

the Fresh Press

October 6th, 2017

Produce that's Fresh. Information that's to the Point.

Good things
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Top 5 Five



apples

1. BROCCOLI & CAULIFLOWER **ALERT!**

The industry is short on all packs and sizes due to weather.

2. BRUSSELS SPROUTS **ALERT!**

Insect pressure remains our main concern.

3. CITRUS—ORANGES **ALERT!**

Historically low supplies on small sizes, demand exceeds all consumer needs.

4. ICEBERG & ROMAINE **ALERT!**

The market has made a quick turn upward, supplies are short as yields have dramatically fallen off and quality fair to poor.

5. MUSHROOMS **ALERT!**

The hurricanes have affected southeastern farms, affecting climate control and supplies as a result.



asparagus

Supplies from Peru and Mexico are increasing each day. Large sizes remain hard to find for the remainder of the year. Flight schedules are back to normal but rates remain high.



avocados

The market has continued to ease due to lower demand. Larger fruit remains the least available and #2 availability is light; fruit quality is strong.



beans, green

Supplies are steady with some insect pressure, but quality/sizing remain good. GA has started in a very light way; quality and yields will be challenging.



berries—black, blue, & raspberry

Blueberries: Recent inclement weather in the northwest, and the transition to South American fruit has affected supply. **Blackberries & Raspberries:** Supply and quality have improved due to cooling weather.



berries—strawberry

While overall condition has improved since nighttime temps have dipped, texture remains weak, sizing is medium at most, and defects due to bruising.



broccoli & cauliflower **ALERT!**

The market is extremely active and short in supply due to unsettled weather patterns and lack of supply. The industry is facing shortages on all packs and sizes. **Broccoli:** Quality issues such as immaturity, occasional brown bead, pin rot, and under-sizing are being observed. **Cauliflower:** The condition is poor, quality is fair, and occasional defects due to inconsistent sizing and discoloration are present.



celery

Quality is fair; we are still seeing inconsistent sizing and discoloration, but with improvement.

Outlook

WEST COAST

While we are noting a slight increase in quality as a response to cooling weather, the forecast shows another warm up starting this weekend, continuing through next week.

MEXICO

Tropical storm "Ramon" will bring strong wind and rains to southern states of Guerrero, Puebla, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Hidalgo, and Michoacán.

EAST COAST

NC/TN will begin to have lows in the 40s at the end of next week. South GA is expecting rain over the weekend with warm temps.

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citrus **ALERT!**

Lemons: District 3 (southern CA/ desert region) has started, and the new crop quality is great. **Limes:** Limes are coming in through TX and Los Angeles from Mexico; quality is better. **Oranges:** Oranges are now becoming extremely tight as more packing houses have finished with Valencia for the season. There are historically low supplies on small sizes and demand exceeds all consumer needs; this is a global situation as South America, Chile, CA, FL, and TX are all below harvest and availability expectations. Supplies will be very limited the next 4-5 weeks with no relief until the Navel season starts late October.

cucumbers

Supplies are available from multiple locations; quality remains fair to good.

eggplant

Good supplies and quality from GA, with better supplies and quality from central CA.

grapes

Overall quality of red and green seedless remains very good; however, green is firming as availability lessens.

lettuce **ALERT!**

Iceberg & Romaine: The market is quickly increasing due to prior extreme temps and the industry is now facing shortages. Quality issues of decay and seeders are present and sizing is very small, having a direct effect on yields. Relief is not expected until Huron is ready in 2-3 weeks, and possibly to Yuma, AZ which is 5-7 weeks away. **Leaf:** Tighter supplies; quality is fair with defects due to ribbiness, insect damage, and fringe/internal/wind burn.



melon

Domestic melons are winding down with good supplies still available; however, CA fruit quality is the primary concern. The AZ harvest will be ramping up over the next 10-12 days; quality is good with size profiles trending larger.



onions

The new crop has started in WA/ID with good quality.



peppers

East: The green bell supply/quality is good. West: The weather is ideal, and quality and supply are both very good.



potatoes

The ID Norkotah harvest is well underway with good volume.



squash

Supplies are starting to decrease in northern areas as their seasons start to wind down. Yields in GA are slightly off, with more zucchini than yellow squash available, and quality has been affected by insect pressure. Quality is fair to good.



tomatoes—cherry & grape

Markets have improved slightly due to lower demand vs. previous weeks.



tomatoes—roma & round

Volume out east and west is still in short supply, but lower demand and steady volume out of Mexico have eased the overall market.

Reality Check

VEGETABLES	Supply			Price						
	HIGH	INCREASING	AVG	DECREASING	LOW	HIGH	INCREASING	AVG	DECREASING	LOW
Asparagus		•								•
Green Beans			•							•
Broccoli					•	•				
Cabbage			•						•	
Carrots					•	•				
Cauliflower				•				•		
Celery			•						•	
Com			•						•	
Cucumbers		•								•
Eggplant			•						•	
Herbs-Cilantro			•					•		
Lettuce-Iceberg				•				•		
Lettuce-Leaf G/R				•				•		
Lettuce-Romaine				•				•		
Lettuce-Spring Mix				•				•		
Mushrooms				•				•		
Onions-Yellow			•						•	
Onions-Red			•						•	
Onions-Green				•					•	
Peas-Snow/Snap					•	•				
Peppers-Chiles			•						•	
Peppers-Green			•						•	
Peppers-Red/Yellow			•						•	
Potatoes-Russet			•						•	
Potatoes-R/W/Yuk			•						•	
Potatoes-Yams			•						•	
Spinach				•				•		
Squash-Yellow (w)		•								•
Squash-Zucchini (w)		•								•
Squash-Yellow (e)			•					•		
Squash-Zucchini (e)			•					•		
Tomatoes-Round				•						•
Tomatoes-Roma			•						•	
Tomatoes-G/C			•						•	
FRUITS										
Apples			•						•	
Avocados			•						•	
Bananas			•						•	
Berries - Blackberries			•						•	
Berries - Blueberries			•						•	
Berries - Raspberries			•						•	
Berries - Strawberries			•						•	
Citrus - Grapefruit			•						•	
Citrus - Lemons			•						•	
Citrus - Limes			•						•	
Citrus - Oranges					•	•				
Grapes - Green				•				•		
Grapes - Red			•						•	
Kiwifruit				•				•		
Melons - (C/H)			•						•	
Melons - Watermelon			•						•	
Pears			•						•	
Pineapple		•								•

Please Distribute to:

Executive Chef, General Manager, Kitchen Manager, Purchasing Manager, F&B Manager.
Information is subject to daily weather and market fluctuations and is meant to be used as a guide.