

# The Council Letter

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Committees Not for Publication • Not for Quotation

## **FINAL WEEKLY Highbush Blueberry Crop Report**

**September 04, 2019**

**MICHIGAN** – *Dave Trinka*: Growers are in second and third harvest of Elliott and first and second picking of Aurora. There is still some Liberty left to harvest for the next week in far northern sites. Fresh fruit will continue to be harvested through September. There has been reduced availability of hand harvest labor since last week. Some labor has moved into apples; others have left to get their children back to school. Temperatures have been below normal for the last two weeks, so ripening has slowed. The weather forecast for the next two week calls for above normal temperatures in the Midwest. Everyone hopes that will come with abundant sunshine to ripen the remainder of the crop. It was a late start to the season and it will be a late ending as well. The USDA reported Michigan has shipped 22,840,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA** - *Anju Gill*: The season is significantly winding down and post-harvest activities are underway in many fields. In later varieties, on to second/third pick in Elliots, and Liberty is nearly done. Aurora and Last Call on second pick in some fields. The weather is warm this week. Irrigation continues. SWD pressure remains high as well as midge, weevil and voles are a concern in some fields. Overall, the season went well with higher yields than the last two years. The USDA reported British Columbia has shipped 29,610,000 pounds of conventional fresh this season so far.

**WASHINGTON** – *Alan Schreiber*: Harvest in eastern Washington is essentially over. Weather cooler and overcast in western Washington. Growers are finishing Liberty and have started Elliot and Aurora. Harvest in Washington should conclude in three to four weeks. The USDA reported Washington has shipped 6,480,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 11,780,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

**OREGON** – *Doug Kraemer*: There continues to be harvesting of Elliot's, Aurora, Last Call, and Rabbit Eye's. Lots of post-harvest activities. The USDA reported Oregon has shipped 36,300,000 pounds of conventional fresh and 4,720,000 pounds of organic fresh blueberries this season so far.

**INDIANA** – *Indiana's harvest is officially over*

**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.*

**NEW JERSEY** – *New Jersey harvest is officially over.*

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

*Blueberries*

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**MEXICO** – The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 21, 2019 of 69,780,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Mexico.

**CHILE** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 21, 2019 of 101,730,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Chile.

**ARGENTINA** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 21, 2019 of 20,140,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Argentina.

**PERU** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 21, 2019 of 92,190,000 pounds of conventional fresh from Peru.

**URUGUAY** - The USDA reported that the U.S. imported a total this season through August 21, 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 21, 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
<b>Highbush</b>												
<b>Western Region</b>												
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
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>202.2</b>	<b>286.5</b>	<b>488.7</b>	<b>268.3</b>	<b>205.8</b>	<b>474.1</b>	<b>296.0</b>	<b>262.4</b>	<b>558.4</b>	<b>322.4</b>	<b>278.5</b>	<b>600.9</b>
<b>Midwest Region</b>												
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
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>104.2</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>92.6</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>95.6</b>
<b>Northeast Region</b>												
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
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>47.3</b>
<b>Southern Region</b>												
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
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>99.4</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>134.9</b>	<b>71.7</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>111.9</b>	<b>118.9</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>152.0</b>
<b>HIGHBUSH TOTAL:</b>	<b>383.5</b>	<b>382.9</b>	<b>766.4</b>	<b>431.5</b>	<b>259.4</b>	<b>690.9</b>	<b>451.4</b>	<b>332.7</b>	<b>784.1</b>	<b>534.9</b>	<b>360.9</b>	<b>895.8</b>