

the Source +

FOOD SERVICE
DiCarlo

Market Alerts

Transition – The northward seasonal movement of major growing regions from Yuma AZ to central California has begun. This typically lasts from mid-March through April, and row crops such as lettuces, broccoli, cauliflower and celery are more susceptible to supply disruptions and quality issues. Be sure to read The Source Plus weekly for up-to-date info and recommendations.

Broccoli/Cauliflower – The heavy rains in Yuma AZ, and transition of fields, continue to slow harvests of both of these items. Quality is fair, with yellowing and internal decay reported, and pricing is higher than usual. **Crowns** and **Florets** are the best quality options.

Avocados – Supplies are slowly improving, but pricing remains higher than normal, particularly on larger fruit. **#2 Grade, 60 CT** and smaller sizes continue to be the best overall value.

Lettuce – Transition-related conditions continue to impact quality on all bulk lettuce, **Iceberg** in particular. Issues include pinking, mildew and blistering. Pricing is at normal levels. **Romaine Hearts** and **pre-cut product** are the best quality options.

Grapes – The end of South America's harvest and a slow start to the Mexican crop has resulted in a gap of supplies and a rash of quality issues, particularly on **Green Grapes**. Softness and short shelf life are common. Pricing is slightly higher than normal, with **Red Grapes** being a better value.

Strawberries – Ongoing rainy conditions in Mexico and southern California have caused quality issues from water damage. Soft berries and short shelf life are commonly reported. **Blueberries** and **Blackberries** may be better quality options next week.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Stone Fruit – Imported Peaches and Nectarines are very nice quality – ask your distributor for recommendations.

Kale – Quality is excellent, with full leaves and vibrant color.

Asparagus – All sizes of Asparagus are plentiful, with excellent quality.

Brussels Sprouts – Quality remains very good out of Yuma AZ.

Grapefruit – Texas and California are harvesting very nice quality fruit.

Pineapples – Quality is excellent, with high sugar levels, on all imports.

Weather Update

Southern California – Gusty winds and rain, followed by dry conditions and seasonal temperatures.

Central California – Cold temperatures and dry conditions, with morning frost possible.

Mexico – Seasonal temperatures and precipitation.

Florida – Very warm, 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 is fair, pricing is good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good, 113 CT and larger are the best values	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher	 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 good, pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing may be higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher, 90 CT and smaller are the best values
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality and pricing are good	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Reds and Whites
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good	 SQUASH	Quality and pricing are good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is good	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good

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