

# the Source +



## Market Alerts

**ROMAINE ADVISORY** – On Tuesday November 20th, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued an outbreak alert of E. Coli O157:H7, linked to Romaine lettuce. The CDC has advised U.S. consumers not to eat any products containing Romaine. This includes whole heads, hearts, pre-cut product and salad mixes that contain Romaine.

**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.

**AVOCADOS** – Mexico’s harvest has resumed after a prolonged strike. Fully ripened fruit is expected to be available the last week of November – first week of December. Currently very little fruit is available, pricing is high and quality is poor.

**LETTUCE** – Quality is fair to poor on Iceberg, Leaf and Romaine lettuces. Pricing is higher than normal.

**STRAWBERRIES** – The wildfires in Southern California have disrupted the Strawberry harvest, creating short supplies. Pricing may be higher in certain markets, and quality is fair. Blackberries, Blueberries and Raspberries are all better values.

**BROCCOLI/CAULIFLOWER** – Supplies are very tight. Quality is fair, pricing is higher than normal, and Florets may be a better value than whole heads.

**TOMATOES** – Mexico’s harvest continues to be light due to the recent hurricanes, and colder than expected temps. Quality is fair, and pricing is higher than normal, with Roma and Grape Tomatoes the most impacted. 5x6 and smaller Rounds are the best value.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Berries:** Quality of Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries are all very nice, with good availability.

**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.

**Apples:** All seasonal varieties are available, with great quality. 88 CT and larger sizes are the most plentiful. Small apples in the 125ct and smaller are limited in supply, especially with Granny Smith and Golden Delicious varieties.

**Cranberries:** Just in time for Thanksgiving menus, fresh Cranberries are in full harvest, with good quality reported.

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

## Weather Update

**California:** Wildfire containment and recovery continues in Southern California. Air quality is poor and strong winds are expected.

**Yuma, AZ:** Colder than normal overnight temperatures continue.

**Mexico:** Temperatures warming slowly to normal levels over the week in Central Mexico.

**Florida:** Colder than normal temperatures and rainy conditions.



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# 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 and pricing are good, with Pencil and Standard the best buys.	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good	 LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality is fair, pricing is good
 AVOCADO	Supplies are very scarce, fully ripened product is unavailable and pricing is very high. Avoid use where possible.	 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 is good, pricing is fair	 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 fair, pricing may be higher in certain markets	 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 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

