

MARKET NEWS

U.S. agricultural exports totaled about \$140.5 billion in fiscal 2017, a \$10.9 billion jump from 2016, according to USDA. The total was the third-highest on record, and the national trade surplus jumped 30% to about \$21.3 billion for the sector. [Full Report](#)

U.S. turkey eggs in incubators totaled 28.4 million Nov. 1, a 5% increase from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Turkey poults hatched during October totaled 24.3 million, a 3% increase from the year-ago period. [Full Report](#)

Onion prices are trending up as supplies remain low, according to the National Onion Association. Quality is excellent, and initial and unofficial estimates note the crop could be down as much as 10 million bags, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

Florida's \$2.5 billion request for federal disaster relief for its agriculture industry after Hurricane Irma might not be enough, state officials told the House of Representatives. Officials found the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's estimates are too low, with damage appraisals now over \$1 billion in damages to the citrus industry, reported *The Ledger*. [Full Story](#)

Pipeline Foods LLC is building a grain terminal in Bowbells, ND. The project complements three other recent elevator acquisitions in North Dakota and Saskatchewan. The facility is the company's first greenfield project and will be designed to receive, clean and blend organic crops. It's expected to open in late summer 2018. [Full Story](#)

Kanzi apple production is expected to jump in 2017. CMI Orchards and Applewood Orchards, the two growers permitted to grow the variety, expect production increases of 120% and 150%, respectively. CMI Orchards notes organic Kanzi apple production could jump 400% year-over-year, reported *The Produce News*. [Full Story](#)

Chile is expanding organic production for a variety of commodities, according to regional distributors. Natureripe Farms LLC will be able to offer additional volumes of organic blueberries from Chile this season, while The Oppenheimer Group plans to offer more organic apples, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

The Southeast Alaska pink salmon harvest in 2018 is predicted to be in the average range, with a point estimate of 23 million fish, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. An actual harvest of 23 million pink salmon would be below the recent 10-year average harvest of 38 million pink salmon. [Full Story](#)

Singapore-based Olam International expects an 8 million bag robusta coffee supply deficit, which was caused by two straight years of "massive shortfalls," according to the company's CEO. Robusta prices could rise sharply as supplies tighten, while the arabica market is expected to face a short-term upward price correction, reported *Reuters*. [Full Story](#)

North Carolina is granting special exemption to farms with properly inspected equipment to process turkeys for farmers. Western Piedmont Community College Sustainable Agriculture Program received the exemption after the only USDA-approver processor in the state closed, reported *Modesto Bee*. [Full Story](#)

Organic citrus is becoming a niche market in Texas, with about 1,000 of the state's total 27,000 citrus acres devoted to organic production, according to Texas Citrus Mutual. Many organic producers in the state believe Hurricane Irma's effect in Florida will drive demand for organic citrus from Texas even higher, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

Glencore made three or four unsuccessful bids for smaller grain companies in its efforts to fuel growth, according to the head of the company's agricultural unit. The company will remain focused on acquisitions for growth, and officials noted the grain sector is ripe for consolidation due to excess capacity, reported *Reuters*. [Full Story](#)

Alaskan fishermen landed 96% of the 17.6 million-lb. limit during the Pacific halibut season. Kodiak led all ports for halibut landings, topping 3 million-lbs., reported *Cordova Times*. [Full Story](#)

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

The Atlantic Marine Fisheries Commission adopted a revised menhaden catch limit of 216,000 metric tons for 2018 and 2019, an 8% increase.

Additionally, the panel rejected a proposal that would have considered the effect of the menhaden commercial fishery on larger Atlantic ecosystems, reported *Baltimore Sun*. [Full Story](#)

USDA implemented an interim rule relaxing minimum size requirements for citrus products including oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and pummelos grown in Florida under the state's marketing order. The rule, recommended by the Citrus Administrative Committee, is intended to allow more oranges to be shipped to the fresh market and help reduce losses sustained by the state citrus industry. [Full Notice](#)

Florida's proposed 2018-19 budget includes \$22 million for the state citrus industry. The amount includes \$10 million for the Citrus Research and Development Foundation and \$7 million for the Citrus Health Response

Program, which will take a leading role in helping growers replant healthy citrus trees that were lost to Hurricane Irma and citrus greening, reported *The Ledger*. [Full Story](#)

Avocado growers in Mexico shipped about 43.4 million-lbs. the week of Nov. 12, up from 40.2 million-lbs. from the week prior, according to the Hass Avocado Board. About 35.4 million-lbs. of avocados are projected to ship from Mexico and Chile for the week of Nov. 19. [Full Story](#)

Oneonta Starr Ranch Growers will expand organic apple and pear production in order to meet increasing demand. The company plans to transition acreage to organic for Honeycrisp, Pink Lady, gala, fuji and granny smith varieties over the next three years, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

The Port of Portland will resume container ship calls beginning in January 2018. Swire Shipping will begin calling at the port every 35 days, marking the first company to call at the port since 2016, reported *The Oregonian*. [Full Story](#)

Farmers reported 86% of the corn harvested in Nebraska and 85% in Iowa, according to USDA. The Iowa soybean crop is 97% complete, about five days behind average, while Nebraska farmers reported about 99% harvested.

[Full Report](#)

U.S. beef exports to China reached about \$12.5 million by the end of September, according to the U.S. Meat Export Federation. Industry experts attribute the relatively slow growth to short supply and high prices. Beef exported to China must meet stringent requirements, and ranchers predict it will take time to develop China-specific beef products, which will increase costs, reported *China Daily*. [Full Story](#)

California strawberry growers shipped approximately 169.5 million flats through Nov. 8, a 4.0% increase from the year-ago period, according to the California Strawberry Commission. The highest recorded daily production between Nov. 1 and Nov. 8 came Nov. 7, with a total of about 458,000 flats.

[Full Story](#)

Chilean blueberry producers shipped about 467 tons of fresh product the week ending Nov. 5, according to the Chilean Blueberry Committee. Weather continues to impact production in the country, with several hail events reported in the central-south and southern areas. [Full Story](#)

Some New England groundfishermen may switch to catching tuna without returning to port after an alliance of groups argued video monitoring is capable of tracking gear. The change will save fishermen a time consuming and expensive port trip and allow them to catch more valuable fish, reported *Washington Times*. [Full Story](#)

U.S. apple holdings totaled about 143.3 million cartons as of Nov. 1, a 6%

increase from the year-ago period and a 15% increase from the five-year average, according to the U.S. Apple Association. Washington state fresh apple holdings accounted for about 88% of the total supply, reported *The Packer*. [Full Story](#)

Maine's wild blueberry crop totaled 65 million-lbs. in 2017, a sharp decline from recent years, according to the Wild Blueberry Commission of Maine. The harvest was the first in four years below 100 million-lbs., reported *San Francisco Gate*. [Full Story](#)

Mango producers in Peru, Ecuador and Brazil shipped approximately 1.5 million boxes the week ending Nov. 4, a 15.3% decrease from the year-ago period, according to the National Mango Board. Brazilian exporters shipped about 7.7 million boxes for the season to-date. [Full Story](#)

Rising olive oil output in the 2017-2018 growing season could slash prices, with larger harvests across the Mediterranean boosting output by up to 12%, according to Deoleo. The International Olive Oil Council expects global output to rise by about 300,000 metric tons, reported *Bloomberg*. [Full Story](#)

Russia's 83 million ton wheat forecast is expected to put pressure on U.S. farmers. Russian farmers were boosted by large investments and good growing weather, with yields up 70% over the past five years. However, some analysts warned Russia's resurgence could backfire by causing a glut in storage and lower global prices, reported *The Wall Street Journal*. [Full Story](#) (WSJ Subscription Required)

The Arizona agribusiness industry contributes more than \$23 billion in sales to the state's economy, according to the University of Arizona. Arizona ranks among top states for the production of lettuce, spinach, broccoli, cauliflower, cantaloupe, honeydew and other commodities, reported *Miami Herald*. [Full Story](#)

Tomatoes that carry more anti-aging antioxidants were grown at the University of Hong Kong. Researchers modified a gene isolated from Indian mustard and introduced it to ordinary tomatoes that resulted in the tomatoes containing 494% more vitamin E, 169% more provitamin A and 111% more lycopene, reported *South China Morning Post*. [Full Story](#)

Cultiva LLC raised \$1.9 million in funding. The maker of Parka, a food-grade biofilm, plans to use the funding to continue its growth and efforts to increase plants' tolerance to environmental stress. The company will open an in-house manufacturing facility in Las Vegas, NV, for production during the 2018 growing season. [Full Story](#)