

# Produce Coast to Coast



## Market Alerts

**TRANSITION** – The movement of major growing areas from California to points as far south as Yuma Arizona is underway, and will continue through early December. “Transition”, as this is called, is a time when certain crops are more susceptible to disruptions in supply and quality. Be sure to read The Source Plus for up-to-date information and product recommendations.

**STRAWBERRIES** – Persistently cold, rainy weather in California and Mexico’s growing regions has further slowed harvests and impacted quality. Softness, bruising and white shoulders are all reported. Pricing may be higher in certain markets, and orders may be shorted. Consider using **Blackberries, Raspberries** or **Blueberries** as a better cost and quality option.

**LETTUCE** – Quality continues to be fair to poor on all types of lettuce. Supplies have improved from last week’s Romaine advisory-related shortages. However, harvests remain light in the primary growing region of Yuma AZ, and pricing is higher than normal on both whole and pre-cut product.

**BROCCOLI/CAULIFLOWER** – The harvest in Yuma AZ continues to be slow due to cold weather. Supplies are light, quality is good, and pricing is higher than normal. Florets or crowns may be a better value than whole heads.

**CELERY** – Transition-related light harvests continue to cause higher pricing than normal, with good to fair quality reported.

**TOMATOES** – The tomato market has yet to recover from the aftereffects of severe autumn weather, and recent heavy rains and colder than expected temperatures, particularly in Mexico and Florida. Quality is fair and pricing is higher than normal. Romas are the most impacted in terms of cost. 5x6 and smaller Rounds are the best value.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Cherries:** Quality is excellent on imported Cherries.

**Specialty Potatoes:** – Quality is very good on all Colored, Fingerling, and Yukon Potatoes.

**Pears:** Quality is excellent out of Washington and California on all varieties.

**Cranberries:** Just in time for holiday menus, quality is great on fresh Cranberries.

**Specialty Citrus:** The winter citrus season is just around the corner—Mandarins, Tangerines, Clementines and Blood Oranges will soon be available in certain markets. Ask your distributor for recommendations!

**Winter Squash:** Butternut, Acorn, Delicata, Spaghetti and more are available – ask your distributor for recommendations!

## Weather Update

**California:** Cold and rainy conditions persist throughout the week in all growing regions.



**Yuma, AZ:** Very cold overnight temperatures continue, and long with rain and wind.

**Mexico:** Colder than normal temperatures in the Baja region, warmer temps and scattered showers further inland.

**Florida:** Cold overnight temperatures over the weekend will warm during the week, with a fairly strong storm system along with it.

**Florida:** Temperatures warming from prior week’s freeze, with some rain expected weather system. Inland temperatures will drop to the 30s.

# Commodities at a Glance

|   |   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|--|
|  APPLES                 | Quality is good, 125 CT and smaller sizes are less available          |  CELERY            | Quality is good, pricing is higher          |  LETTUCE LEAF         | Quality is fair, pricing is higher         |
|  ASPARAGUS              | Quality is good, pricing is higher in the Western half of the country |  CITRUS (LEMONS)   | Quality and pricing are good                |  LETTUCE TENDER LEAF  | Quality is fair, pricing is good           |
|  AVOCADO                | Quality and pricing are good  |  CITRUS (LIMES)    | Quality and pricing are good                |  MELON (CANTALOUPE)   | Quality is good, pricing is higher         |
|  BELL PEPPERS           | Quality is good, pricing is higher                                    |  CITRUS (ORANGES)  | Quality and pricing are good                |  MELON (HONEYDEW)     | Quality and pricing are good               |
|  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 is poor, pricing is higher, product may be shorted            |  GRAPES (GREEN)    | Quality is fair, pricing is higher          |  PINEAPPLES           | Quality and pricing are good               |
|  BROCCOLI             | Quality is fair, pricing is higher                                    |  GRAPES (RED)    | Quality is fair, pricing is good            |  POTATOES           | Quality and pricing are good               |
|  BRUSSELS SPROUTS     | Quality is fair, pricing is good                                      |  GREEN ONIONS    | Quality is fair, pricing is slightly higher |  POTATOES (COLORED) | Quality and pricing are good               |
|  CARROTS              | Quality and pricing are good  |  KALE            | Quality and pricing are good                |  SQUASH             | Quality and pricing are good               |
|  CAULIFLOWER          | Quality is fair, pricing is higher                                    |  LETTUCE ICEBERG | Quality is fair, pricing is higher          |  TOMATOES           | Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher |