



Weekly Market Report

March 12, 2018

What's New?

- ◇ ****Colder than normal temps in many growing regions is pushing many markets much higher. Supplies are limited and markets are expected to remain elevated for several weeks.****

Watch out! Important updates on these items.

- **Asparagus:** Markets are much higher as cold temps in Mexico have slowed production. Supplies of jumbo and XL asparagus will be very limited.
- **Banana:** Plantain and banana supplies have been impacted by recent weather events. Vessels have been delayed, which leaves less time to ripen product. Having some challenges keeping up with demand on ripe fruit; alerts will be sent as needed.
- **Broccoli:** Markets remain elevated.
- **Brocolini:** Supplies remain limited and we expect to have shortages in supply over the next several weeks.
- **Cauliflower:** Markets are very high and are expected to stay high for a few weeks.
- **Celery:** Markets are slightly higher.
- **Cucumbers:** Markets remain at elevated levels. Expected to stay high until FL crops start in a few weeks.
- **Eggplant:** Prices remain elevated with strong demand and slow production.
- **Garlic:** Markets are higher as supplies are limited.
- **Iceberg Lettuce, Romaine, and Romaine Hearts:** Prices will be higher and quality will be fair. Expected outer leaf discoloration.
- **Leaf Items:** Prices will continue to be high and quality will be an issues.
- **Limes:** Markets continue to climb and costs are heading to historical highs. Limited supplies from Mexico.
- **Spring Mix, Arugula and Baby Spinach:** All baby lettuce, baby spinach and arugula quality will be marginal at best due to cold nights Yuma has had over the last two weeks; looking like it will be like this until Yuma is done in 2-3 weeks.
- **Strawberries:** Market will be higher as FL production is down.
- **Squash:** Markets are MUCH HIGHER with limited supplies from Mexico and FL not able to keep up with demand. Hard-shell prices are slightly higher.



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NOTABLE UPDATES

VEGETABLES

Beans: Green bean markets are steady. **Snip Bean** supplies are steady. **French beans** are steady.

Broccoli and Cauliflower Florets: Both broccoli and cauliflower floret prices are higher due to limited supplies.

Cabbage: Markets are slightly higher as demand increases.

Corn: Markets are slightly higher as we start the new growing regions of FL.

Greens: **Collards** and **Kale** supplies are steady.

Herbs: Rain continues to be an issue in most growing regions. **Basil** availability and quality have been an issue, but we are continuing to source from multiple regions to have a better variety of product to offer. **Chive** quality has also been an issue due to some disease in the fields of our primary grower. Those issues have been resolved and product quality has already begun to improve.

Hot House Cucumbers: Prices remain steady.

Peas: Prices are slightly higher but remain reasonable.

Peppers: **Green Pepper** markets are lower as supplies increase from FL and Mexico. **Red Pepper** prices steady. **Hot House Pepper** prices are steady.

Potatoes: **Russet** prices slightly higher with increased freight. We have started the transition to Burbank variety. **Red Potatoes** are new crop out of FL; prices steady. **Yukons** are also new crop from FL; prices steady.

Processed Lettuce: Chopped romaine prices are elevated due to limited supplies of raw product.

TOMATOES

Tomatoes, rounds: Round tomato supplies remain lower than previous weeks and will continue to be lower over the short term. Growers continue to experience lower yields and lower volumes. Prices have adjusted this week and are expected to increase next week with lower volumes. Volumes are very low on larger fruit as growers transition between crops. Small fruit is available but slightly limited. Quality and color are going to be a challenge in the short term.

Romas: Availability is limited from both Mexico and FL. Mexico has experienced colder weather creating a problem with size and color. FL is transitioning crops and working through yield and volume issues. Prices shot up with limited supply and they are predicted to continue to increase until supply levels come back to normal.

Grape and Cherry: Grapes and cherries are also both struggling with availability. Lower yield and reduced volume are having an impact on the market. Prices are up week over week and will continue to rise. Quality still remains good, but may become an issue in the near future.



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FRUITS

Apples & Pears: Washington apples in stock with excellent quality.

Avocados: **CA**—harvesting a good clip, which will continue to increase weekly. Eating quality very good; Hass need a little extra time to ripen. Good run of sizes; market is bullish. Organics are heavy to 48s due to size picking. CA is expecting much needed rain over the weekend and starting again mid-next week, which will impact harvest. **MEXICO**—the market is strong on 70s but mostly steady on 60s and larger. There are significant holidays coming up in harvesting areas which may limit harvesting volumes. After that harvests will gear up for Cinco de Mayo. Harvest has been consistent until this week; down 10%. Eating quality good; organic volume good. The first Peruvian arrivals are expected in mid to late May through September. We only have Mexican fruit in all codes; will start with some CA fruit in the next couple weeks.

Berries: **Raspberry** markets are slightly higher. *Stem Berries will be in stock this week.* **Blueberry** prices are steady. **Blackberry** prices are steady.

Citrus: **Orange** quality fair. **Honey tangerines** are in stock (TAN02). FL **grapefruit** are in stock. **Lemon** prices are steady.

Grapes: Markets are steady.

Mangos: Steady supplies from Peru and Mexico will start early this year. Markets remain steady.

Melons: **Cantaloupe** markets are steady. **Honeydew** markets are slightly higher. **Watermelon** prices are steady.

Pineapples: Markets steady.

Stone Fruit: Peaches, nectarines, and plums are now in stock.

NO CHANGES

Brussels Sprouts: Markets remain steady. Quality is good.

Onions: **White Onions** and **Red Onions** steady.