupplied. Fruit from Hawkes Bay has insufficient shelf life in some cases and neither is Central Otago totally immune to brown rot either. With the still very good heat unit accumulation and bits of rain conditions remain challenging.

Last week the weather was mostly fine apart from a rain dump on Sunday afternoon. Depending on location between 8 and 16 mm in about 20 minutes. This week Hawkes Bay is expecting mild days and evenings and a few dribbles of rain. Potential evapotranspiration in the 3-4 mm/day range. All quite normal for this time of the year.

Most of the stonefruit growers have switched to apple harvest apart from the very late season plums which will be picked throughout March.

Sales are still happening as we look at the tail end of the season. Yet in some categories, such as standard peaches, if there was more it would get sold.

**South Island**

Central Otago too has had a little rain, in the order of 10-12mm on a single day but without the background rain events is still producing excellent fruit This last week saw cool, warm and hot temperatures and some almost cold evenings. The coming week looks to be similar with mild days, some cool evenings and maybe a few dribbles of rain. PET is expected to be in the 2-4 mm/day range which suggests that its still good fruit growing conditions. There is another 3-4 weeks of fruit harvesting still to come out of Central Otago.

**cherries** LOW MED HIGH

➤ Finished. Well almost as I did hear of one more arrival for this week.

**apricots** LOW MED HIGH

➤ The two Nevis varieties are still being picked, packed and shipped. I expect that there will be apricots for another 2 weeks, maybe more but not in large quantities.

**nectarines** LOW MED HIGH

➤ Hawkes Bay is now largely finished picking nectarines with the exception of August Fire.

➤ Central Otago is still picking a good range of nectarine varieties. The last of the Late Star, Orion, Venus, Fantasia, Red Gold and Zephur will be in the supply chain.

➤ Coming at the end of this week or next we will see August Fire and Bon Bon starting. Following those varieties there will be August Red.

**peaches** LOW MED HIGH

➤ Demand is still not being satisfied.

➤ Golden peaches will be mostly Tatura Star from Central Otago and Golden Queens from Hawkes Bay.

➤ There might be a little Sweet Dream about still and some O'Henry coming.

➤ Peacharines from Central Otago are on the way.

**plums** LOW MED HIGH

➤ Varieties available include Freedom, Louisa, Omega (plus Te Mata Gold) and Autumn Honey. There are still bits and pieces of early picked varieties around.

➤ Royal Star and Malone are still a wee way off yet.

➤ There are plenty of plums to move and there is some demand.

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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.