



12 Feb 2025

Market conditions	<p>There is plenty of alternative fruit available, with the market in general being described as quiet with careful buying patterns. Others, however, describe it as a little more buoyant and ticking along compared to the past few weeks.</p> <p>Promotions have been running at prices that have seen good volumes of nectarine and peach sales. There is more cross-over between Hawke's Bay and Central Otago fruit than was anticipated a few weeks ago. Indeed, there is plenty of competition from the whole fruit bowl.</p>
North Island growing conditions	<p>Growing Degree Days (GDDs) are at best average, but often behind the past four years, which is an extension of the post-Christmas weather. GDD accumulation is better further from the coast, which is normal as the sea breeze takes longer to reach the inland areas.</p> <p>The coming week yet again looks to be cooler with maximum temperatures between 19°C and 21°C. There will be a dominance of cloudy southerlies and easterlies. Potential Evapotranspiration (PET) will be in the 3-4 mm/day range.</p> <p>Apart from plums, Hawke's Bay will be finished harvests with stocks of nectarines set to clear in about 10 days' time.</p>
South Island growing conditions	<p>Central Otago is not yet having consistently hot and dry weather, but it is pretty good. Last week's maximum temperatures ranged from 15°C to 32°C. The rain that was predicted did not arrive apart from 5mm in Ettrick.</p> <p>The coming week will see temperature maximums in the low to mid-twenties, no rain, mostly sunny conditions and PET in the 3-5mm/day range. These are good conditions for maturing and harvesting fruit.</p>
cherries	<p style="text-align: right;">Available fruit volume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LOW MED HIGH</p> <p>➤ After suggesting last week that there were only a couple of harvest days left, I was informed that there would be harvest from the higher altitude blocks for another two weeks. Volumes in supermarkets have now decreased to minimal stock, or nil in a few.</p>
apricots	<p style="text-align: right;">Available fruit volume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LOW MED HIGH</p> <p>➤ Skin marking is now being noted in all apricots from Central Otago.</p> <p>➤ Almost all the Clutha Gold variety is now picked, with Nevis 160 and SummerPassion (NZS2) harvest under way.</p> <p>➤ Nevis 180 and SummerBlaze (NZS3) will be the next varieties in a week.</p>
nectarines	<p style="text-align: right;">Available fruit volume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LOW MED HIGH</p> <p>➤ Late Star and Valentine sales will finish this week with August Fire sales continuing for another ten days. This will be the last of Hawke's Bay's nectarines.</p> <p>➤ Central Otago is picking a range of varieties including Mid Star, Venus, Fantasia, Orion, Red Gold and white fleshed varieties Zephre, Bright Pearl and Fire Pearl. Main picks of O'Henry and Late Star are 7-10 days away for some and a couple of days away for others.</p>
peaches	<p style="text-align: right;">Available fruit volume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LOW MED HIGH</p> <p>➤ Tatura Star is currently the Golden peach from Hawke's Bay, with Golden Queen not too far away. Peacharines sales are ticking along quite nicely.</p> <p>➤ In Central Otago, Flatto whites are finishing with Flatto Gold just starting. Other white flesh peaches offered include Honey Water, Southern Star, Coconut Ice and Southern Ice.</p> <p>➤ Yellow varieties available include Hunny-style Sweet Dream and Tropical Candy, plus classics such as Glowing Star, Rome Star and Flamecrest.</p>
plums	<p style="text-align: right;">Available fruit volume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">LOW MED HIGH</p> <p>➤ Plum volumes and variety continue to increase.</p>

- Te Mata Gold, Flavour Blast, Autumn Honey, Angelino, Freedom and Plum Dinga are available from Hawke's Bay.
- Greengage, Fortune, along with Amber Jewel are now being picked in Central Otago. Freedom harvest will start soon, and Black Doris is now just a few days away.

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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.