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## Market Alerts

**Avocados** – Heavy rain and the Constitution Day holiday have furthered a slowdown in Mexico’s avocado harvest over the past week. Pricing is higher than normal, and quality is good to fair. Fully ripened product may be less available. #2 Grade, 60 CT and smaller size fruit is the best value.

**Strawberries** – Quality is still inconsistent on fruit out of California and Mexico due to lingering cool weather and rain, and pricing may be higher in certain markets.

**Tomatoes** – The supply situation has deteriorated further, due to freezing overnight temperatures in Mexico’s growing regions last week. Florida’s harvest is improved, but not enough to offset the Mexican shortfall. Quality remains fair, with pale coloring. **Grapes** are extremely expensive, with **Cherries** now being a better buy. **5X6 and smaller Rounds**, and **Medium-sized Romas**, are the best buys. We recommend you limit the use of tomatoes where possible this week.

**Squash** – Supplies of **Zucchini** have improved, but **Yellow** is still limited and more expensive than normal, particularly in the Western half of the country. Seasonal varieties like **Butternut**, **Acorn** and **Spaghetti** are better cost and quality options.

**Cucumbers** – The cold weather affecting Mexico’s tomato harvest has also impacted field-grown Cucumbers. Quality is fair, and pricing is higher than normal. **Select-grade** product is the best value.

## 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.

**Citrus** – Seasonal varieties such as Mandarin, Cara Cara, Minneola and Blood Oranges are still in great supply.

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

**Limes** – Supplies out of Mexico are abundant, with very good quality.

**Grapefruit** – Texas and California are harvesting very nice quality fruit.

## 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 fair, pricing is very high	 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 and pricing are good	 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 is good, pricing is higher on Reds and Whites
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good	 SQUASH	Quality is good, pricing on Yellow is higher
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good	 TOMATOES	Quality is fair, pricing is very high, Cherries and 5x6 or smaller Rounds are the best buys
 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		

