



freshtimes

Weekly Newsletter

for the week of December 3, 2018

A dash of spice makes spirits bright!



asparagus

Quality overall is good and demand is flat. Supplies are limited in Mexico, but production in Peru is steady. The market is expected to be active as we move closer to the holiday pull.

avocados

Overall Mexican quality is good at this time.

beans—green

Volume continues to improve from FL with very good quality, and we may see some scarring by the cold and windy conditions.

berries—black, blue, & raspberry

Blackberries & Blueberries: Supplies and quality are good.

Raspberries: Supplies are decreasing as the peak of the first crop in Mexico has passed, coupled with rain. Quality is good with some reports of mold.

berries—strawberry ALERT

Demand exceeds supply as the market is limited on strawberries and stem strawberries to ship out of CA and Mexico. Rain has affected both areas, thus hampering order fill rates. Quality is fair at best.

broccoli & cauliflower ALERT

Broccoli: Supplies are extremely short and the market is high. Erratic weather has interrupted planting schedules and quality issues of open bead and flowering are being reported.

Cauliflower: Supplies are light and the market is reacting. Higher markets are anticipated due to limited supplies. Quality issues of discoloration and inconsistent sizing are reported.

celery ALERT

The market is very short from limited supplies coming out of Oxnard, CA. Expect a strong market through the end of the year.

citrus ALERT

Lemons: The market is steady, with larger size volume improving. Quality is good for District 3, with District 1 starting.

Limes: Rain in the growing region, but quality is fair to good.

Oranges ALERT: Rain is forecasted in Central CA, limiting the harvest and thus affecting supplies and causing loading delays. Substituting to alternate sizes may be needed. Intermittent harvesting is expected over the next 7-10 days due to breaks in the rain.

cucumbers

The current cold snap has slowed down production in FL, but temps are expected to rebound by the weekend. The market remains steady, with good volume and quality. Volume from Nogales is improving.

eggplant

FL supplies are improving with good quality, with Fancy smaller in size. Expect quality and volume to continue to improve from FL.

grapes

Steady market. Peruvian imports have started to ship in a few green grapes.

lettuce—iceberg, leaf, and romaine ALERT

Demand exceeds supply. An unforeseen increase in product needs have taken these markets up and supplies are limited. Mexico continues to be hit with weather issues and are unable to help where Yuma is short. Processors are doing their best to source raw product to keep up with increased demand for precut product. Quality issues of light weight and bottom rot reported.

melons ALERT

Cantaloupes ALERT and honeydew are tight. Supplies from Guatemala have arrived on the West Coast and domestic cantaloupes are done. Honeydew supplies from Mexico are



steady. Quality is very good on all honeydews at this point, and offshore cantaloupe are very strong.

onions

Very few quality issues.

peppers ALERT

Green pepper supplies are very tight as the GA season wraps up and quality is poor. FL is starting up in a light way and the current cold snap has temporarily slowed production. Expect improved volume in the next 7-10 days, as temps rebound over the weekend. The quality of green and colored bells is fair to good.

potatoes

Burbanks and Norkotahs have been very good overall, with occasional quality issues.

squash

Quality is good to fair from N. Mexico.

tomatoes ALERT

East: FL volume will increase over the coming weeks when Immokalee starts. Strong

demand combined with low volume out of Central FL has kept the market active. FL's cool weather could affect production. West: Mexico is struggling to keep up with demand due to the reduction in volume from cool temps in the Torreon area. Mexico will remain active for the next couple of weeks.

Top 5 Five

1. BROCCOLI & CAULIFLOWER **ALERT!**

Demand exceeds supplies on both items as colder weather has halted growth.

2. HERBS **ALERT!**

The cilantro/parsley markets are up due to volume and yield decline, and will be active for the next 3 weeks.

3. LETTUCE **ALERT!**

Demand exceeds supply as yields are dropping on what is left of the Salinas season before the new season starts in AZ.

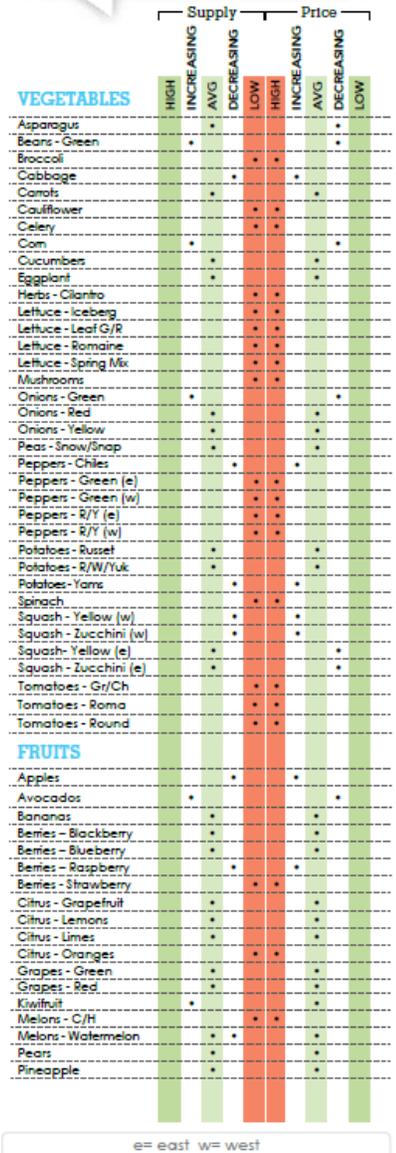
4. PEPPERS **ALERT!**

Green pepper supplies are very tight as the GA season wraps up and quality is poor.

5. TENDER-LEAFED ITEMS **ALERT!**

Supplies are expected to be short through the rest of the year on spring mix, arugula, baby kale, and spinach.

Reality Check



Item of the Week

Happy Holiday Baking!

Item #	Pack	Description
51490	1/50 LB	FLOUR ALL PURP UNTREATED UNBLCHD SHAWNE
1233	1/25 LB	FLOUR ALL PURPOSE AMER BEAUTY
65211	1/50 LB	FLOUR AP SPEC PATENT 12.7 PR KING ARTHUR
75243	1/50 LB	FLOUR ARTISAN SIR GALAHAD KING ARTHUR K
54148	1/50 LB	FLOUR CAKE-HI-RATIO UNBLCH K SHAWNEE
51437	1/50 LB	FLOUR HI GLUTEN UNBLCH SIR LANCELOT K 26
51441	1/50 LB	FLOUR HOTEL & REST.ALL PURP. AMER BEAUTY
53173	1/25 LB	SALT EVAPORATED IODIZED K
73973	12/2 LB	SUGAR BROWN LIGHT K DOMINO
74150	1/50 LB	SUGAR BROWN MEDIUM
44120	1/25 LB	SUGAR GRANULATED EX. FINE IMPERIAL/DOMINO
74161	1/50 LB	SUGAR GRANULATED EX.FINE K IMPERIAL/DOMINO
76802	1/50 LB	SUGAR POWDERED 10X CONFECT DOMINO
74138	12/2 LB	SUGAR POWDERED 10X CONFECT K DOMINO



Grocery Market NEWS

ITEM	PRICE CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
Chicken WOGS	No change
Chicken Breast Fresh Sized	No change
Chicken Breast Fresh Random	No change
Chicken Breast Frozen Sized	No change
Chicken Wings	Down
Eggs - Large	Up
Eggs - XLarge	Up
Bacon	Down
Cheese Block	Down
Cheese Barrel	Up
Butter	No change