

the Source +



Market Alerts

Strawberries – The recent cold, wet weather in southern California has significantly affected supplies and quality. Pricing may be higher in certain markets. Quality issues from water damage include softness, bruising and short shelf life. **Blackberries** and **Blueberries** are better quality options.

Lettuce – Quality and pricing continues to improve on head lettuces, now that the California to Yuma AZ transition is largely finished. Romaine, Green Leaf and pre-cut product are the best cost and quality options.

Cucumbers – Supplies of field-grown Cucumbers are light in all growing regions due to field transition. Quality is good, but pricing is higher. Select-grade product is the best value.

Potatoes – Supplies will be limited on all sizes of **Idaho potatoes** throughout the winter, with slightly higher pricing than normal and good to fair quality. **80 CT and smaller sizes** are the best value.

Red Peppers – Pricing continues to be higher than normal on Red Bell Peppers, with good quality reported. **Choice-grade** product is the best value. Consider using **Green Peppers** where possible.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Apples – Apple season is in full swing, including short-season varieties like Lady and Jona Gold.

Sweet Potatoes – The fall crop is at its peak, with excellent quality and availability

Cold-Weather Citrus – New crop Navel Oranges are now available, along with Mandarins and Grapefruit. Blood Oranges and other winter varieties are just around the corner.

Asparagus – Quality is excellent on the Peruvian and Mexican crops. Pricing is very good in particular for Standard and Pencil sizes.

Hard Squash – All cold-weather squashes are available—from Butternut and Spaghetti to Delicata and Carnival. Ask your distributor for recommendations!

Brussels Sprouts – Just in time for holiday menus, quality and pricing on Brussels are much improved.

Pears – All fall varieties are now available. Bartlett, Bosc, Anjou and more—ask your distributor for recommendations.

Weather Update

California: The strong storm systems of the past couple weeks are almost through. Conditions will gradually dry out and warm up over the week.

Yuma AZ – Warmer temperatures expected, although still below seasonal levels, with breezy conditions.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures and mostly dry conditions.

Florida: Temperatures warming slightly, but still below normal, and dry conditions.



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Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good	 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Red and other Colored Bells	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on field-grown product	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good	 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 GARLIC	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is poor, pricing may be higher in certain markets	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher, 80 CT and smaller are the best value
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good to fair, pricing is slightly higher	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality and pricing are good
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good	 SQUASH	Quality is good, Zucchini is a better buy than Yellow in most markets
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good

