

The Source

April 14, 2021

FOOD SERVICE
DiCarlo

Market Alerts

Apples – Quality and supplies are good on all varieties, except smaller sized **Galas** and **Granny Smiths**, where pricing will be higher. Smaller sized **Fujis** are plentiful.

Asparagus – Supplies still consistent out of Mexico as well as Peru. Pricing and quality are good on all sizes.

Avocados – Market pricing has stabilized, but remains on the higher side due to strong retail and foodservice demand, particularly on 70 CT and smaller fruit, and #2 grade product. California's harvest has ramped up.

Bell Peppers – California has begun harvesting **Green Bells**, and Mexico continues to produce steady supplies. Quality is very good on all colors.

Berries (Blackberries) – Supplies are limited and will remain so for the next two weeks, due to previous cold weather now impacting Mexican harvests. Quality is good.

Berries (Blueberries) – Both Mexico (cold temps) and Florida (heavy rains) are producing lighter yields. Supplies are expected to remain less than demand through April. Quality is good.

Berries (Raspberries) – Supplies are limited and will remain so for the next two weeks, due to previous cold weather now impacting Mexican harvests. Quality is good.

Berries (Strawberries) – Heavy demand and light harvests continue to keep supplies light and pricing higher, however quality remains good. Warmer weather is expected this week in California's Oxnard and Salinas regions, which should speed up production and stabilize pricing over the next few weeks.

Continued

Broccoli – Supplies are abundant on bulk and processed product. Quality is very good.

Brussels Sprouts – Abundant supplies and very nice quality.

Carrots – Quality is good on all bulk and value-added product.

Cauliflower – Ample supplies in Santa Maria and Salinas. Market expected to stay steady.

Celery – California's Oxnard and Santa Maria regions continue to produce abundant supplies on all sizes, with good quality, aside from slight seeder being reported. Distributors loading in Salinas are charged a transfer fee, but not when loading direct in southern California.

Citrus (Lemons) – Quality is very good on all sizes, with 115/140/165 CT fruit the most plentiful.

Citrus (Limes) – Supplies remain very limited, particularly on 175 CT and larger sizes. Pricing is higher and quality is good.

Citrus (Oranges) - Quality is very good on all sizes, with 88 CT and larger fruit the most plentiful. Market pricing on 113 CT and smaller sizes are higher.

Cucumbers – Mexico's Sonora harvest continues to be slow to ramp up, creating a small supply gap expected to last 1-2 weeks. Quality is good, pricing is higher.

Eggplant – Good quality and availability on all sizes and grades.

Continued

Garlic – Market is tightening up as California supplies are very tight. Look for Mexican and Argentina supplies to supplement for the next few months.

Grapes (Green) – Quality remains mostly fair and pricing higher out of Chile, with a wide range of both. The market is expected to stabilize next week.

Grapes (Red) – Quality is fair to good, and remain a more reliable option than Greens. Pricing is steady.

Green Onions – Quality, availability and pricing is steady.

Kale – Salinas' harvest is off to a slow start, with tight supplies and higher pricing. Quality is good.

Lettuce (Iceberg) – Huron's harvest will end in the next few weeks. Santa Maria and Salinas continue to produce good quality product. Quality is largely good, with some field-level mildew reported. Pricing is competitive.

Lettuce Leaf – Supplies are good on all bulk and processed product, particularly on **Romaine Hearts**. Production continues to be steady out of Santa Maria and Salinas. Minor cases of tip burn, mildew and insect activity are reported, with overall good quality. Pricing is steady.

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Lettuce Tender Leaf – Salinas' harvest continues to slowly improve. Pricing remains on the higher side, with good quality reported.

Melons (Cantaloupe) – Pricing is steady, with the Eastern markets continuing to be slightly lower than the West. Quality is great, with Brix sweetness levels at 10% and up.

Melons (Honeydew) – Imported product, like with Cantaloupe, is more plentiful in the East. Mexico's harvest has improved, however imported product may be light due to port delays. Domestic Honeydew should become available by mid to late April. Quality is good.

Melons (Watermelon) – Offshore and Mexican harvests are still very light, particularly on Mini Seedless fruit. Quality is fair, but slowly improving, and pricing is higher.

Onions – Supplies will extend in the Northwest through May. Texas new crop product is available through May as well. California's harvest will start April 25th. Quality is fair.

Pears – All varieties are running to larger sizes, as the season winds down from now through early May. Quality is good, pricing may be higher.

Pineapples – Quality is excellent and pricing is steady.

Continued

Potatoes –80 CT and smaller **Burbanks**, and smaller #2 product, remain the best buys. 70 CT and larger are more scarce and expensive. Bite sized colored potatoes are in a small gap, with the Northwest almost finished and California set to harvest in early May. Quality is good.

Squash – Supplies are abundant on both **Yellow** and **Italian** Zucchini. Quality and pricing are competitive and promotable.

Stone Fruit – Chile's Stone Fruit season will end by the end of April, with domestic production expected to start with **Apricots** and **Peaches** at the same time. Quality is fair.

Tomatoes – Supplies continue to be terrific on all **Rounds and Romas**. **Grape** supplies are also good, and a better buy than **Cherries**. Growing conditions have been ideal in Mexico and Florida. Quality is good.

Weather

California – Strong onshore flow and moderate marine layer conditions keep overnight lows near normal. Look for temps this weekend to heat up in the mid 80s.

Mexico – Seasonal temps today will cool slightly on Thursday and then temps are likely to warm back up to above normal.

Florida – High pressure builds with clear to partly cloudy skies today. A weak cold front approaches tomorrow. Expect light, intermittent showers for central and northern Florida.

Arizona – Strong gusty winds up to 40-45mph will cool temps to seasonal averages today and tomorrow.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Bell Peppers
Carrots
Cucumbers
Eggplant
Lemons
Oranges

Pineapples
Squash
Pears (PAST PEAK)
Grapes Green (PAST PEAK)


























Freight

Trucks remain tight in the Northwest, Idaho, and California. The national average on diesel remained steady and is currently at 3.129 per gallon.

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Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is steady
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair, pricing is steady	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is lower
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 KALE	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 STONE FRUIT	Quality is fair, pricing is steady
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is good, pricing is steady	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is steady



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