

## MARKET NEWS W/O 11-26-17

**U.S. shell eggs broken in October totaled about 198 million dozen**, a 1% decrease from October 2016, according to USDA. U.S. shell eggs broken increased 1% to-date in 2017 over the prior year, at about 1.9 billion dozen.

[Full Report](#)

**The scallop fishing season began in Maine.** Fishermen in most of the state can harvest up to 15 gallons of shucked scallops per day, while the Cobscook Bay area is limited to 10 gallons. Fishermen saw a record price-per-lb. at the dock of \$12.77 in 2016, reported *The State*. [Full Story](#)

**Avocado growers in Mexico, Chile and the Dominican Republic shipped about 27.9 million-lbs.** the week of Nov. 26, down from 38.1 million-lbs. from the week prior, according to the Hass Avocado Board. About 37.9 million-lbs. of avocados are projected to ship from Mexico and Chile for the week of Dec. 3. [Full Story](#)

**Researchers discovered a way to prevent porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS)** in piglets, which costs the U.S. pork industry more than \$600 million annually. The study at Kansas State University determined sows without the CD163 protein are resistant to the PRRS virus, and developed PRRS-resistant pigs. [Full Story](#)

**USDA proposed a decreased assessment rate for oranges and grapefruit grown in Texas.** The proposal, recommended by the Texas Valley Citrus Committee, would drop the rate to \$0.02 per 7/10-bushel cart or equivalent of oranges and grapefruit handled under the marketing order from the current \$0.07 rate. The agency will accept public comment for 30 days. [Full Notice](#)

**U.S. grain elevator operators may have improved margins** due to wide carry in futures markets, weak harvest basis and low transportation rates, according to CoBank. A potential growth driver for grain elevator operators in the year ahead is storage, where expansive ending stocks and large new crop production created an attractive carry in futures markets, particularly for wheat.

[Full Story](#)

**The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission voted to continue the moratorium** on commercial northern shrimp fishing. The commission rejected a push from fishermen and Maine's representatives to allow a modest season. The commission voted to allow 13.3 metric tons of shrimp to be caught in 2018 as part of research on the health of the stocks, reported *Press Herald*. [Full Story](#)

**Mango volume is up approximately 50% over the past three years**, and is gaining popularity among U.S. consumers in the fall and winter months, according to the National Mango Board. The board expects volume to remain higher than normal through the holiday season and into 2018, reported *The Produce News*. [Full Story](#)

[Reduce News: Full Story](#)

**Kiku apple volumes are expected to increase this harvest season**, with CMI Orchards projecting a 49% in volume. Applewood Orchards and Rice Fruit Co. expected larger crops despite losing production to weather events this year, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

**U.S. farm profits will increase slightly this year after three consecutive years of decline**, according to USDA. Net farm income is projected at \$63.2 billion, up about 3% over 2016's farm profits as livestock production side of the industry is faring better than crop production, at 7.6% for livestock and 2% for crop revenues. [Full Story](#)

**USDA proposed a rule that would implement a recommendation** from the Far West Spearmint Oil Administrative Committee to revise the quantity of Native spearmint oil that handlers may purchase from, or handle on behalf of, producers during the 2017-2018 marketing year. The proposal would increase the native spearmint oil salable quantity and the allotment percentage. USDA will accept public comment for 15 days. [Full Notice](#) [This is what your USDA frets over..ss](#)

**Winter vegetable harvests are underway in California's San Joaquin and Imperial valleys**, according to regional growers. Growers note near-perfect growing conditions are pushing harvest dates for most vegetables up, with cauliflower being about 10 days ahead of schedule, reported *AgAlert*. [Full Story](#)

**Raisin prices are on the rise as Californian raisins value increased about 50% since April** to about \$0.90-\$1.30 per lb. Production has steadily declined due to farmers moving to more profitable crops such as almonds and pistachios. Acreage has fallen 30% over the past decade, with 2017's output estimated at 275,000 metric tons, the lowest tonnage since 2004-2005, reported *Spend Matters*. [Full Story](#)

**Demand for Mexican cucumbers is heavy**, and distributors note supplies are keeping pace. Unusually hot weather in Mexico led to an early start date of Oct. 20, and supplies should last until April, according to Fresh Farms, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

Meanwhile, **the start of the Mexican bell pepper harvest was strong**, according to Crown Jewels Produce Co. LLC. The distributor expects the first deliveries of green and red bell peppers in mid-November, with the deal switching to red, yellow and orange peppers in mid-December, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

**The harvest of red king crab catches at Bristol Bay was reported at 6.6 million-lbs.** this season, down 22%, while snow crab at 19 million-lbs. is the lowest harvest since 2005. The Tanner crab fishery haul was 2.5 million-lbs., dropping from 20 million-lbs. two years ago, reported *Cordova Times*. [Full Story](#)

Meanwhile, an Alaska program is in its final year to determine whether

Meanwhile, an Alaska program is in its final year to determine whether hatchery-raised red king crab can increase wild stock. The program is intended to aid legislators in deciding whether to pursue the rehabilitation of wild king crab stocks through hatchery enhancement, reported *Wichita Eagle*.

[Full Story](#)

**Henry Avocado Corp. completed its 25,000-sq. ft. cold-storage distribution center** in Charlotte, NC. The facility has the ability to distribute about 300,000 avocados daily, with storage capacity for an additional 1 million avocados, reported *Charlotte Business Journal*. [Full Story](#)

**About 95% of corn was harvested as of Nov. 26**, according to USDA. The sorghum harvest was 95% complete, while winter wheat progress continued at an average pace with 92% of the crop emerged. [Full Report](#)

**U.S. poultry certified wholesome during October totaled about 4.3 billion-lbs.**, an 8% increase from the year-ago period, according to USDA. The agency revised the September certified total to about 4.0 billion-lbs., a 1% drop from the year-ago period. [Full Report](#)

**Warm growing conditions are leading to an early start for Mexican winter produce items**, according to regional producers. Eggplants, green beans, bell peppers and squash are abundant and early, according to Ciruli Bros. LLC. Most of the products are expected to be promotable for entirety of December, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

**Avocado growers in Mexico, Chile and the Dominican Republic shipped about 38.1 million-lbs.** the week of Nov. 19, down from 45.1 million-lbs. from the week prior, according to the Hass Avocado Board. About 30.0 million-lbs. of avocados are projected to ship from Mexico and Chile for the week of Nov. 26. [Full Story](#)

**California strawberry growers shipped approximately 173.8 million flats through Nov. 26**, a 4.4% increase from the year-ago period, according to the California Strawberry Commission. The highest recorded daily production between Nov. 19 and Nov. 26 came Nov. 20, with a total of about 382,000 flats. [Full Story](#)

**Southeast Milk Inc. will work with members to introduce or enhance 24-hour video surveillance** of dairy farm operations after recent videos were released showing mistreatment of animals in Florida. The company will accelerate the adaptation of new, stricter national standards for cow care as well, reported *Orlando Sentinel*. [Full Story](#)

**S&W Seed Company moved its global corporate offices to Sacramento, CA.** The office will consolidate S&W's executive, sales and marketing, finance and administration teams. [Full Story](#)

**USDA amended regulations to allow for the importation of fresh mango fruit from Vietnam.** Imports will be subject to a systems approach that includes orchard or packinghouse requirements, irradiation treatment and port of entry inspection. [Full Notice](#)

or entry inspection. [Full Notice](#)

**U.S. commercial red meat production totaled about 4.6 billion-lbs.** in October, a 5% increase from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Production included about 2.3 billion-lbs. of beef and 2.3 billion-lbs. of pork.

[Full Report](#)

**Chilean blueberry producers exported about 1,275 tons the week of Nov. 13,** 10% below estimates, according to the Chilean Blueberry Committee.

About 143 tons of the weekly total were designated as organic. [Full Report](#)

**Scallop fishing may be permitted on the northwestern edge of Georges Bank** under the Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment. Additionally, the National Marine Fisheries Service may close the Great South Channel to the harvest of scallops, clams, cod, flounder and haddock. The agency is accepting comments on the plan and will make a decision in early January 2018, reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

**The South Carolina fall white shrimp harvest is down,** according to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. The catch is thousands of pounds below normal, as trawlers moved to Georgia, North Carolina and Florida to try to catch shrimp, reported *Idaho Statesman*. [Full Story](#)

**Louisiana's Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will make a new oyster reef** in Calcasieu Lake. The plan will create about 100 acres of artificial reef for the purpose of increasing fisheries production, reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

**Scientists are trying to toughen up the shell of Maine's soft summertime lobsters,** hoping to help the industry fetch higher prices and ship to distant markets. The University of Maine and Ready Seafood Co. are working together to examine what influences shell growth to speed up the shell-hardening process in recently molted lobsters, reported *Press Herald*. [Full Story](#)

**USDA decreased the assessment rate for walnuts grown in California.**

The action, recommended by the California Walnut Board, will decrease the assessment rate to \$0.0400 per kernelweight pound of assessable walnuts for the 2017-2018 and subsequent marketing years, down from the current \$0.0465 rate. [Full Notice](#)