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Market Alerts

TRANSITION The northward movement of major growing regions back to Central California is largely complete. All row crops, particularly Romaine and Green Leaf Lettuce, continues to be extremely impacted by recent heavy rains and cold weather. Product shortages, higher prices and quality issues will persist for several more weeks. The Produce Market Advisory will keep you up-to-date with recommendations during the time.

ROMAINE / GREEN LEAF LETTUCE Supplies are extremely short on both of these lettuces, including processed product such as chopped and leaves. Quality is poor to fair on what little product is available, and orders are likely to be shorted. Pricing is higher than normal on all lettuce products. For optimal availability and quality we recommend pre-cut or whole Iceberg, Red Leaf lettuce or tender leaf items such as Arcadian Blend, Arugula or Spinach.

CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI Quality is still poor and pricing still high on whole heads and florets. Orders may be shorted in some markets. Crowns and Florets are the best quality options.

CELERY Quality is fair to poor, and pricing is higher than normal due to short supplies. Celery Hearts are the best quality option, where available.

GRAPES Quality is poor to fair on Green Grapes, with higher pricing than normal. Red Grapes are a slightly better quality and cost option, however they also have similar issues as Green. Please limit use where possible.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Eggplant & Squash: Harvests of Eggplant and Summer Squash in the Southeast, Mexico and California are all in full swing. Pricing is very good on all grades and sizes, and quality is also very good.

Pears: Spring pears such as Anjou and Bosc (Pacific Northwest) and Bartlett (Chile) are now available, and are a great late winter addition to hand fruit selections and recipes.

Peppers: Bell Peppers of all colors and grades are once again in great quality, availability and pricing. Be sure to incorporate these staples into your menus.

Cucumbers: Southeastern and Western U.S. crops are approaching peak harvest, with all field-grown Cucumbers of great quality and pricing.

Apples: Certain varieties are at peak season out of Idaho, Washington and Michigan. Pink Lady, Gala, Fuji and Red Rome apples are excellent quality and pricing.

Weather Update

California: Rain, heavy at times, is hitting Salinas Valley and Santa Maria over the next few days. Oxnard temperatures will cool to the low sixties for most of next week.

Mexico: Ideal growing conditions are expected throughout the week, with daytime temps as high as the low 90s and overnight temps in the high 50s.

Florida: Temperatures will cool from the low 90s to the high 70s over the next few days.



Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	WA, ID and MI are at peak season on certain varieties. Quality is excellent.	 CELERY	Quality is fair; pricing is higher.	 LETTUCE LEAF	Supplies are very scarce, quality is fair to poor and pricing is very high.
 ASPARAGUS	Pricing is very good on all sizes, with excellent quality.	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good.	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher.
 AVOCADO	Pricing is slightly higher than normal, quality is good to fair.	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good.	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher.
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality and pricing are excellent.	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good.	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is good, pricing is steady.
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality and pricing are good.	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.	 EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good.	 PEARS	New crop is being harvested, quality is good, pricing is stable.
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.	 GARLIC	Quality is fair; pricing is higher.	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good.
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair; pricing is good.	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair to poor; pricing is very high.	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is very good.
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair; pricing is higher.	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair; pricing is higher.	 POTATOES (COLORED)	All colors are at peak season.
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality and pricing are good. Mexican product is at peak season.	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is trending higher.	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is stable.	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good.	 STONE FRUIT	Quality and pricing are good. Chilean product is at peak season.
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair to poor; pricing is very high.	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is poor; pricing is good.	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher on Western grape and cherry tomatoes.

