

MARKET NEWS

A surplus of stored grape juice and low demand for juice products are driving down the price of grapes. The grape market was adversely affected by the perception that juice is a high sugar, high calorie drink and therefore unhealthy, reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

Iowa farmers are holding on to more corn and soybeans, hoping that low prices increase later this year. Farmers are in the midst of a near-record harvest, with corn forecast at 13.6 billion bushels, the third-largest crop ever, and soybeans at 3.9 billion bushels, the second-largest, reported *Des Moines Register*. [Full Story](#)

The 2015 dry bean harvest crop is looking strong in spite of earlier hail and excessive rain in some areas, according to farmers. Yields are averaging 40 bushels with price quotes of \$20 for pintos and \$18 for Great Northerns, reported *Agnet.net*. [Full Story](#)

Mangos exported to the U.S. from Mexico, Brazil and Ecuador reached about 759,500 boxes for the week ending Oct. 2, an increase of about 8.7% compared to the same period in 2014, according to the National Mango Board. Year-to-date, Brazilian shipments totaled about 3.9 million boxes for the season, a 39.3% increase compared to the same time period last year. [Full Story](#)

Dry conditions caused by El Nino are expected to increase global rice prices, reversing a downward trend. Rice stocks of the world's five largest producers, including the U.S., are expected to fall to 30 million metric tons in 2015 with the possibility of reaching 22 million metric tons in 2016, reported *The Wall Street Journal*. [Full Story](#) (WSJ Subscription Required)

Maine fishermen agreed with regulators' plan to place restrictions on the scalloping industry to ensure the fishery keeps rebuilding. Additional protections along the state's southern coast include closing some spots to fishing and reducing the number of fishing days from 70 to 60, reported *Press Herald*. [Full Story](#)

California processing tomato deliveries totaled 13.6 million tons through Oct. 3, according to the California Processing Tomato Advisory Board. Deliveries dropped sharply due to scheduled factory closures. Late season premiums are in now in effect, with packers paying \$9.00 over the current CTGA set price of \$80.00 per ton. [Full Story](#)

Idaho onions are priced nearly twice as high as last year. Size and yield are expected to be down due to a severe heat wave during the growing season with a 50-lb. bag of jumbo onions valued around \$8, compared to about \$4.50 at this time last year, reported *Idaho Statesman*. [Full Story](#)

Iowa was able to combine 32% of the state's soybean crop and 13%

of its corn acres, according to USDA. Minnesota farmers were able to harvest more than one-third of soybean and sugar beet crops as the state's soybean harvest jumped to 69% and the sugar beet crop is 52% complete.

[Full Report](#)

Louisiana sugar cane farmers expect an average year for the crop even as the price of sugar cane begins to rise due to unsteady weather conditions. While sugar content is good, farmers are still trying to predict the tonnage of the crop, with prices currently at about 24.5 cents a pound for raw sugar, reported *Daily Comet*. [Full Story](#)

Cattle futures continued to fall due to the largest cattle herd expansion in history. Record high beef prices, combined with falling demand and rising supply, will likely lead to price drops, with some analysts expecting a price drop-off of up to 50% over the next few years, reported *Forbes*. [Full Story](#)

NFMS reallocated unused amounts of the 2015 Atka mackerel incidental catch allowance for the Bering Sea subarea and Eastern Aleutian district to cooperative allocations in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands management area. The action was deemed necessary to allow the 2015 total allowable catch of the fish to be harvested. [Full Notice](#)

Recent rains didn't damage Iowa's pumpkin crop, according to an official at the Iowa Department of Agriculture. Heavy rainfall caused rot in crops in other areas of the U.S., including Illinois, traditionally the top-producing state for pumpkins, reported *Washington Times*. [Full Story](#)

Historic rainfall in South Carolina will likely reduce harvest volume by another 20%, with growers in the region already reporting harvests down 50% due to drought earlier this year. Growers expect delays in harvesting peanuts, soy beans and grain sorghum, reported *Southeast Farm Press*.

[Full Story](#)

Supplies of Florida-grown sweet corn and green beans may be lower than usual at the beginning of the season, but other crops harvested in the state should reach average totals. Grower-shippers expect higher than normal demand following early October losses in South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

Texas citrus growers predict expanding acreage within the state over the next several years. The state currently boasts an estimated 28,000 acres of citrus groves, but many in the region believe that number could rise above 30,000 within two or three years, reported *The Produce News*.

[Full Story](#)

The Illinois pumpkin crop may be stretched to meet holiday demand. Canned pumpkin manufacturer Libby believes crop yields could be down one third, but is confident autumn demand will be met, reported *St. Louis Post Dispatch*. [Full Story](#)

Post-Dispatch. [Full Story](#)

Farm income in the U.S. will continue to be challenged by a confluence of global economic factors through 2016, according to the Quarterly Rural Economic Review from CoBank. The report cited mounting supplies of grain and oilseeds, the U.S. dollar's continued strength and slowing growth in China as reasons farm income will not rise. With inventories growing, crop prices are expected to stay near current levels well into 2016, with weak crop prices continuing to aid ethanol producers as well as the animal protein and dairy sectors. [Full Story](#)

Norwegian seafood exports showed year-on-year growth 7% in 2015. Strong salmon demand in the EU and the U.S. and more cod purchases by Portugal accounted for much of the growth, reported *Norwegian Seafood Council*. [Full Story](#)

NOAA's Chesapeake Bay Office confirmed Atlantic menhaden sustainability. The fish were deemed unhealthy in 2012, which resulted in a 20% reduction of the harvest coastline, reported *WTRF*. [Full Story](#)

Wholesale egg prices and wholesale turkey breasts from male birds are 42% higher than a year ago as a result of the avian flu. Minnesota turkey industry output won't be back to normal until at least the end of first quarter 2016, if not the middle of the year. Recovery could take even longer if the avian flu returns in the fall, reported *Minneapolis Star Tribune*. [Full Story](#)

Wisconsin's potato crop is estimated to be one of the best ever, with excellent quality and above-average yields. Crop yields could average 440 to 460 cwt. per acre, well above the 410 to 420 cwt. encountered last year. The total national potato crop is expected to be a bit smaller in overall cwt. this year, and growers in the region expect strong prices this fall through early 2016, reported *The Produce News*. [Full Story](#)

Recent rainfall and flooding could cost South Carolina over \$300 million in crop losses, according to state Agriculture Commissioner Hugh Weathers. Weathers noted that the initial estimate is conservative and could rise, and affected crops include peanuts, fall vegetables and soybeans, reported *Miami Herald*. [Full Story](#)

Monsanto Co. will cut 12% of its workforce over the next two years, eliminating 2,600 jobs and streamlining sales and research and development departments. The company is cutting costs in response to falling sales and reduced demand for biotech seeds and herbicides. [Full Story](#)

U.S. agriculture co-cops set a record for income and revenue in 2014, according to Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. U.S. cooperatives earned \$6.5 billion in net income and generated \$246.7 billion in total revenue last year. Net income increased by 16.5% during the time period. [Full Story](#)

...and the increased risk of disease during the same period. [Full Story](#)

The Chesapeake Bay aquaculture project is presenting a challenge for smaller fish farmers. Smaller producers are worried that they will be unable to supply the large and consistent volumes to grow fish and shellfish that such technology demands, reported *Baltimore Business Journal*. [Full Story](#)

NMFS and NOAA issued a final rule on in season adjustment to groundfish management measures in the Pacific Coast groundfish fisheries. The rule is intended to prevent exceeding the 2015 Area 2A Pacific halibut and sablefish quota for incidental retention. [Full Notice](#)

About 90% of the Red River Valley 2015 red potato crop will be harvested in October, according to the Northern Plains Potato Growers Association. The crop's quality is good due to abundant rain during the summer, and preliminary September indications showed that yields should be average, reported *The Produce News*. [Full Story](#)

Growing demand for processed lobster meat is allowing the market to absorb additional catch while maintaining near-record prices paid to Maine fishermen. Lobstermen are now getting paid around \$4 a pound for lobsters, 50 cents to \$1 more than last year, with Maine fishermen expected to haul in more than 124 million-lbs., reported *Press Herald*. [Full Story](#)

About 20 miles of the James River was reopened for shellfish harvesting. Fear of river contamination by human and animal waste after heavy flooding led to the closures. Areas around Ragged Island Creek, Chuckatuck Creek, and the Nansemond River remain closed, reported *Washington Post*. [Full Story](#)

Inadequate rainfall and subsequent disease may reduce Indian shrimp exports up to 20%. Microsporidian EHP, an undetectable parasitic disease, was brought about by dry weather conditions and infected much of the country's shrimp harvest, reported *The Economic Times*. [Full Story](#)