

# the Source +



## Market Alerts

**AVOCADOS** The supply of product out of Mexico continues to be severely restricted, due to a combination of growing condition and import issues. Product from other sources, including California, is not plentiful enough to offset the Mexican shortage, and pricing continues to be much higher than normal.

**LETTUCE** Supplies are extremely short on Iceberg, Green and Red Leaf Lettuces. Romaine supplies are slightly better. Quality is poor to fair, and orders are very likely to be shorted. Pricing is also very high. For optimal availability and quality we recommend tender leaf items such as Arcadian Blend, Spring Mix, Arugula or Spinach.

**CAULIFLOWER & BROCCOLI** Supplies of **Bunched Broccoli, Crowns and Florets** continue to be scarce, and pricing is much higher than normal. Quality is good to fair. We recommend you limit use where possible, and use **Cauliflower Heads or Florets** as a substitute.

**TOMATOES** Supplies of **Round, Roma, Grape and Cherry Tomatoes** are lighter than usual, due to cool weather slowing the harvests in Florida and California. Quality is good, however pricing is higher than normal on most sizes and varieties. **Romas, and round 5x6 size and larger**, are the best values. **Grapes** are a better buy than **Cherries**.

**GRAPES** Quality remains fair to poor and pricing remains higher than normal on both **Green** and **Red Grapes**. Please limit use where possible. Supplies are expected to improve significantly within the next two weeks, as the Mexico and California harvests ramp up.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Strawberries:** Supplies of Strawberries are plentiful, with great quality and pricing reported

**Ramps and Fiddlehead Ferns:** These mid-spring specialty items are popular menu additions during their very short growing seasons. Ask your distributor for availability.

**Melons:** Cantaloupe, Honeydew and Watermelon are all in great supply, with excellent pricing and quality.

**Blueberries:** Central California is at the beginning of a 2-to-4-week peak harvest. Excellent quality and good pricing!

**Asparagus:** Locally grown asparagus is being harvested in many parts of the Pacific Northwest, Midwest and Northeast U.S. Ask your distributor for what's available!

## Weather Update

**California:** Temperatures are heating back up, to above average, across Central California next week.

**Mexico:** Northern and Central Mexico will have above average temperatures throughout the week.

**Florida:** Cool, wet conditions will continue in Central and Northern Florida, with the heaviest rain expected on Monday and Tuesday.



# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	WA, ID and MI are at peak season on certain varieties. Quality is excellent.
 ASPARAGUS	Pricing is higher than normal, with good quality. Pencil and Standard are the best values.
 AVOCADO	Pricing is slightly higher than normal, quality is good to fair.
 BELL PEPPERS	Pricing is higher on some grades and colors. Quality is good.
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Pricing and quality are good.
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Pricing and quality are good.
 BROCCOLI	Pricing is very high, quality is poor.
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality and pricing are good. Mexican product is at peak season.
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is stable.
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is good to fair, pricing is good.

 CELERY	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good.
 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good.
 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good.
 CUCUMBERS	Pricing is higher on some grades. Quality is good.
 EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good.
 GARLIC	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair to poor, pricing is very high.
 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is trending higher.
 KALE	Quality and pricing are good.
 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Supplies are improved, pricing is lower and quality is good to fair.

 LETTUCE LEAF	Supplies are improved, pricing is lower and quality is good to fair.
 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good.
 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are good.
 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good.
 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 PEARS	New crop is being harvested, quality is good, pricing is stable.
 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good.
 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is very good.
 POTATOES (COLORED)	All colors are at peak season.
 SQUASH	Pricing is higher on Yellow than Green. Quality is good.
 STONE FRUIT	Quality and pricing are good. Chilean product is at peak season.
 TOMATOES	Quality is good. Pricing is higher on most Round, Grape and Cherry Tomatoes. Romas, Grapes and smaller Rounds are the best values.

