



market update



2 February 2022

North Island	<p>Last week we mentioned that market conditions were holding up but this week the sentiment is softer. Differing company policies are confining some to the office or home office. Buyers in some cases are not able to get onto the floor to view the fruit and are less inclined to buy site unseen. There might also be some consumer hesitancy when looking at economic forecasts.</p> <p>The Hawkes Bay weather stations have now accumulated over 1000 hours, 45-75 units up on last season at this time. This increase is more than the 40 units increase noted last week, so we are accumulating at an increasing rate. There was a little rain close to the coast last week, with very little further inland. There is more rain in the forecast, spread out over a few days. There are some very hot days coming for the second half of the week. Potential evapotranspiration could be up as high as 6 mm/day.</p>
South Island	<p>Renwick has accumulated growing degrees days at a fast rate as well and is now 100 units ahead of last season.</p> <p>Central Otago too is accumulating units at an increasing rate – there is good reason that the season is early. In spite of all the excellent heat unit accumulation trees are needing to be picked more often due to mixed maturity. There is a project here to look at the weather at flowering time as well as chilling accumulation.</p> <p>Last week was a mixture of hot and mild with a couple of cool evenings and a cool day as well. There was no rain apart from a dribble in Roxburgh. This week we are anticipating a cold spell on Friday bookended by warm and hot days, and cooler nights after Wednesday. PET will be around the 2-4 mm/day range.</p> <p>There might be some rain, with different models having different predictions. The range seems to be between 13 and 25 mm spread over a few days.</p>

cherries	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Cherries are still on the shelves
- Lapins and Sweetheart can still be found. Stock levels are now under control.

apricots	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Clutha Gold is the main variety being offered. Nevis could still be 5 days away from harvest. Supply will continue to tighten but is not going away for a little bit yet.
- There has been some export of apricots which is helping the supply stay moderate.

nectarines	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Demand for nectarines is steady with decreasing supply from Hawkes Bay and Central Otago yet to fully start. The honey style fruit is nearly gone, and the last of the classics from Hawkes Bay are selling out. We are now waiting for the likes of August Fire.
- Central Otago has Mid Star and Summer Bright available, a little Fantasia, Venus and some Red Diamond. In the next period we are expecting Red Gold, main picks of Fantasia, Summer Bright, Bright Pearl and Fire Pearl plus some Orion.

peaches	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Scarlet O'Hara and Coconut Ice, Sweet Dream, Tropical Candy and Flamecrest are available but only in tidy up volumes from Hawkes Bay.
- Central Otago is picking Sweet Dream, Flamecrest, Tropical Candy, Glowing Star and Rome Star. The last Lady Red is now being sold. Volumes should pick up next week.
- White Flatto peaches are selling now with the golden version available next week.
- Golden Belle is available and will be for a while with the early blocks of Star starting now. There is plenty of Golden Peaches available.
- Peacharine harvest will start next week in Hawkes Bay.

plums	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Varieties available include Primetime for another week, with Fortune, Black and Red Doris, Purple King, Louisa and Amber Jewel from Hawkes Bay. Fortune is also available from Central to complement the Hawkes Bay supply in coolstore. There is plenty of plums available. A couple of commentators said that demand had 'fallen off a cliff'.
- Greengages are now being picked and sent all over the country. Flavour Blast, Autumn Honey and Humdinger are to be picked next week.

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.