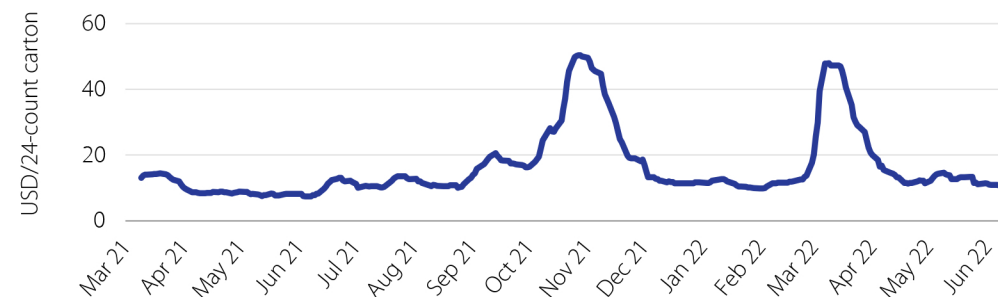


Vegetables

Price increase is the common denominator

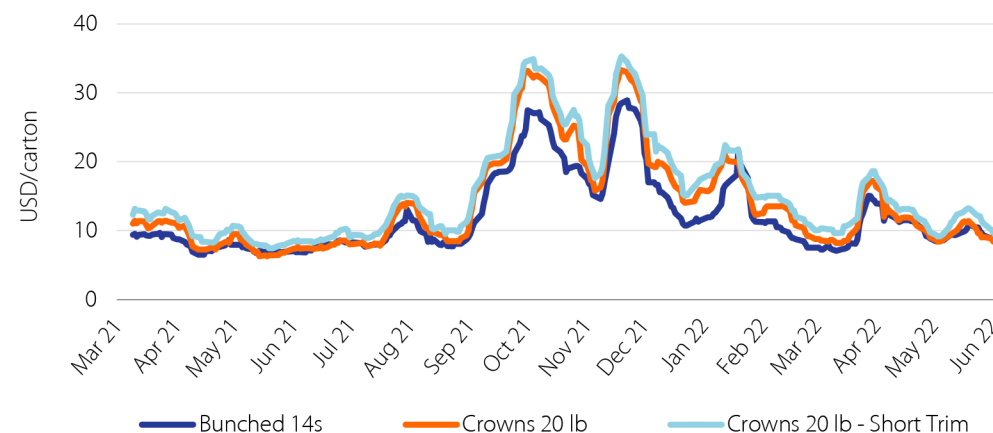
- **The average retail price per unit of fresh vegetables was 8.5% higher YOY at the end of May 2022, whereas retail volume was down 5.8% YOY.** Consumption of fresh vegetables is expected to be pressured downward as consumers take money-saving measures to deal with rising costs of living.
- **Broccoli crown and cauliflower supplies are ample this time of the year and close to last year's levels. Shipping-point prices are also strong and higher YOY.** Crown prices dropped since April but remain 14% higher YOY at USD 8.8 per 20-pound carton. Cauliflower prices for one carton film-wrapped 12s is 18.8% higher YOY. Prices usually remain relatively flat until late summer and early fall.
- **Romaine and iceberg lettuce shipping-point prices are holding up at levels higher than last year as a result of strong demand and short supply, respectively.** By early June, romaine prices were up 58% and 88% YOY for 24s and hearts (12x3), respectively. Romaine shipments, though like last year's, are above their historical average. Wrapped iceberg prices are also up by 41% YOY. Supplies from Salinas Valley and Santa Maria are short, supporting prices throughout the summer. As summer progresses, shipments will slow down cyclically. Once harvest transitions to Arizona later in the year, prices usually pick up.
- **Potato markets are awash with bullish news.** Low inventories, the recent opening of Mexican markets to US fresh potatoes, and raised concerns about yield after a delayed planting are all factors contributing to strong prices. The Burbank Baled 10# non-A price is USD 16.50. Russet 5/10# Size A prices range between USD 22.00 and USD 40.00, depending on the region and size.
- **By the end of May, total shipments of carrots, celery, artichokes, and sweet potatoes, were lower YOY, whereas those of cabbage, cucumber, spinach, bell pepper and some types of tomatoes were higher YOY.** In the former group, carrots are experiencing a supply shortage whereas the other vegetables are experiencing lower demand. In the latter group, continued strong demand is behind the increase in shipments.

Wrapped iceberg lettuce – US daily shipping-point price, 2021-2022



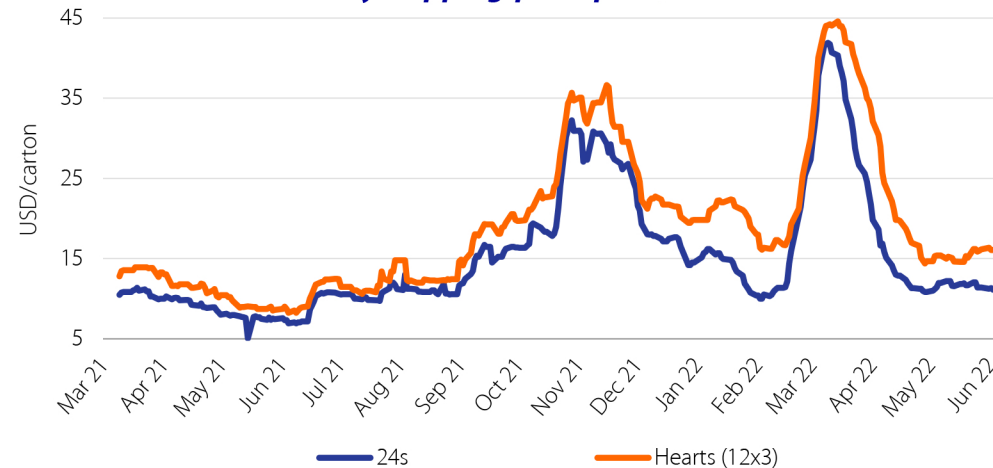
Source: USDA AMS, Rabobank 2022

Broccoli – US daily shipping-point price, 2021-2022



Source: USDA AMS, Rabobank 2022

Romaine lettuce – US daily shipping-point price, 2021-2022



Source: USDA AMS, Rabobank 2022