

The Source

Commodity of the Month - Citrus

Sunkist

MARKET ALERTS

Bellpeppers - Supply is limited and the quality is good.

Strawberries - Supply is steady and the quality is fair.

Onions - Limited supply and the quality is fair.

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

CROP UPDATES

The Southwestern Desert regions received ½ inch of precipitation on Tuesday, causing flooding and potential damage to the fields. The ground's inability to absorb moisture can take days to recover, causing severe harvest restrictions on Wednesday and possibly Thursday. [Read more](#)

WEATHER

Arizona - A wet low pressure system is affecting low deserts, increasing shower coverage. Yuma's rain is expected to return this evening, while central Arizona is expected to experience scattered moderate-heavy showers.

California - Rain tapers off early, followed by light to moderate showers. Totals expected to be under 12 inches in Ventura/LA and 34"-114" in Orange/SD counties.

Florida - The next five days in Northern Florida will be mostly dry, with isolated showers on Sunday. Wed/Thu mornings will be cool with light frost.

Mexico - Morning frost was patchy, with warmer daytime temperatures and milder mornings expected. Over the next five days, dry weather is expected.

FREIGHT

California weather has impacted growing regions across the state creating extensive shipment delays at origin.

PRO*FRESH
LOGISTICS

AT PEAK SEASON



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Commodity Updates



Apples

There is a good supply of most varieties and sizes. As some of the cheapest deals are beginning to clean up, the overall market is slightly higher.

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

This week's volume increased considerably out of Caborca with temperatures in the 80 degree range, which is near ideal for asparagus growing. Barring adverse weather conditions, supplies should remain good going forward.

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

There are no triggers in effect: markets are steady. The main crop is adventajada. The 48ct and smaller markets are on the rise. Due to higher dry matter, ripening times are shortening.

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

ALERT

As a result of past bad weather in Florida, blooms will decline in February, resulting in low supplies. As a result, demand has moved to Nogales and prices are much higher this week due to strong overall demand. Colored pepper prices are easing as supplies increase, quality is good but greening is still fairly common.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
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Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
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Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$ -Steady, \$ -High

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Berries (Blackberries)

We've been experiencing some issues with late transfer trucks from Baja and Central Mexico. During Mexican Constitution Day, which was observed on Monday, the border was closed early. Due to the very nice weather in the CMEX region, volume is expected to increase. The Baja product is still recovering from recent rains.

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



Berries (Blueberries)

The production in Chile and Central Mexico continues to be steady. Over the next few weeks, CMex numbers are expected to increase. Next week, we should see a downward trend in open market pricing.

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



Berries (Raspberries)

Because of the Mexican Holiday on Monday, most raspberries are coming in from Central Mexico. Weather permitting, production will gradually increase next week as a result of recent rain events.

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



Berries (Strawberries)



There is less product available due to disruptions at the border caused by the Mexican Constitution Day holiday on Monday. By the end of this week, the situation should slowly improve. The California shortages have created a severe demand exceeds supply situation for CMEX fruit. As a result of all the recent rain events, California's production has suffered greatly. Demand exceeds supply in the market. Customers are being asked to shift as much business as possible to Texas and Florida by shippers. As a result of sporadic rain events and cooler temperatures, production has been hampered. There is also a demand-exceeds-supply market for Valentine's Day due to increased demand. As the week progresses, growers anticipate an increase in production. There is a forecast for more stable weather.

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

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

Commodity Updates



Broccoli

The broccoli supply continues to be very good this week. The market should remain steady this week. There are also good supplies coming out of Santa Maria. Next week, this 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

Brussels sprouts are in very good supply. The size and production of Mexico and Oxnard have grown. This market is expected to remain steady next week.

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



Carrots

Market prices for whole carrots are steady at a higher level, but availability is slightly better as suppliers return to Bakersfield towards the end of February. 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

The cauliflower supply in Yuma is very good this week. There are also good supplies coming out of Santa Maria. Going into next week, the market should remain steady.

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



Celery

Throughout the week, supplies are expected to be moderate. All suppliers will experience production delays due to heavy rains in the Oxnard/Santa Maria region. Yuma's production will be light. The demand for all sizes continues to be low, and all sizes are available. Flexing continues with a few shippers so please promote. Despite the high winds and rain in the growing regions, quality has remained above average.

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

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

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Citrus (Lemons)

Currently, all three districts are shipping, with peak sizes of 140/165ct. The market is steady. District 3 is nearly finished; only a few scraps remain. 165ct and smaller fruit are expected to tighten as District 3 nears its end, making District 1 the main growing region with larger fruit.

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



Citrus (Limes)

The market is fairly steady. US crossings through McAllen TX are good. Manifests peak on large fruit 110/150ct, and core sizes 200/230s are more limited. As February approaches, the manifest will shift to smaller sizes and larger fruit will become more limited.

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



Citrus (Oranges)

The peak is currently at 72ct and larger; 88/113/138ct are extremely scarce and will remain so throughout the navel season. Due to low fruit set and rain events, fruit will continue to grow larger as the season progresses. While we navigate our way through this shorter Navel season, please be flexible with sizes and grades. The lead time is very important; please send orders at least 5-7 days in advance. The quality is good; Brix is between 12 and 14. At this time, there is no gassing.

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



Cucumber

The eastern fruit supply remains light; offshore fruit quality is hit or miss. The market has softened a bit as a result of better availability in Nogales. FL will remain light until spring crops begin in March. Quality is good out of Mexico.

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



Eggplant

Supplies are steady at lighter levels. The weather has improved in Nogales, resulting in a marginal increase in volume. Nogales has better quality.

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

Overall, garlic supplies are slightly tight. The last few months have seen a good harvest of Argentinian garlic in South America. However, it is estimated that it won't be enough to fill the overall supply gap. The garlic market will become tighter and more volatile over the next few months.

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)

Imported grapes remain tight. Vessels are continuing to experience arrival delays due to a bottleneck at the Panama canal for east coast arrivals, or heavy seas for west coast arrivals. Wildfires in Chile have not interrupted grape harvest but may eventually slow down loading vessels at the ports.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (June-November)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Grapes (Red)

Imported grapes remain tight. Vessels are continuing to experience arrival delays due to a bottleneck at the Panama canal for east coast arrivals, or heavy seas for west coast arrivals. Wildfires in Chile have not interrupted grape harvest but may eventually slow down loading vessels at the ports.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (June-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Green Onions

As we begin this week, supplies remain very limited. Harvesters are still trying to catch up in the fields due to this week's rain. As Mexico's weather improves, supplies should improve this week.

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



Kale

Supplies are steady this week. Despite the recent freeze and rain, quality is good.

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

The Yuma region has been experiencing rain and winds, but supplies are moderate with some shippers seeking new business. Shippers are flexing. Overall, business is low. Upon arrival, blisters and peels have been reported as well as discoloration. It is a direct result of the weather. The outer leaves on liner lettuce will likely be damaged, but if you peel them off and put them between two wrapper leaves, the head of lettuce should be fine. The outer leaves acts as a protection for the head. Throughout the week, supplies appear to be moderate. All orders should be filled to its entirety.

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

This week, you can expect steady availability of romaine, greens, and reds. Multiple shippers are reporting good availability of romaine hearts as well so promote as much as possible. Shippers are flexing. Discoloration, blisters, and epidermal peeling are common defects caused by weather conditions. Please be aware that this is an industry-wide issue. The weights continue to be good, however peeling back the outer leaves is suggested. In Yuma, rain will cause loading delays.

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

As a result of yellowing and poor quality, spinach and arugula are in short supply. This week, supplies are expected to remain tight. Suppliers hope next week will be better for supplies.

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

Demand is expected to drop the rest of the month as supply meets demand.

In Guatemala and Honduras, weather delays have resulted in lower yields, but fields are improving, increasing supply. Cantaloupes peak at 9s and Jumbo 9s. With a higher shell color, both external and internal quality characteristics remain good to great. Occasional bruising and soft fruit. The Brix level is between 12-14%.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Price Key: \$\$\$ -Low, \$\$\$ -Steady, \$\$\$ -High

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Melon (Honeydew)

For the remainder of the month, supply is expected to meet demand. Yields have been lowered in Guatemala and Honduras due to weather delays. Heavy impact on honeydews. This week, Nogales has better sizes and availability. Sizing from Guatemala is expected to peak on 5s for the remainder of the month. The quality has been fair, with some bruising, spotting, and discoloration.

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

As the domestic season draws to a close, Honduran products are becoming available. The product is available for processing and has a great color. Mexican watermelon supplies are meeting demand. Season in northern Mexico has ended, and product from southern Mexico is slowly becoming available. There is additional inventory available from Texas.

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

Supply and availability are excellent.

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

ALERT

There is a limited supply of white onions. The yellow and red markets are escalating.

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

The season for Bartlett pears is winding down in Washington, but they are still available. Anjou are running large and smaller foodservice sizes are becoming scarce. The market is steady, and bosc are in good supply.

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

Key Partners



Commodity Updates



Pineapples

Growers are fulfilling their contracts and supply meets demand. 6ct crowned pineapples have been in tight supply and being able to sub will ensure product. In Costa Rica, weather delays have resulted in an inverted sizing curve. The fields are producing smaller fruit. Limited pink pineapples available during Valentine's Day. There is a low supply of pineapples in Mexico and the fields are producing lower yields due to the weather.

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

There is excellent availability of all sizes. There are Burbanks and Norkotahs available. Burbanks demand a premium from Norkotahs. The item with the least availability is the 40 CT burbank.

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

Prices are slightly lower but still elevated. As spring crops get started, FL production will remain limited through March. Due to favorable weather conditions over the last few days, Mexican volume saw a nice boost, especially in zucchini. Quality is fair, but improving.

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



Stone Fruit

Imported plums have started. A small volume of imported peaches and nectarines is now arriving on both coasts. Domestic pomegranates and persimmons are done for the season. The domestic Kiwi market is steady and expected to remain so into February.

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

The markets are trending downward, especially for Romas. Availability out of Nogales has also improved, resulting in lower rounds. The price of grape tomatoes has also dropped a bit, but supplies remain fairly limited. Weather permitting, supplies should improve in Nogales.

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

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

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FRESH LINK



Weather Updates



CALIFORNIA

Rain from the early week season taper off early today, but the next system arrives later tonight with more light to moderate showers. Rain totals through Friday are expected to be under 12 inches in Ventura/LA counties and 34" - 114" in Orange/SD counties. Lows in the morning will be in the low 40s to low 50s, while highs will be in the low 50s to low 60s during the day. The rain threat ends on Saturday, bringing warmer maximum temperatures and cooler minimum temperatures.



MEXICO

It was a cool morning with patchy frost in the morning. A trof further west of the region will warm the daytime temperatures. In addition, this will result in milder morning temperatures and a reduced risk of frost. Over the next five days, dry weather is also expected.



FLORIDA

The next five days will be mostly dry, with a few isolated showers over Northern Florida on Sunday. Wed/Thu mornings in Northern Florida will be cool with only a slight chance of light patchy frost. Today, winds will gust between 18 and 24 mph, and on Thursday and Friday, they will be closer to 10 to 20 mph.



ARIZONA

A wet low pressure system tracks through the low deserts today-Friday, increasing shower coverage. The majority of Yuma's rain from Tuesday evening should return this evening through Thursday afternoon, while central Arizona can expect scattered moderate-heavy showers through Thursday night.

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

Freight Updates



California weather has impacted growing regions across the state creating extensive shipment delays at origin.



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

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

	01/22/24	01/29/24	02/05/24	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	3.838	3.867	3.899	↑ 0.032	↓ -0.640
East Coast (PADD1)	3.979	4.043	4.043	0.000	↓ -0.709
New England (PADD1A)	4.288	4.289	4.324	↑ 0.035	↓ -0.793
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	4.232	4.228	4.275	↑ 0.047	↓ -0.725
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	3.853	3.949	3.929	↓ -0.020	↓ -0.695
Midwest (PADD2)	3.704	3.704	3.738	↑ 0.034	↓ -0.640
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	3.584	3.644	3.702	↑ 0.058	↓ -0.547
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	3.696	3.645	3.650	↑ 0.005	↓ -1.091
West Coast (PADD5)	4.504	4.508	4.551	↑ 0.043	↓ -0.535
West Coast less California	3.992	4.011	4.054	↑ 0.043	↓ -0.688
California	5.092	5.078	5.121	↑ 0.043	↓ -0.361

*prices include all taxes

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

Crop Updates



The Southwestern Desert regions received around ½ inch of precipitation on Tuesday over a relatively short amount of time for these desert regions. Some flooding was reported as growers assessed access to the fields this morning. These desert fields do not handle this much rain well and can take days to recover (drain/dry out) before normal harvests resume. The ground does not quickly absorb the moisture which can remain in the fields for days following heavy rains. Harvests in the region will be severely limited on Wednesday, possibly on Thursday as well due to the muddy field conditions. Harvesting crews will do their best to keep mud off the product and out of the box.

The heavy rains will only exacerbate quality issues in the fields as previous cold temperatures in the region caused widespread blistering and epidermal peeling in many leafy green stands. This will remain evident in supplies in the near future given the extent of the damage. The rain will encourage these blisters to break open and discolor, allowing an entrance for pathogens to take hold in the plants. Bottom rot, mold and especially mildew will be on the rise in these stands with all the available moisture in the soil.

Increased respiration rates from the rain may cause premature pinking in the iceberg, romaine and leafy green supplies. This condition is not evident at pack out and tends to show up during transit and storage. Processed leafy green items will also likely see an increase in pinking showing up in the bag along with lesser texture and shelf life.

The spring mix and tender leaf items are especially difficult to harvest in muddy conditions and the excess water can bring fields along quickly as the weather warms up. Water saturation from the excess rain will cause weaker texture and leaf sensitivity in these crops which can result in increased mechanical damage during harvest and processing. Arugula is especially sensitive to these growing conditions. Initially the leaves will display purpling tips (bronzing) which then turn yellow and later transition towards wilt and decay.

Southern California is currently receiving the brunt of this atmospheric river event with heavy rains and strong winds streaming in from the Pacific. Forecasts bring a couple of weaker systems to California mid-week and again into the weekend. Conditions dry out next week before the next system is expected around mid-February.

Although many crops will be impacted by the previous and upcoming storm systems of high concern currently is the strawberry crops in Southern California. Strong winds and heavy rains in the region have done considerable damage to fields and hoop structures in the region. Water and wind damage to fruit sets and flowers will likely cause some long-term damage to upcoming supplies in the region. All supplies, especially long stems will be extremely limited from this region for the near future possibly well beyond. Mexico will attempt to fill the void as production from Florida remains limited due to inclement growing conditions in that area.

The Baja and Northern Mexico regions have also been impacted by rains once again impacting green onion harvests in the Mexicali region of Northern Mexico. It is important to keep your rotations in check moving forward as the shelf life of all products will be challenged. We will be watching these storm systems closely and will keep you up to date as to supplies and quality as we gather more information from the various regions.



TIM LYNCH

QUALITY ASSURANCE