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## Market Alerts

**STONE FRUIT** The season is coming to an early end due to poor growing conditions throughout the year. Quality is fair, sizing is running large and pricing is higher than normal.

**ASPARAGUS** Quality is good on all sizes, with higher pricing on larger sizes. **Pencil and Standard** are the best buys.

**ORANGES** Supplies of **Valencia Oranges** are becoming scarce on smaller sizes due to excessive heat in Western growing areas, with **113** and **138 CT Choice** being the least available. Quality is good to fair. The situation is expected to continue until the **Navel Orange** harvest begins in the fall. Consider using **88 CT** or larger, or a **Fancy** grade if needed.

**BRUSSELS SPROUTS** Supplies are very limited, particularly on Jumbo sizes, and pricing is higher than normal. Quality is fair to good.

**AVOCADOS** The supply situation remains critically tight, particularly with the Mexican harvest, which accounts for the majority of available product. Quality is good to fair, however pricing is at record highs.

**WESTERN SOFT VEGETABLES** Heat-related harvest issues in California have affected supplies of Red Bell Peppers, Eggplant and Cucumbers. We recommend using Green Bell Peppers and Select-grade Cucumbers as good value alternatives.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Locally Grown Products:** The local growing season is at its peak in most areas of the country! Be sure to ask your distributor for their full list of locally grown recommendations, and look for these farm-fresh products:

**Melons:** All melons are peaking in quality and availability. Cantaloupe, Honeydew, Watermelon and specialty melons like Crenshaw and Persian are all perfect summer menu features.

**Tomatoes:** Locally grown in late summer throughout the country, with Beefsteak, Heirlooms and other specialty tomatoes available in many regions. Ask your distributor for recommendations.

**Red and Green Leaf Lettuce:** Excellent quality and pricing are reported on Leaf Lettuce, with locally grown product available throughout the Midwest, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

**Green Bell Peppers:** Harvests in the Midwest, Northeast and California are all peaking. Great quality and pricing on all grades and sizes of Green Peppers.

## Weather Update

**California:** All growing regions will grow hotter and drier throughout the week. Inland region temperatures will be in the 100s and the coastal areas in the mid-80s.

**Mexico:** Northern Mexico will also be hotter and drier, into the 100s. The Central region will be at seasonal temperatures and precipitation, and the Southern area may be affected by incoming Tropical Storm Harvey.

**Florida:** Tropical storms are expected to bring heavy rain to the southern part of the state over the weekend. The rest of the state is at seasonal temperatures and precipitation.



# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Smaller sizes are very scarce until mid-September. Fuji and Red Delicious are the best buys for 100 CT and smaller.
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher than normal on larger sizes.
 AVOCADO	Pricing remains much higher than normal, quality is good to fair.
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, with Green Peppers being the best buy.
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good.
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good.
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good to fair, pricing is good.
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is fair.
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher than normal.
 CARROTS	Pricing and quality are good.
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good.

 CELERY	Quality and pricing are good.
 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher on certain sizes.
 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good.
 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher on certain sizes.
 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Western product.
 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is higher than normal on Western product.
 GARLIC	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is fair.
 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is fair.
 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good.
 KALE	Quality and pricing are good.
 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality and pricing are good.

 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are very good.
 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are very good.
 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are very good.
 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are very good.
 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good.
 PEARS	New crop is being harvested, quality is good, pricing is stable.
 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good.
 POTATOES	Pricing is higher on 80 CT and larger. 90 CT and smaller are the best buys.
 POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality and pricing are good.
 SQUASH	Pricing is higher on Yellow than Green. Quality is good.
 STONE FRUIT	The season is ending early. Quality is fair and pricing is higher.
 TOMATOES	Quality is good. 5x6 Rounds and Grapes are the best buys.

