

MARKET NEWS

U.S. egg production totaled about 8.8 billion during October, a slight decrease from October 2016, according to USDA. Production included about 7.7 billion table eggs and 1.2 billion hatching eggs. [Full Report](#)

California wheat acreage is expected to be under 500,000 acres for the third consecutive year, according to the California Wheat Commission. Many farmers in the region are turning to lettuce and onions due to the higher prices received for the specialty crops, reported *AgAlert*. [Full Story](#)

Shrimpers in the Gulf of Mexico landed 11.6 million-lbs. in October, the lowest in volume over the last sixteen years, according to the Southern Shrimp Alliance. Landings in Texas were 5.5 million-lbs., up from 3.5 million-lbs. in 2016. The total shrimp catch in the Gulf for 2017 is at 84.8 million-lbs., up from the previous year's 79.0 million-lbs. [Full Story](#)

A run of approximately 4.6 million sockeye salmon is forecasted for the Upper Cook Inlet with a commercial harvest of 1.9 million, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The forecasted 2018 commercial harvest is 900,000 fish below the 20-year average. [Full Story](#)

Australia's Bureau of Meteorology issued an alert for La Nina in December, with a 70% chance of the weather event occurring. The result could be dry conditions in many agricultural regions, including the southern U.S., reported *Reuters*. [Full Story](#)

Cranberries processors are awaiting government approval to make fertilizer out of excess fruit. The program would be the first of its kind for cranberries and help the industry return to supply-and-demand balance, according to Ocean Spray Cranberries, reported *Seattle Times*. [Full Story](#)

The Minnesota corn harvest was about 90% complete as the season approaches its close, according to USDA. Warm weather in North Dakota means some farmers might not finish their corn and sunflower harvests until spring, as snowmelt made some crops too wet to harvest in the fall. The state's corn harvest is 86% done and the sunflower harvest is 87% complete. [Full Report](#)

U.S. milk production in the 23 major states totaled about 16.7 billion-lbs. in October, up 1.5% from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Milk production across the nation during the month totaled about 17.8 billion-lbs., up 1.4% from October 2016. [Full Report](#)

South Texas vegetable growers expect a bountiful harvest ahead of the 2017 harvest season, while citrus growers were shipping grapefruit in early November. Cabbage was expected to start shipping by Nov. 20, according to Frontera Produce Ltd., reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

California strawberry growers shipped approximately 172.3 million flats

through Nov. 19, a 4.0% increase from the year-ago period, according to the California Strawberry Commission. The highest recorded daily production between Nov. 12 and Nov. 19 came Nov. 13, with a total of about 411,000 flats. [Full Story](#)

About 700 tons of blueberries were exported by Chile the week of Nov. 6, with 28% of the total designated as organic, according to the Chilean Blueberry Committee. The committee estimated between 500 and 800 tons were destroyed in hail storms the prior week, but the loss was part of the normal season reduction and did not modify its seasonal forecast. [Full Story](#)

Idaho's agriculture exports through September increased 12% over 2016 to \$607 million. Dairy products accounted for 22% of Idaho's total export value, up 17% over 2016. Canada was the top destination for Idaho agriculture exports, totaling \$166 million, reported *Idaho Statesman*. [Full Story](#)

The Oregon commercial Dungeness crab season will be delayed by at least two weeks to give the crabs more time to fill with meat. The Oregon Department of Agriculture will conduct another round of crab-quality testing in late November or early December that will determine if the season opens Dec. 16, reported *The State*. [Full Story](#)

A total of about 51.3 million sockeye salmon are expected to return to Bristol Bay in 2018, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The total is 18% greater than the 10-year average, and 41% greater than the long-term average of 33.8 million fish. [Full Story](#)

Nations fishing the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean will expand the annual quota for Bluefin tuna, according to people familiar with the matter. Officials at the meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas plan to hike the quota from 28,000 in 2018 from 24,000 in 2017, with a further 4,000 added in each of the following two years, reported *CBS News*. [Full Story](#)

Walmart is creating new fruits and vegetables to better compete with Amazon. The retailer invented a cantaloupe called Sweet Spark that stays sweet year-round and tomatoes that can ship long distances without rotting, reported *Business Insider*. [Full Story](#)

U.S. cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market totaled about 11.3 million head Nov. 1, a 6% increase from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Placement in feedlots in October totaled about 2.4 million head, a 10% jump from October 2016. [Full Story](#)

The Maine lobster catch may be 30% lower in 2017 after reaching a record 131 million-lbs. in 2016. Lobstermen have caught over 100 million-lbs. every year for the past six years, reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

The Washington state Dungeness crab season will start Dec. 16, two weeks late. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife delayed the

opening due to the crabs needing more time to grow and a threat from toxic algae off the coast of Oregon, reported *KING.com*. [Full Story](#)

West coast commercial and recreational salmon harvests dropped 40% since 1975, according to a study by Oregon State University and NOAA. The study noted conservation efforts for sea lions and killer whales is contributing to the decrease, with the animals now consuming about 31.5 million Chinook salmon annually, reported *The Oregonian*. [Full Story](#)

Tuberculosis was confirmed in a South Dakota beef herd after an infected cow was detected at a Texas slaughterhouse in October. Additional sick animals were found in a Tripp County herd, reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

Mango producers in Peru, Ecuador and Brazil shipped approximately 1.3 million boxes the week ending Nov. 4, a 14.7% decrease from the year-ago period, according to the National Mango Board. Brazilian exporters shipped about 7.9 million boxes for the season to-date. [Full Story](#)

Farmers in southern Idaho are increasingly turning to the guest worker program to fill the gap left by the shrinking labor force in the state. Figures from the Idaho Department of Labor show that applications from agricultural businesses seeking workers under the H-2A program increased by 32% since 2015, reported *The State*. [Full Story](#)

A \$13.5 million hatchery intended to save Snake River sockeye salmon from extinction is killing thousands of fish before they ever get to the ocean. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game found that the water chemistry at the Springfield Hatchery is so different from that in the central region that the young fish can't adjust when released into the wild, reported *Modesto Bee*. [Full Story](#)

USDA implemented an interim rule to adjust minimum size requirements for grapefruit grown in Florida. The new minimum size requirement is 3 inches in diameter. The agency will accept public comment for 60 days. [Full Notice](#)