

# FRESH LINK MARKET REPORTS

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08/30/2024

RE: TOMATOES

## **Rounds**

The round tomato market is currently facing supply shortages, both in the East and West. In the West, low production and a shortage of supply have led to elevated market prices, with most packing sheds operating on a limited schedule. Quality has shown slight improvement but still requires reconditioning. In the East, consistent rainfall and heat pressure have also limited supply, leading to higher market prices. The demand for round tomatoes remains steady, but with newer growing areas in the West expected to start production in a few weeks, supply and quality should improve, potentially stabilizing the market.

## **Roma's**

The Roma tomato market is experiencing varied conditions depending on the region. While multiple areas, such as Alabama, Tennessee, California, Mexico, Baja-Mexico, and Michigan, are producing, the quality and pricing differ significantly. The McAllen, Texas crossing point has seen an influx of poor-quality products, leading to heavily discounted prices. This has shifted demand to other regions with higher quality, like Baja, Mexico. The overall market for Roma tomatoes is poised to remain active, with potential further price adjustments as demand continues to be driven by quality considerations.

## **Grape**

The grape tomato market is currently strong, with consistent demand driving sales across major production areas, including North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, Virginia, Alabama, Mexico, and Baja-Mexico. Quality is mostly good across these regions, though some weaker lots from Mexico have been reported due to overripe and soft tomatoes. As Michigan begins production, the already firm market is expected to remain robust, with supply and demand staying well-matched.

## **Cherry**

The market for cherry tomatoes remains steady with good quality reported from current production areas, including the Southeastern US and Mexico. Prices in these regions are stable, and with Michigan's production expected to start soon, additional supply should help maintain market stability. The outlook suggests that the market will continue to be balanced, with no significant disruptions anticipated.

