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Grape volume down about 20 percent

By

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Table grape stocks are lower than in previous seasons according to the latest U.S. Department of Agriculture cold storage report. That is particularly true for red seedless grapes as the amount of supplies is lower than in years past, said Pablo Gómez, licensee and quality assurance manager at IFG. “Generally, grape supplies are down by approximately 20 percent,” he said.



Pablo Gómez

Gómez said having lower stocks of table grapes is one facet that can affect pricing negatively. “Unfortunately, we have faced other challenges, such as the worldwide supply chain logistics and the lack of labor in Peru, affecting pricing” he added.

IFG has been working the past year to create a 52-week table grape supply by partnering with growers throughout the world. The U.S. market has an earlier harvest window than other regions.

“Over the past two years, there has been a significant increase of Sugar Crisp (white seedless) and Cotton Candy grapes being imported from Brazil into the U.S. market in October,” said Gómez. “Also, we have seen larger volumes of Sweet Globe, Sweet Celebration, and Jack’s Salute table grape varieties from northern Peru (Piura) than in years past. There has been an increased demand from the U.S. market over the past month, so we are expecting to see higher volumes exported from Peru in the upcoming weeks.”

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