



Produce Newsletter



Market Alerts

SEVERE WEATHER ALERT– Unseasonably cold temperatures and heavy rains continue to affect many crops grown in California and Yuma AZ. Quality and availability of products impacted include **Strawberries, Iceberg, Romaine, Celery, Cauliflower, Broccoli** and **Brussels Sprouts**.

BROCCOLI – Supplies of Broccoli Crowns and Florets are light, and pricing is higher than normal, with fair to good quality reported.

STRAWBERRIES – Poor growing conditions (cold and rain) in California continue to affect quality throughout the market. Pricing is fairly stable, but quality remains fair to poor. Short shelf life, white shoulders and decay are reported. **Blackberries, Blueberries** and **Raspberries** are all better quality options.

LETTUCE – The quality of **Iceberg**, and to a lesser degree **Romaine** and **Leaf Lettuce**, is fair at best. Puffiness, ribbing and short shelf life are all common issues, and pricing is higher than normal. Consider using **Romaine Hearts** or **pre-cut product** for best overall value.

CELERY – Pricing remains very high on both bulk and pre-cut Celery, also due light supplies from the cold, wet conditions in Yuma. Quality is fair to good.

CAULIFLOWER- Supplies of Heads and Florets are extremely tight. Pricing remains higher than normal, quality is fair, and orders may be shorted or substituted.

SOFT VEGETABLES: Bell Peppers and Cucumbers are in a growing gap in Florida and Mexico. Pricing is much higher than normal, and quality is fair. Choice Grade Green Bells and Select Grade Cucumbers are the best values.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Late Winter Greens – Endive, Chicory and Frisee are all available. All are great cold-weather menu favorites!

Swiss Chard – Great quality on Green, Red and Rainbow Chard out of California and Mexico.

Chili Peppers – Anaheim, Serrano and Pasilla Peppers are all very good quality.

Berries – Blackberries and Blueberries are very good quality and pricing.

Specialty Potatoes – Quality is great on all Colored, Fingerling and Yukon Potatoes.

Grapefruit – Texas and Florida are at peak harvest on Ruby Reds.

Weather Update

California: Wind, rain and cooler temperatures persist in most growing regions.

Yuma, AZ: Cold temperatures, overnight icing and strong winds expected.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures and precipitation.


Florida: Cooler than normal temperatures and seasonal precipitation.

Coastal | March 13, 2019



www.coastalfoodgroup.com

Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	Quality is good, 125 CT and smaller sizes will be less available through the summer	 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good, with smaller sizes the best value	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is fair, pricing is very high, particularly Red and Yellow	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 CUCUMBERS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher on Eastern product	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 EGGPLANT	Quality is fair, pricing is good	 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 GARLIC	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is poor, pricing may be higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality and pricing are good	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality and pricing are good	 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher on larger sizes
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is fair to poor, pricing is higher	 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 fair, pricing is good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is high, orders may be shorted	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is very high	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good