



# nz market update



18 Dec 2024

<b>Market conditions</b>	<p>Sales are said to be steady, with a little potential nervousness as we move into Christmas week, i.e. the week leading into Christmas Day. Wet days in Auckland have slowed momentum but there is no accumulation of summerfruit in stores or cool stores.</p> <p>The coming Sunday, Monday and Tuesday will be big volume days.</p> <p>There will be plenty of cherries for Christmas.</p> <p>However, some packers are having trouble getting adequate supplies of crates.</p>
<b>North Island growing conditions</b>	<p>Growing Degree Days (GDDs) are now normal for this time of the year at about 550 units since 1 September. There was no significant rain with a few days above 30°C last week.</p> <p>The coming week will be a welcome relief from the prolonged hot and dry conditions. Temperatures will be mild and warm, with periods of rain and cloudy days. Potential Evapotranspiration (PET) will be in the 2-6 mm/day range, reflecting the cooler forecast.</p>
<b>South Island growing conditions</b>	<p>The Renwick station in Marlborough now has accumulated the best GDDs of the last four seasons at 503 units and they recorded a little bit of rain as well. The coming week is anticipating mild day and evening temperatures, cloudiness, bits and pieces of rain, and PET in the 3-6 mm/day range.</p> <p>Central Otago GDDs are now 300 plus units, which is normal to slightly better than normal. Harvest timing is now close to what would usually be anticipated. There was a frost or near frost in some orchards last week, which is later than would be anticipated.</p> <p>The coming week will be warm, with a couple of cooler days, and cloudy. There is 30mm of rain in the forecast for the week, with PET in the 1-6mm /day range.</p>

<b>cherries</b>	Available fruit volume	LOW	<b>MED</b>	HIGH
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- There are plenty of cherries available and prices are changing to reflect this scenario.
- Hawke's Bay is cleaning up the last cherries now. The varieties include Modesto, Lapins, Rainier and Sweetheart. It's been a very good season for the Hawke's Bay growers.
- Some of the Marlborough orchards have also finished. There are a few Stella, Lapins and Sweetheart to clean up. This will be complete before Christmas Day.
- The Central Otago harvest is well underway, with only the late blocks to start, although they too are very close. Varieties being picked include Chelan and Fulfur, Sonnet® and Samba, with Santina® now starting. Quality is said to be very good although smaller than ideal. Next week will see volumes of Sonnet®, Samba, Dawson and Sam come through.

<b>apricots</b>	Available fruit volume	LOW	MED	HIGH
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- Hawke's Bay Sundrop sales are finishing and Clutha Gold will soon. Next week, limited volumes of Trevatt and Kioto® will be picked.
- Central Otago is picking Summer Spark, the newly named NZSummer 4 variety, and Castlebright. Bigger volumes of Sundrop will be picked in the new year.

<b>nectarines</b>	Available fruit volume	LOW	<b>MED</b>	HIGH
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- Sales of Spring Brite will be finished by the weekend, with Diamond Bright and Early Star sales finished by Christmas. Mid Star harvest will begin soon with some in store by Christmas and into the New Year.
- White nectarines such as Maylis are available in good volumes, as is Queen Giant with Chrystal volumes building. Firebright and KW13-1 will be the next to be picked.

<b>peaches</b>	Available fruit volume	<b>LOW</b>	MED	HIGH
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- The supply of peaches is still tight. Rich Lady is the main variety available, with Improved Flavourcrest and Golden Belle coming soon. Honey peaches will be available in the new year.
- Some Spring Crest and Spring Lady are being harvested in Central Otago.

<b>plums</b>	Available fruit volume	LOW	<b>MED</b>	HIGH
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- Rose Zee is still on some shelves. Black Diamond is still on shelves as well, but there is a slight lull in harvest. Purple Majesty is available in reasonable volumes, with the start of Fortune before Christmas.
- The Red Beaut harvest has started, or will start, at the end of this week in Central Otago.

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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.