

the Source +



Market Alerts

LETTUCE Quality is good, but pricing is slightly higher than normal on **Iceberg and Leaf lettuces**, with **Romaine** being the best value. Consider using **pre-cut product** for optimal cost where possible.

GREEN GRAPES The Chilean grape season is almost over, and Mexican/Californian harvests have not yet ramped up. **Green Grapes** are in very short supply and pricing is extremely high. Use **Red Grapes** wherever possible as the better cost option. Quality is fair on both colors.

ASPARAGUS Pricing is higher than normal on all sizes of **Asparagus**, particularly in the Eastern U.S., due to heavy demand and a spike in air freight for Peruvian product. Both of these factors are temporary and driven by the Mother's Day holiday next week. Quality is good on all sizes.

ORANGES The severe shortage of **Oranges** has reached the point where certain sizes are largely unavailable. Orders for **113 CT, 138 CT and 163 CT** fruit are very likely to be shorted, or substituted with an **88 CT or larger size**. We recommend **88 CT, 72 CT or larger Oranges** be used through the end of the **Navel** season in early spring.

SQUASH Yellow and Zucchini (Italian) Squash supplies are in a short gap, due to field transitions in both Mexico and the Southeast. Quality is good, but pricing may be higher than normal, with **Medium-sized Zucchini** being the best value.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Cantaloupe: Harvests out of Central America, Mexico and California are great quality, with high sugar levels.

Tomatoes: Mexico and Florida's early spring harvests are very strong. Supplies of Round, Roma and Grape Tomatoes are plentiful and quality is very good for this time of year.

Ramps: This wild onion with a pungent flavor grows during a very short season in early to mid-spring. Ask your distributor for availability.

Fiddlehead Ferns: Another spring crop with a short season, this tightly wound vegetable has a taste and texture similar to asparagus. Ask your distributor for availability.

Brussels Sprouts: Supplies are plentiful and quality is very nice, with vibrant color and firmness.

Bell Peppers: The harvest of Green Bell Peppers is abundant. Quality and pricing are very good, with choice-grade product being the best value.

Broccoli: Quality and pricing are very good on bulk, crown and floret product. Be sure to utilize this menu staple!

Weather Update

California: Above average temperatures through the weekend, then seasonal the rest of the week with mostly dry conditions.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures over most of the country, with showers and thunderstorms in the Central region, and drier conditions in the North.

Florida / Southeastern U.S.: Seasonal temperatures and mostly dry conditions, with some showers in southern Florida.



Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good	 CELERY	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair; pricing is higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on most sizes	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, sizes are running large, pricing is higher	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 CUCUMBERS	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good	 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher	 GARLIC	Quality is fair; pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair; pricing is extremely high	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair; pricing is good	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher. 90 CT and smaller sizes are the best value.
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality and pricing are good	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality and pricing are good
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair; pricing is extremely high	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good

