

PRO*ACT

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Crop Update

June 4, 2025

The brief heat wave last week brought the warmest temperatures of the year to the Salinas Valley. Most crops have come through in decent shape from the short-lived hot spell. Texture and overall shelf life will likely be impacted for the short term especially in the tender spinach, spring mix and baby leaf items. Growers continue to battle mold, mildew and soil disease in the stands as we move into summer harvests.

While overall quality remains generally good the warmer weather has been conducive for insect populations to thrive. Aphids, thrips, small flies and gnats continue to be problematic for growers. Thrips are the vector that transmits the Invasive Necrotic Spot Virus (INSV). Growers are seeing some signs of INSV in current acreage, but it is not a significant problem currently. Field personnel will be on the lookout for thrips and INSV as the virus can spread rapidly and cause significant crop loss. Growers are doing their best to mitigate the insect pressure with traps, repellent and increased inspections in the fields and plants.

Tropical storm Alvin brought substantial precipitation to the grape growing regions of Sonora Mexico over the weekend. Reports are slow to materialize but early reports indicate significant damage to red grape varieties with lesser damage on the green varieties. This storm system did not impact the light production from the Southwestern Desert/Coachella region. Supplies will continue to be on the light side until the Central California production begins around mid-July. Chilean supplies are available on both coasts as an alternative source.

