

The Source

Commodity of the Month - Citrus



MARKET ALERTS

Raspberries - Supply is light and the quality is good.

Onions - Supply is limited and the quality is fair.

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

CROP UPDATES

California will experience a break from rain this week as the latest storm system moves east. Forecasts predict another cold system over the weekend. Warm temperatures in the Desert regions will continue, with morning lows above frost levels. Temperatures will cool early next week, with possible frost in cold valleys and trace rain in desert regions. [Read more](#)

WEATHER

Arizona - Rain expected at 7AM due to weakening low south of Yuma County. Temperatures will gradually cool, with lows in the low-upper 40s by Sunday.

California - High pressure keeps temperatures warm, with daytime highs in the low 60s-70s. Light to moderate showers on Thursday, lasting through Sunday, with rain totals in the tenth to three-quarter inch range.

Florida - Dry weather in Florida through tomorrow, with increased shower chances in Northern Florida. Temperatures will cool slightly on Thursday, then milder with showery weather from Friday through Sunday.

Mexico - Warm temperatures in Central Mexico through the weekend, with highs in mid-80s to low 90s, lows in 50s to near 60, low rain chances, and occasional 20 mph wind gusts.

FREIGHT

California is expected to experience snowfall on March 1st, causing road delays in Northern California and Southern Oregon, and significant snow accumulation at Donner Summit over 80.



COME SEE US AT THE



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Commodity Updates



Apples

Apples are still in good supply for most varieties. Galas, gold dels., and pinks are showing lighter supplies.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Hudson, New York (September - June)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Asparagus

Caborca asparagus volume continues to be good this week due to ideal growing conditions. As long as adverse weather conditions do not occur, supplies should remain adequate.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Caborca (Year Round)	High	\$\$\$	Good
Ciudad Obregon (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Peru (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Avocados

The markets are steady. Due to higher dry matter, ripening times are shortening.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Bell Peppers

In Nogales, FL, green bell supply is slightly up from last week. The supply of red and gold bells remains limited for about three weeks until Canada ramps up in April. Quality and supply will continue to struggle until then due to past weather conditions.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Berries (Blackberries)

Supplies coming out of Mexico continue to be limited as growers are fighting lighter yields and logistical issues. CMEX is experiencing protesters and intentional road blockades. As a result, US transfers are severely hampered.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Berries (Blueberries)

There is plenty of supply coming out of CMEX, Peru, and Chile, but the markets are flat and seem to remain so until March. Chilean offshore fruit and Peruvian fruit are still available in good quantities.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	High	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	High	\$\$\$	Good
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	High	\$\$\$	Good



Berries (Raspberries)



The amount of fruit transferred by CMEX is very limited. We are in a demand-exceeds-supply situation.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
McAllen, Texas (October - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Berries (Strawberries)

CMEX crossings are limited due to road blockades on some major highways. They are in a downward trend out of this area, and should be done in four to six weeks.

Over the last few days, excellent weather has resulted in increased production out of California.

The ideal growing conditions in Dover, FL are resulting in drastic increases in production. Plants are finally responding to warmer temperatures.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	High	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

Commodity Updates



Broccoli

This week's broccoli supply has been very good. This week, the market should remain steady. Santa Maria also has a good supply. Next week, the market is expected to remain steady.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Brussel Sprouts

There are plenty of good quality Brussels Sprouts this week. As we head into the weekend, expect this market to adjust slightly lower.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (December-August)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (July-December)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Carrots

With suppliers finishing up in Bakersfield, which runs towards the end of February, whole carrots are a tad lower with slightly better availability. The Imperial Valley region is next. Grimmway has also started shipping out of their Lake Park, GA facility.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Kern County, California (May-July) (October-February)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Lake Park, Georgia (December - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Cauliflower

There has been an improvement in cauliflower supplies this week. As we approach the weekend, look for this market to adjust lower.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma (November - May)	High	\$\$\$	Good
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Celery

With this commodity, there is a good supply and a flat market. Southern California has excellent availability. For the best pricing, volume orders should be picked up in Santa Maria/Oxnard. Most shippers continue to deliver above-average quality. Florida's production is fair at best. In the southern CA region, all sizes are available with large sizes having the best offers.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (December - April)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

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Commodity Updates



Citrus (Lemons)

The overall peak size is 140ct and larger. The main growing region is District 1. Sizes smaller than 165ct are extremely tight.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
CA Desert/Yuma (October - February)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Citrus (Limes)

Prices are slightly lower due to flat demand. With new crop starting, yields are down. The quality has improved. Over the next few weeks, larger sizes will become tighter. There are some deals to be had on old fruit. Through April, the market is expected to remain active.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Veracruz (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Citrus (Oranges)

Currently, 72ct and larger are in peak demand; 88/113/138ct are extremely scarce and will remain so throughout the navel season. The fruit will continue to grow as the season progresses due to low fruit set and rain events. As we navigate our way through this shorter navel season, please be flexible with size and grade. Lead time is very important; please send orders 5-7 days in advance. Brix ranges from 12-14; quality is good. At this time, there is no gassing.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Cucumber

Supplies have improved slightly, but remain limited. The improved weather in Sinaloa will help increase production. There is still a limited supply of offshore fruit on the east coast, but FL crops are just around the corner. As supplies increase, prices are expected to soften.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Eggplant

The eggplant market is stable with good quality out of Nogales, and out of Florida, it is fair.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

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Commodity Updates



Garlic

Garlic supplies are tight overall. There has been a good harvest of Argentinian garlic in South America in recent months. The overall supply gap will not be filled by this, however. Over the next few months, the garlic market will become tighter and more volatile.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
East Coast (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Bakersfield, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Gilroy, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Grapes (Green)

On the east coast, green grape supplies are much better than on the west coast. Demand still exceeds supply on the market.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Chile (January - April)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Grapes (Red)

There is a much better supply of red grapes on the west coast than on the east coast. Demand still exceeds supply.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Chile (January - April)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Green Onions

With the improved weather in Mexico, supplies are improving. As the weekend approaches, expect the market to adjust lower.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	High	\$\$\$	Good



Kale

Supplies and quality are good heading into the weekend.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November- May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Lettuce Iceberg

This commodity will continue to have light supplies for the week. There will be an escalation of all value-added lettuce items throughout the week with all processors. Overall, demand continues to exceed supply. However, please note that all orders will be covered, but different suppliers may be needed. Shippers are watching contract averages. Quality has been fair with discoloration and mildew issues. The suppliers are cleaning the product much more, resulting in lighter weights, about 35-37 pounds.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (March-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Lettuce Leaf

Most shippers have seen an increase in demand for romaine, green and red leaf, and romaine hearts have also seen an increase in demand. All shippers continue to report blisters and peels. All leaf items are of fair quality at best. All suppliers are reporting lighter weights. The availability will be lighter throughout the week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Lettuce Tender Leaf

Arugula and spinach supplies continue to improve this week. The weather is improving as we head into the weekend. Quality should improve with this ideal growing weather.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Melon (Cantaloupe)

Supply is currently meeting demand and is expected to become steady. Due to a decrease in demand and an increase in supply, the market for cantaloupes has flattened out. Sugar and quality have been good on both cantaloupes and honeydews. The market should remain firm for the next two weeks. There will be a second cycle product available from Guatemala in March as a transition to spring product. Preparing for Spring promotions, retailers are working on promo deals.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

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Commodity Updates



Melon (Honeydew)

Honeydew market is flat. Mexican honeydews have been fair in quality and sugar, with lower sugar levels. Nogales offers better sizing, focusing on Honeydew 6s and 8s.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Melon (Watermelon)

Mostly offshore products from the east coast. Domestic suppliers are expected to arrive in the third week of March, causing a tight market for East Coast melons. Despite the availability of mini seedless melons, watermelon in bins and cartons is very limited. Due to the availability of product from Southern Mexico, supplies have improved. The majority of product crossing is in cartons, and bin supplies are limited. The color is lighter and the sugar level is lower than during peak season.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Central America (December-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Mushroom

Supply and availability are excellent.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Nationwide	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Onions



The northwest continues to face a shortage of supplies. Prices remain escalated on reds and yellows. The supply of whites is extremely limited. Mid-March is expected to be the start of Texas' new crop.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
South Texas (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Tri-Cities, Washington (July-April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Eastern Oregon/Parma, ID (August-April)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
San Joaquin Valley (May-August)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Hatch, New Mexico (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Pears

As Anjou's have become the dominant green pear, the market price is continuing to rise. Food service sizes are becoming increasingly difficult to find due to the large size profile of the crop. There are a lot of small boscs available.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Hood River, Oregon (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yakima, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Pineapples

This week's pineapple market is mixed; 5, 6 and 7 counts are down, while 8 counts are steady. The most need has been for subs on 6ct crowned. La Mirada and Philadelphia report light demand for product. While suppliers prepare for Easter, pink pineapple is available.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Costa Rica (Year round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Potatoes

Prices on 40 and 50 CT have remained high, but there are deals available on all sizes.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Bancroft, Wisconsin (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Idaho Falls, Idaho (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Monte Vista, Colorado (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Pasco, Washington (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent



Squash

This week, zucchini and yellow squash should increase. Zucchini will be the first, followed by yellow squash. The yellow squash from Nogales is the most limited. On both coasts, the quality is good.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Florida (November - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Stone Fruit

Peaches, plums, and nectarines are arriving on both coasts. Peach supplies are very light. The domestic Kiwi market is steady. As we approach the end of the season, the crop is beginning to show its age. The domestic crop is supplemented by imported Kiwi from Greece and Italy.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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San Joaquin Valley (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
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Tomatoes

The Florida supply is light as the state recovers from last week's rain. The overall quality of the end product remains good, despite lower packouts. Planting is transitioning in Mexico, resulting in a short-term decrease in supply. As spring production ramps up on both coasts, expect an increase in supply in March.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Florida (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$ -Steady, \$ -High

Key Partners



Weather Updates



CALIFORNIA

High pressure keeps temperatures warm today with daytime highs reaching the low 60s to low 70s and morning lows in the upper 30s to upper 40s. Next, a system will arrive Thursday night with light to moderate showers lasting through Sunday with rain totals in the tenth to three-quarter inch range. The skies will clear Sunday night, allowing temperatures to cool.



MEXICO

Over Central Mexico, temperatures will remain warm through the weekend. Over most growing areas, highs will be in the mid-80s to low 90s with lows mostly in the low 50s to near 60. Through March 3rd, there will be low rain chances and mostly dry weather. There will be only occasional wind gusts of around 20 mph over the next few days, so wind will not be a major concern.



FLORIDA

Most of the state will experience dry weather through tomorrow. On Friday, shower chances increase over Northern Florida, and they become more likely across the rest of the state over the weekend. Over most spots, rain totals will range from 0.05" to 0.20". After a warm day today, we will see the temperatures cool slightly on Thursday and then milder temperatures with showery weather from Friday through Sunday. Through the first of the month, winds will generally gust between 15 and 25 mph.



ARIZONA

The best chance for rain this morning occurs around 7AM as a weakening low passes south of Yuma County. Through the weekend, temperatures will gradually cool with dry conditions. After a dry cold front tracks through Saturday, lows will cool to low-upper 40s by Sunday in most fields. Temperatures in the 60s-70s by Sunday after afternoon highs in the low-upper 70s today.

For more information: <https://www.ventusky.com/?p=31.4;-89.7;3&l=rain-3h>

Freight Updates



Weather activity is expected to hit California over the weekend of March 1st with chances of snow over the low-lying passes between Saturday and Sunday. Be advised that road delays, especially in Northern California and Southern Oregon, plus Donner Summit over 80 will see significant snow accumulation making driving impossible.



U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices*(dollars per gallon)

[full history](#) [XLS](#)

	02/12/24	02/19/24	02/26/24	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	4.109	4.109	4.058	↓ -0.051	↓ -0.236
East Coast (PADD1)	4.201	4.240	4.185	↓ -0.055	↓ -0.261
New England (PADD1A)	4.350	4.320	4.314	↓ -0.006	↓ -0.511
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	4.317	4.355	4.324	↓ -0.031	↓ -0.447
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	4.143	4.189	4.120	↓ -0.069	↓ -0.166
Midwest (PADD2)	4.042	4.010	3.961	↓ -0.049	↓ -0.159
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	3.865	3.844	3.768	↓ -0.076	↓ -0.259
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	3.805	3.957	3.999	↑ 0.042	↓ -0.560
West Coast (PADD5)	4.723	4.721	4.692	↓ -0.029	↓ -0.241
West Coast less California	4.264	4.254	4.227	↓ -0.027	↓ -0.337
California	5.250	5.258	5.225	↓ -0.033	↓ -0.132

*prices include all taxes

For more information: <https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>

Crop Updates



California will finally get a break from the rain this week as the latest storm system moves off to the east. Forecasts bring another cold system to California over the weekend. Warm temperatures look to continue in the Desert regions with morning lows remaining above frost levels into the weekend. This will help with recovery and growth rates in the area hampered by previous rains and very cold mornings. Temperatures will cool early next week behind the cold front with possible frost in the cold valleys and a trace amount of rain possible in the desert regions.

Recent weather patterns have impacted supplies and overall quality in many of the leafy green crops with iceberg currently in light supply for the near term. The hailstorm in mid-February caused significant damage to some iceberg acreage as well as other crops in the region. Mildew and disease pressure are also impacting iceberg fields with some fields being left behind due to poor quality. Iceberg, romaine and leafy green fields continue to exhibit epidermal peeling, blistering and rib discoloration, along with increasing reports of weak tip, tip burn, mildew and disease showing up lessening yields in the fields.

Harvesting crews will continue to trim out the outer leaves in an effort to reduce these defects in the box resulting in smaller head sizes along with lighter color and carton weights. These supplies will likely continue to show some premature pinking along the rib that is not seen during harvesting and tends to show up during transit and storage.

On the processing side the overall growing conditions, causing leaf sensitivity and weaker overall texture can result in increased mechanical damage and bruising during harvest and processing. Processed leafy green items will also likely see an increase in discoloration and breakdown showing up in the bag affecting shelf life. The spring mix and tender leaf items will continue to show some yellowing, discoloration and breakdown along with weaker texture and lesser shelf life due to previous growing conditions in the region.

Warm temperatures and humidity in the desert regions will quickly increase insect populations across the region. Aphids, flies and other critters are already becoming noticeable in many upcoming fields. As growers combat the bugs with insecticide sprays the small gnats and flies tend to hide and accumulate in between the leaves as they die off making them very difficult to remove during harvests. The warm temperatures will also increase heat related defects (weak tip internal burn, ribby/irregular shape, seeders, dehydrated/weaker texture) It is very important to keep your rotations in check as the overall quality and shelf life of most crops, especially processed items, will be challenged. We will keep an eye on the upcoming weather and the impact on the various crops to keep you up to date as we gather more information.



Disease Pressure



Hail Damage

TIM LYNCH
QUALITY ASSURANCE