



NORTH ATLANTIC LOBSTER COALITION WEEK OF MAY 12, 2008 MARKET DEMAND AND SUPPLY UPDATE MASSACHUSETTS REPORT

DEMAND has dropped back to light after a little spurt of market activity just before the Mother's Day weekend. This demand was decent but not great. The Canadian processors are still buying Canadian lobsters in order to bolster their inventories.

SUPPLY is adequate for the current demand. Stormy weather has shut down most of the fishing along the coast and has kept boats in port. Inventories have been maintained using local, Canadian and some Maine fresh caughts. Currently, dealers are "coasting" this week with what is in inventory due to the weather. Some offshore product was landed but the boats are now in port.

QUALITY of the available product is excellent overall. The lobsters are all shippable and are fresh caughts. The quality of the lobsters at this time of year is probably at its' peak and will be for several more weeks.

PRICE is expected to hold at current levels. The poor weather has shut down most landings so there isn't much coming in and not much to justify a price drop. The Maine and Canadian prices also can hold the local price at current levels. If, following the bad weather, landings increase, this could cause a price drop. Another factor in the price level is the fact that this product is a high quality lobster at this time of year. Canadian lobsters are arriving into the Boston market at \$6.00 to \$6.25 (US\$). Maine lobsters are being brought into the Boston market also in the \$6.00 to \$6.25 range. Some offshore lobsters were landed before the storm at \$5.50 to \$5.75.

LAST YEAR AT THIS TIME – 2007

Boston Boat Price - \$6.50 Straight

Offshore lobsters – not much happening – no price

Some Maine product was arriving at \$6.25 to \$6.75

Canadian lobsters were arriving at \$6.25 to \$7.15 (US\$)

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NORTH ATLANTIC LOBSTER COALITION

FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

Week of: **May 12, 2008**

U .S. AREA REPORT: Prices try to reflect bonuses and may vary between dealers.

Submitted by: **U.S. ASSOCIATIONS**

Prices actually paid by certain dealers in an area may be higher or lower than what is listed here.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>PRICE</u>					<u>COMMENTS</u>
	STRAIGHT	OLDSHELL HARDSHELL	NEWSHELL SOFTSHELL	CULLS CHX/QTRS	SELECT/2+	
MAINE (*reflects this wks boat price plus anticipated end of year bonus)						
Kittery	5.75				6.75	Catch is ok
York						No report yet
Cape Porpoise	5.50					Catch is decent – lots of wind this week
Portland	5.00-5.50					Catch is ok
Yarmouth						No report yet
Harpswell	5.25					Catch is ok
Bailey Island	5.25					Catch is slow
Small Point	5.25					Catch is slow
Boothbay*	5.25					Catch is slow – windy weather
Sprucehead / Thomaston*	5.40					Catch is ok
Vinalhaven*	5.25				5.75	Catch is ok
Stonington*	5.35					Catch is decent; Rock & Sand crabs. \$.40
Swans Island	5.25					Catch is ok
Jonesport / Beals* (est bonus is .40)	5.40				5.90	Catch is slow - weather
Cutler * (est bonus is .30)	5.35					Catch is slow
CANADA						
Grand Manan (LFA38)	5.00-5.25 (Can\$)					Catch is ok
SW Nova Scotia (LFA34)	5.50(Can\$)					Catch is decent
MASSACHUSETTS						
	STRAIGHT	HARDSHELL CHX / QTRS	CULLS	NEW /SOFT SHELL	SELECT +	
Boston	5.25					Catch is light.
Cape Cod	5.50-6.00					Catch is light – not many fishing yet.
New Bedford		5.50	4.50	3.75		Catch is ok when they get out – poor weather
North Shore	5.00					Was a little activity– stormy weather now
South Shore	5.25-5.50					A few lobsters around until stormy weather hit
RHODE ISLAND		5.50	4.50		5.75	
NEW HAMPSHIRE	5.50					Poor weather – not many landings
LONG ISLAND NY	5.50					Nothing much going on
CONNECTICUT		5.00	3.50			Catch is slow.