

Mintec Benchmark Prices

# Almond Market Update

US Almonds, FAS US, USD/LB

ALMOND SPEC	CURRENT PRICE	PREVIOUS PRICE	W-O-W	W-O-W %
NPS 23/25	3.30	3.30	0.00	0%
NPX 23/25	3.54	3.59	-0.05	-1%
NPX 25/27	3.09	3.09	0.00	0%
NPX 27/30	2.79	2.89	-0.10	-3%
NPIS 70% SS	2.04	2.14	-0.10	-5%
Car Sup 23/25	2.53	2.75	-0.22	-8%
Car Sup 27/30	2.41	2.64	-0.23	-9%
Cali SSR 27/30	2.39	2.61	-0.22	-8%
Std 5%	2.20	2.38	-0.18	-8%

INDICATIVE ALMOND FREIGHT & INSURANCE RATE (\$/LB)*	CURRENT INDICATION	PREVIOUS INDICATION	W-O-W	W-O-W %
Cali - NW Europe	0.05	0.05	0.00	0%

Prices as at 16:00 London time/08:00 PDT: 14-October-2021  
 \*Indications gathered from industry

**The Mintec Benchmark Prices (MBP) for standard 5% almonds [Mintec Code: NAL1] were assessed at \$2.20/lb on 14 October, down 18 cents/lb on the week.**

Prices dipped on the back of a lower-than-expected September shipment figure of 227.64 million pounds, down 12.8% on the previous year. More details on the impact of the September Position report can be found overleaf.

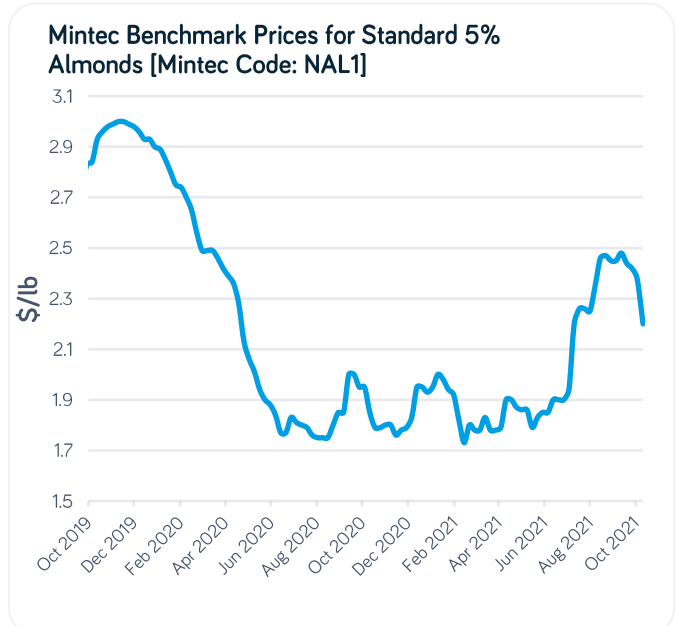
At the end of last week trades were reported at \$2.30/lb. However, after the position report was released, prices eased further with offers reported between \$2.20-2.25/lb. The latest trade was reported at \$2.20/lb on 13 October and the assessment was made in line with this level.

There were some market participants who commented that this level might not be sustainable moving forward with one European trader saying, 'It feels like the prices for standards have moved too low too fast and I wouldn't be surprised if we see a rebound over the next few weeks.'

Generally, activity during the week has been fairly limited as buyers and sellers try to find their footing after the position report release.

In relation to this one seller commented - 'We've seen limited activity since the position report as both sides are in price discovery mode. I'd expect to see some more activity moving into next week once everyone has a handle on the market.'

For grades which remain in limited supply the price decline has not been as drastic. For example, the...



...MBP for NPX 23/25 FAS US [[Mintec Code: NP01](#)] was assessed at \$3.54/lb, down 5 cents/lb on the week.

'It's not surprising we aren't seeing the prices for the larger sized nonpareil kernels dip as much; people can't sell what they don't have and you've still got to pay a hefty premium in order to get hold of it' one trader said to Mintec.

Looking at Carmel Supremes, large declines were reported during the assessment period with the MBP for **Carmel Supreme 27/30 FAS US** [[Mintec Code: RU24](#)] assessed at \$2.41/lb, down 23 cents/lb from the previous assessment. The swift downward move in pricing did raise some concerns for sellers over defaults though no reports of any defaults have been made, yet.

## September US almond shipments down 12.8% Y-O-Y

The September position report, released 12 October, saw US almond shipments in September reach 227.64, million pounds. While still the second largest September shipment figure on record the decline on 12.8% from September 2020 was on the lower end of industry expectations.

'We all knew the figure was likely to be down, but this is definitely on the higher end of the decline we were expecting' commented a US almond seller.

Mintec conducted its on survey prior to the release of the position report which saw most market participants peg shipments between 248-263 million pounds. In fact, the lowest estimate reported by a seller was 237 million pounds, 10 million pounds higher than the

actual figure.

For buyers the low end of responses came in below the shipment figure at 221, but most buy-side respondents expected shipments of 234-250 million pounds. The full Mintec Pre-Position Report survey can be access via [this link](#).

Addressing the shipment figure, one European trader said – 'We've had several sellers in the US tell us they were expecting this level of decline. Given how far prices have dipped already I'm confident in saying it caught them off-guard. Personally, we definitely weren't expecting it to come in this low.'

Moving into October many market participants expect business to remain below last year's record levels.

In relation to this a seller commented to Mintec – 'If people wanted shipments to arrive before Christmas, they have already bought their stock as any purchases from now will likely arrive after Christmas. I'm expecting fairly dull shipments until December and then we could start to see some more activity in the New Year as people realise the impact the drought is likely to have on the next crop.'

'So far in October we are down by a third in terms of volume, it's been very tough and doesn't look likely to improve in Q4.' a European broker stated.

## Methodology, Feedback & Contact Information

Mintec is committed to ensuring all published Mintec Benchmark Prices are representative of market value and in line with Mintec's transparency principles we encourage industry participants to reach out to the Proprietary Pricing Team. Any feedback and comments related to this document and prices contained within are welcomed and should be directed to [Pricing@Mintecglobal.com](mailto:Pricing@Mintecglobal.com).

The Mintec Almond Market Update is published every Thursday and contains proprietary data exclusive to Mintec. If you would like to gain access to this report, contact [Pricing@Mintecglobal.com](mailto:Pricing@Mintecglobal.com).

For details on the methodology used to assess the Mintec Benchmark Prices visit this [link](#).

