

OVERVIEW:

Cold weather is impacting Southern and Mexican produce production this week. Expect limited availability of honeydew, pineapple, and bananas. Avocado prices are high due to the Super Bowl and low supply, with limited availability expected for the next few weeks. In the South, pepper and citrus production are active, while tomato quality and supply are improving. Table grapes are transitioning to offshore sources, with limited domestic grapes remaining. Green pepper supply is good, but squash is tighter. Honeydew is facing a challenging transition period with weather-related delays in South America impacting quality and availability. Flexibility with honeydew is recommended, consider substitutes if necessary. Lettuce in Yuma is being monitored for potential icing issues due to cold weather. Despite the cold, wet vegetable quality and supplies are improving. However, endive, escarole, cilantro, and fennel remain expensive with limited availability. Bok Choy and leeks also have extremely high prices. Red cabbage, celery, and Brussels sprouts are still expensive but improving.

ALERT LIST

- Asparagus – ESCALATED
- Avocados – ESCALATED
- Bok Choy – EXTREME
- Brussels Sprouts – ESCALATED
- Red Cabbage – ESCALATED
- Celery – ESCALATED
- Cilantro – ESCALATED
- Fennel – ESCALATED
- Leeks – EXTREME
- Limes – ESCALATED
- Cantaloupe & Honeydew – ESCALATED
- Napa Cabbage – ESCALATED
- Parsley – ESCALATED
- Spinach – ESCALATED
- Strawberries – ESCALATED
- Table Grapes – ESCALATED

WATCH LIST

- Banana
- Pineapple
- Bell Pepper (Red, Yellow & Orange)
- Broccoli
- Green Cabbage
- Iceberg & Romaine Lettuce
- Ginger
- Snow Peas & Sugar Snap Peas



Strawberries – Rising supplies from multiple regions. Quality up in Santa Maria, California. Mexico production increasing, quality an issue. Strong Florida production.



Blackberries – Excellent quality with steady volumes from Mexico



Raspberries – Consistently good quality and supply from Mexico.



Blueberries – Mexico production dipping slightly, with a February rebound expected. Peru fruit arriving next week. Chilean quality excellent, but with shipping delays. California organic production starts soon.



Cucumbers – Good supply from Mexico with good quality.



Green Onions – Good supply and quality.



Potatoes – Markets are stable with balanced sizing. Larger sizes are more plentiful. Expect potential price increases and tightening supply as growers transition from Norkotah to Burbank potatoes in early Q2. Current prices are likely the lowest for now.



Broccoli, Florets & Crowns – Improved quality and supply. Floret minis remain tight.



Tomatoes – East Coast round and roma tomato supply is improving with a normal market expected by mid-next week. Quality is excellent, but cooler weather may impact production. Snacking tomatoes show good supply and quality. Mexico round and roma tomatoes have stable supply and good quality. Snacking tomatoes also have steady supply and good quality. Tomato-on-the-vine volume is steady.



Broccolini/Sweet Baby Broccoli – Good quality and supply.



Chili Peppers – Mexico has good supplies of Jalapeno, Caribes, Serrano, and Poblano peppers. Shishitos are in short supply. Florida supplies are below forecast.



Avocado – Volume reached 64.2 million pounds last week, an 78% increase. This exceeds any volume since early December. Jalisco comprises 8.1% of US avocado imports from Mexico. Next week's Super Bowl harvest projects 73.4 million pounds. Small avocados are abundant; sizes 48 and larger are scarce. Prices increased across all sizes. Extended rain increased grade 2 fruit.



Melons – Cantaloupes show good quality and high brix levels. Sizes 9-12 count are prevalent; jumbo fruit is unavailable. Demand will exceed supply through January due to rain damage in Central American fields. Expect higher prices. Honeydew: severely limited due to storm damage and low imports. Expect ongoing challenges for several weeks. Flexibility in sizing and substitutions are crucial.



Asparagus – Low volume due to cold weather. Peruvian imports decreasing.



Artichokes – Supply improved, market stable. Quality improving.



Corn – Good supply and quality. Expect smaller size and less mature kernels due to cooler weather.



Parsley – Improved supply and quality.



Green, Red & Napa Cabbage – Green: Improved supply and quality, but potential weather impacts warrant monitoring. Napa: Improving quality and supply, but insect pressure present. Red: Good quality, limited supply.



Cauliflower – Improved supply, fair quality.



Fennel – Low yields and short supply.



Kale – Improved supply, good quality.



Bell Peppers – Green and Yellow have good quality, prices, and availability. Red Bells are still high in prices.



Onions – Expect higher prices for Pacific Northwest onions. White onions are especially scarce until Mexican imports arrive mid-February. Red onions may remain limited until the California spring/summer harvest. Mexico anticipates a strong crop. The Texas crop remains unpredictable due to potential weather.



Bok Choy – Good quality, limited supply.



Lettuce, Iceberg & VA Blends – Iceberg shows good quality and supply. Weights have recovered to normal levels for most growers. Cool temperatures hinder production & cause harvest delays. VA good quality & supply, cool weather may pose challenges soon.



Lettuce, Romaine & VA Blends – Romaine & hearts show improved supply. Romaine is maturing with better weights. Heart material is increasing, allowing lighter greens and yellows in the finished product. Despite current stability, potential delays add romaine to the watch list. VA good quality and improving supplies.



Lettuce, Red & Green Leaf – Green and red leaf lettuce exhibit good quality and supply with ideal weights and sizing.



Leeks – Very limited supply.



Spinach – Improving supply and quality.



Pineapple – Tight supply, with no improvement expected until the end of February. Peak volume is anticipated in May. Flexibility in sizing will be crucial over the next 4–6 weeks.



Ginger – Stable supply and market.



Carrots – Jumbo carrots limited, other sizes steady.



Celery – Improving quality and supply. Organic celery extremely limited.



Brussel Sprouts – Good quality and supply.



Lemons – We are seeing no change in the lemon market at this time with plenty of supplies on both size and grade and aggressive prices. Meyer & Seedless: Good supplies on medium size fruit at this time. No price change.



Lime – Stabilized as demand shifts due to US weather. Production transitions to a new crop yielding mostly small fruit in Q1. Large sizes will be scarce. Fruit quality improved, but recent rain may impact it with defects appearing after transit. Expect declining availability and higher prices due to low temperatures, consistent with seasonal trends.



Mandarins/Grapefruit – Starting the page Mandarins and Murcott mandarins this week. Good supplies fruit is a deep color orange with great eating qualities. Grapefruit: Good exterior blush with exceptional interior red color & eating quality.



Oranges – Good supplies at this time of year fruit is eating exceptionally well, with good sizes being produced at this time.



Eggplant – Good availability and prices at the moment.



Watermelon – Supply is lighter with low demand. Harvesting occurs in Central Mexico.



Mushrooms – Stable supply, good quality.



Snow Peas & Sugar Snaps – Western markets active, eastern markets steady. Guatemalan production improving. Domestic supplies have gaps. Mexican production stable.



Bananas – Tightened slightly due to unfavorable weather conditions in the tropics, but import volumes are normalizing. Overall banana quality remains good, with size 24 bananas showing the most availability.



Table Grapes – Short supply, but imported fruit quality is good. Green grapes are becoming more available, while red grapes remain limited. A few remaining red grapes in the west have fair quality. Prices are expected to stay firm until more Chilean fruit arrives.



Garlic – Good quality, lighter supply.



Loose Poly Radish – Market stable. Main growing areas are Arizona and Florida. Seeing cooler weather in Florida which has slowed production. Expecting prices to increase.. 2nd labels with inferior quality coming out of California, Yuma, and Mexico starting lower supplies.



Parsnips– Stable. Strong supplies out of Oregon. Great quality with stable supplies and prices.



Turnips– Strong supplies out of Oregon. Great quality with stable supplies. Prices continue to drop because of the heavy supplies with new crops out of California, Texas and Arizona.



Rutabaga – Strong supplies out of Oregon. Great quality with stable supplies and prices. New crop California also has started. Expecting to see pressure on prices.



Beets – Stable supplies with good quality out of Oregon. Prices dropped a little with increased supplies out of California, Yuma, Texas and Mexico.



Green Beans – Plentiful with good quality from Nogales and Florida.



Zucchini– Starting to be short with high prices. This will be the case for this week due to weather in Mexico.