

# The Council Letter

A Confidential Report to Directors, Members and Chairperson of Council  
Committees Not for Publication • Not for Quotation

## WEEKLY Highbush Blueberry Crop Report

July 10, 2019

**MISSISSIPPI/LOUISIANA** – *Mississippi/Louisiana's harvest is officially over.*

**GEORGIA** – *Georgia's harvest is officially over.*

**FLORIDA** – *Florida's harvest is officially over.*

**NORTH CAROLINA** – *Neil Moore:* North Carolina is in a normal summer weather pattern, hot and humid with afternoon showers and thunderstorms. Rainfall amounts of 3 plus inches have the fields looking good and summer growth also looks good. Harvest is mostly PowderBlue for process and local fresh markets. The USDA reported North Carolina has shipped 21,330,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 80,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

**NEW JERSEY** – *Denny Doyle:* New Jersey is picking duke for the frozen market, and picking blue crop, Draper, and Elliot for the fresh market. New Jersey is over the peak at this time. The USDA reported New Jersey has shipped 21,670,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 430,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

**INDIANA** – *Pat Goin:* The crop is coming in fast and furious! Duke is virtually finished for hand harvest. Blue crop is in first pick, Draper and Blue Ray as well. The weather has cooled down into the mid-80s and we are in a drier stretch for a few days. Berries are large, and quality is good

**MICHIGAN** – *Dave Trinka:* Warm and humid as we begin the Michigan season. Duke in first harvest since last weekend in the Grand Junction area. First harvest of Duke will begin in Holland late weekend and early next week. Fruit quality has been excellent. Labor appears to be sufficient to handle the low volume. Production volumes will ramp up next week, but peak volumes of midseason fruit not expected until week 30 and 31. Temperatures look to remain above normal for much of the coming week. The USDA reported Michigan has shipped 60,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA** – *Anju Gill:* Cooler than normal, wet weather conditions are slightly slowing down the crop progression and impacting harvesting at times. First hand pick of Duke is winding down. Machine harvesting of dukes in some fields has begun. First hand pick of Draper is underway and Bluecrop starting soon. First blue fruit in Liberty is showing. Considerable rain is in forecast for today. There is some concern of its impact. SWD and fruit rot pressure continues to be high. So far, fruit sizing looks excellent and yields are likely to a bit better than last season. The USDA reported British Columbia has shipped 1,470,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

**WASHINGTON** – *no report available this week:*

A stylized, cursive logo for "Blueberries" in a blue color.

NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBERRY COUNCIL

1847 Iron Point Rd., Suite 100, Folsom, California 95630-8837 • (916) 983-2279  
Fax (916) 983-9370 • E-mail: [info@nabcblues.org](mailto:info@nabcblues.org) • Web Site: [www.nabcblues.org](http://www.nabcblues.org)

**OREGON** – *Doug Kraemer*: Our growing area received rain last night and this morning with no harvesting today. Growers continue to hand harvest and machine harvest Dukes. Some growers will be beginning to harvest Draper and Bluecrop this week. Have had one report of SWD found in blues, otherwise all SWD have been found in other berry types. Labor seems to be holding up at this time. The USDA reported Oregon has shipped 8,480,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

**CALIFORNIA** – *Todd Sanders*: We are in the final stages of the California blueberry harvest. Probably not much more than a week of harvest remains here. The USDA reported California shipped 23,100,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 16,220,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

**MEXICO** – The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 69,350,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Mexico.

**CHILE** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 100,840,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Chile.

**ARGENTINA** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 19,190,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Argentina.

**PERU** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 67,820,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Peru.

**URUGUAY** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 1,500,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Uruguay.

**GUATEMALA** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through July 10, 2019 of 40,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Guatemala