

Delica Produce Update

10th November 2011

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Australian Citrus: Navel crop has now finished. The Valencia crop has started harvest, however the fruit size is very small this season – peaking on the 113 size count.
ryan@delicaglobal.com

Australian Mangos: Very large crop of fruit this year, in contrast to last years mango crop that was mostly destroyed due to the wet weather. Quality appears to be excellent.
ryan@delicaglobal.com



Australian Plums: Plums set is light across all growing areas due to a cooler than normal spring. Size should be medium to large due to the light crop.
rodney@delicaglobal.com



Australian Cherries: There has been heavy rain the last few days however, cherry farms have managed to escape the worst of this. Size is good to medium across all southern Victorian growing areas. Harvest will start first week of December for export.
brent@delicaglobal.com



Australian Asparagus: We expect the Australian season to finish a little earlier than initially expected and volumes to be down around 15-20% on pre season forecasts. It is becoming clear now that the adverse weather conditions last spring / summer have caused considerable damage to the fields and as a result yields have been down dramatically this season. Even at this early stage we are failing to meet customer demand in key export markets, so opportunities for NZ and Peru offices will arise earlier than normal.
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Peru Asparagus: Production has been very strong in Peru lately with October typically witnessing the highest export volumes of any month in the year. This has taken its toll on traditional markets such as the USA, with prices reaching rock-bottom levels over this period. The Japanese market however, showed strong demand for Peruvian product following a variable start to the Australian export season. Demand from Asian markets has since slowed but will pick up again through December as Peru fills the gap in between Australian and Mexican seasons.
mike@delicaglobal.com

Argentina Blueberries: Argentina is in full production so prices are quite competitive. We are keen to lock in any promotions for the November period. So far logistics has been smooth and quality is good.
jose Luis@delicaglobal.com



Chilean Blueberries: Volumes from Chile are still limited with pricing quite high but improving every week. Exports are coming from the northern regions and moving south. There will be a significant increase in volumes from week 45/46, as harvesting of the central regions of the country begin. We estimate peak season for Chile in December and January months. There has not been rain in the last few weeks, so we expect to have good quality. Logistics will be difficult during late November and December due to cherry season in Chile.
maria@delicaglobal.com



Chilean Cherries: This season Chile is expecting a big volume of approximately 10-11 million boxes (5kg) for the season, probably more than last season's record volume if the good weather continues. At the moment the weather is very hot in Santiago, approximately 33 C, so some growers will harvest the early varieties at the end of Week 44/45 – however these varieties are principally for the Latin American market and not the right spec for Asia. Hopefully we will have some good quality cherries for Asia markets for shipping between 15-20 November. Volumes are always limited to start and prices high. Main season will be during December. Air freight will be limited so we will be doing a lot of sea/air shipments and some sea shipments where possible. It is very important to plan volumes in advance so please contact us ASAP to start planning!
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NZ Tomatoes: Our shipping programme has been going for the past month now to Australia and with good volumes leaving NZ shores. We will continue this through until mid next year. The quality of our tomatoes is wonderful across both loose and truss crops. We have good volume available and don't forget our amazing-tasting specialty varieties available. alanna@delicaglobal.com

NZ Blueberries: Blueberries have started but are only being sold locally and prices are very high. Due to a cold August, the crop is approximately 7-10 days behind. We expect export to start around the third week of December. anton@delicaglobal.com



NZ Summerfruit: At this stage in our main growing area Central Otago, there is a good sized crop of apricots and a medium sized crop of cherries (this will be good for size profile.) We also expect both apricots and cherries to be about a week late this year with export cherries to start around the 20th of December and export apricots around about the 12th of January. anton@delicaglobal.com

NZ Asparagus: We had a slow start to the season but we finally have a good flow of asparagus at hand. We have bunched and loose available and the quality is great. Our weather has been favourable for the asparagus over the past week and this is set to continue for some weeks. We have production thorough to December so please ensure you get in quick in November for December supply. alanna@delicaglobal.com



NZ Strawberries: It has been a rather slow start for NZ strawberry export this season. However, the quality of the berries is excellent. We are seeing good flowering with good size/shaped berries being picked. Production is coming through nicely and we are now servicing all our customers in all markets. Delica can offer customers three types of packaging. 12 x 250g, 8 x 454g (1lb) and 4 x 454g long stem berries. Promotions welcome during end of November to mid December. christine@delicaglobal.com



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North American Apples: Washington's ENZA apple programme is now firmly underway with Jazz and Pacific Rose started packing. Jazz colour this year is superb and eating quality is excellent, Pacific Rose is finishing harvest and we are lucky that mother nature stayed warm for long enough for the fruit to be picked before any cold weather damage arrived. Some of the later varieties this year like Fuji and Cripps Pink may not be so lucky. The delay in maturity will also have an effect on Red Delicious, with some fruit being picked under mature and some of the later fruit being susceptible to water core. tim@delicaglobal.com

North American Citrus: The Central Valley of California is just starting our citrus shipping season, and Delica is well positioned with top suppliers to begin shipping Navels, mandarins, lemons and Cara Cara as well as others to our customers abroad within the next two weeks. Early estimates and field inspections indicate a volume crop, peaking in middle sizes 88,113 and 72 with smooth skin texture, and the current growing conditions support production for solid, clean, sweet fruit quality. We will have weekly special offerings for all grades of fruit starting December 15th. kevin@delicaglobal.com

North American Mixed Berries: Growing region has now moved to Southern California / Mexico for the berries. Once the transition is complete the quality and price will stabilize. kazumi@delicaglobal.com

North American Strawberries: Growing region is transitioning to Southern California. We have year round supply however this region has less acreage and weather tends to be unstable this time of the year which can result in limited availability. kazumi@delicaglobal.com



North American Grapes: Approaching the end of the season for most varieties. Red Globes, some black and red seedless will be available until mid to end of November. kazumi@delicaglobal.com

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