

The Council Letter

A Confidential Report to Directors, Members and Chairperson of Council
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WEEKLY Highbush Blueberry Crop Report

August 14, 2019

NEW JERSEY – *Denny Doyle*: This will be New Jersey last crop report for 2019 season. The harvest will be completed by the end of the week for the frozen market. Post-harvest operations are being done at this time. The USDA reported New Jersey has shipped 24,600,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 450,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

INDIANA – *Pat Goin*: There continues to be a small amount of fruit being harvested in the northern part of the state. Most growers are finished for the season. The weather has been difficult for Indiana growers this year. The first part of the season was extremely wet with high temperatures and humidity. The last half of the season has been extremely dry. Rains have been north and south of most of the growing region.

MICHIGAN – *Dave Trinko*: Late harvests of Bluecrop are underway. Fruit from southern areas is headed to the IQF tunnel, while growers in the north continue to pack fresh. All late midseason varieties are being harvested. First pick of Elliott underway in the south plus a few Aurora. Elliott harvest will begin this weekend for growers further north in the state. Process volumes of Jersey will remain fairly steady as Ottawa county harvest kicks in to gear later this week. Weather has been mostly sunny and dry. Most areas have not had rain during the last three weeks. The USDA reported Michigan has shipped 15,210,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

BRITISH COLUMBIA - *Anju Gill*: There has been a consistent pattern of dry days, followed by showers and cool days this summer. Due to these weather condition SWD pressure is high, growers continue with protective sprays. Soft fruit in earlier varieties has been a concern. Currently, Elliot harvest is underway, Bluecrop 3rd pick is nearly complete. 4th pick of Reka will likely begin end of the week or early next week. Elliot's fruit quality is reported to be very good so far. The USDA reported British Columbia has shipped 7,860,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

WASHINGTON – *Alan Schreiber*: Production in eastern Washington is on varieties that are later maturing than Draper and we are probably more than 80% complete. In western Washington harvest has passed the mid-point. Growing conditions throughout the state continue to be ideal. Conditions for quality and fruit sizing continue to be near optimal for western Washington. Yields in western Washington continue to be higher than expected. The USDA reported Washington has shipped 3,660,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 9,450,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

OREGON – *Doug Kraemer*: Oregon's weather is continuing to be seasonally mild. Causes issues that include soft, decay, and increased SWD. Such is the life of a blueberry grower. Definitely into late season varieties now and post season work is ramping up. Plant growth this season has been great. The USDA reported Oregon has shipped 28,660,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 2,850,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

Blueberries

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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 – *North Carolina’s harvest is officially over.*

CALIFORNIA – *California’s Harvest is officially over.*

MEXICO – The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 14, 2019 of 69,550,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Mexico.

CHILE - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 14, 2019 of 101,690,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Chile.

ARGENTINA - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 14, 2019 of 20,040,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Argentina.

PERU - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 14, 2019 of 89,140,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Peru.

URUGUAY - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 14, 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 August 14, 2019 of 60,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Guatemala

NABC 2019 PRELIMINARY CROP REPORT

As Of July 17, 2017

Millions of Pounds

REGION	2016 FINAL CROP REPORT 03/01/17			2017 FINAL CROP REPORT 03/09/18			2018 FINAL CROP REPORT 08/28/18			2019 PRELIMINARY CROP REPORT 07/17/19		
	Fresh	Process	Total	Fresh	Process	Total	Fresh	Process	Total	Fresh	Process	Total
Highbush												
Western Region												
British Columbia	50.0	110.0	160.0	75.0	60.0	135.0	70.0	85.0	155.0	70.0	100.0	170.0
California	38.1	19.5	57.6	51.3	10.8	62.1	52.2	11.2	63.4	50.0	11.0	61.0
Oregon	51.0	65.1	116.1	54.0	53.0	107.0	59.8	74.2	134.0	60.0	70.0	130.0
Washington	29.0	91.0	120.0	36.0	80.0	116.0	40.0	90.0	130.0	40.4	94.5	134.9
Mexico	34.1	0.9	35.0	52.0	2.0	54.0	74.0	2.0	76.0	102.0	3.0	105.0
Sub-Total	202.2	286.5	488.7	268.3	205.8	474.1	296.0	262.4	558.4	322.4	278.5	600.9
Midwest Region												
Illinois	1.6	0.0	1.6	1.6	0.0	1.6	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.4	0.0	1.4
Indiana	1.2	0.4	1.6	1.0	0.3	1.3	1.0	0.3	1.3	3.2	0.3	3.5
Michigan	45.0	55.0	100.0	49.0	40.0	89.0	36.5	33.0	69.5	48.0	42.0	90.0
Others 1/	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.7
Sub-Total	48.8	55.4	104.2	52.3	40.3	92.6	39.0	33.3	72.3	53.3	42.3	95.6
Northeast Region												
New Jersey	30.0	5.5	35.5	36.0	4.0	40.0	30.0	8.0	38.0	37.0	7.0	44.0
New York	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0
Ontario	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0	2.0
Others 2/	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.3
Sub-Total	33.1	5.5	38.6	39.2	4.0	43.2	33.5	8.0	41.5	40.3	7.0	47.3
Southern Region												
Alabama	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2
Arkansas	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Florida	13.0	0.5	13.5	19.8	0.0	19.8	19.8	0.0	19.8	22.7	0.0	22.7
Georgia	45.0	22.0	67.0	25.0	5.0	30.0	30.0	20.0	50.0	60.0	25.0	85.0
Louisiana	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.4
Mississippi	4.5	2.0	6.5	2.5	0.5	3.0	4.0	1.0	5.0	1.0	0.1	1.1
North Carolina	34.0	11.0	45.0	21.1	3.8	24.9	25.0	8.0	33.0	32.0	8.0	40.0
Texas	0.3	0.0	0.3	1.5	0.0	1.5	2.1	0.0	2.1	1.3	0.0	1.3
Others 3/	1.3	0.0	1.3	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	1.2	0.0	1.2
Sub-Total	99.4	35.5	134.9	71.7	9.3	81.0	82.9	29.0	111.9	118.9	33.1	152.0
HIGHBUSH TOTAL:	383.5	382.9	766.4	431.5	259.4	690.9	451.4	332.7	784.1	534.9	360.9	895.8