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## Market Alerts

**Berries** – Poor growing conditions in the major berry growing regions of southern California and Mexico have reduced harvests and impacted quality on **Strawberries, Blackberries** and **Raspberries**. Softness and short shelf life due to water damage in particular are reported. Pricing may be higher in certain markets. **Blueberries** are a good quality option.

**Tomatoes** – Supplies of most **Round** and **Roma tomatoes** continue to be very light in all growing regions of Mexico and Florida. Heavy rain and/or cold weather also continue to be the cause. Quality is fair, with pale coloring. **Grape tomato** supplies have improved and are a better buy than **Cherries**, and **5x6 and smaller sizes** are the best value Rounds.

**Squash** – Yellow and Zucchini squash are in short supply out of Mexico and Florida, due to similar conditions affecting the tomato harvest. Pricing is higher than normal, and quality issues include wind scarring and internal decay. Hard squashes such as **Butternut** and **Acorn** are good seasonal options.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Grapes** – Quality on both Red and Green Grapes is excellent, with Chile approaching peak harvest.

**Kale** – Quality is excellent, with full leaves and vibrant color reported.

**Asparagus** – Pencil and Standard size Asparagus is plentiful, with good quality reported. These smaller sizes are the best value this week.

**Melons** – Cantaloupe and Honeydew are great quality, with excellent sugar levels, color and shelf life.

**Blueberries** – Quality is very nice and pricing is good on imports from Chile.

**Apples** – All seasonal varieties continue to be plentiful, with excellent quality.

**Pears** – All winter varieties are available, with very nice quality.

**Chili Peppers** – Supplies of fresh Jalapenos and Pasillas are abundant out of Mexico.

## Weather Update

**California:** Colder than seasonal temperatures.

**Yuma AZ** – Dry conditions and colder temperatures, with overnight plant icing expected.

**Mexico:** Colder temperatures in the north, seasonal averages in the Central region.

**Florida:** Windy conditions early in the week, seasonal temperatures and precipitation later.



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# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good, 113 CT and larger are the best values	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing on Reds is higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher	 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good	 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher; 90 CT and smaller are the best values
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is fair; pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good	 SQUASH	Quality is fair; pricing is higher; Zucchini is a better buy than Yellow
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good	 TOMATOES	Quality is fair; pricing is higher; Grapes and 5x6 and smaller Rounds are the best values
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality and pricing are good		
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are good		
 CELERY	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good		

