

# the Source +



## 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.

**BELL PEPPERS** - Field transition in Georgia, Florida and California have limited supplies of **Green** and **Red Peppers**. Quality is good, but pricing is higher than normal. **Choice-grade Green Peppers** are the best cost option for the next few weeks.

**AVOCADOS** - The labor strike in Mexico continues into its second week. A severe product shortage will begin to be felt this week. All grades and sizes of fruit will be very scarce. Fully ripened product will be nonexistent, and pricing will be extremely high on what little product may be available.

**LETTUCE** - Supplies of all lettuce are very tight, due to California field transition. Quality is fair, with lighter case weights reported. Pricing is higher than normal. **Iceberg, Green** and **Red Leaf Lettuce** are the best cost and quality options.

**GREEN ONIONS** – Wet weather in Mexico, which is the primary growing area for **Green Onions**, has slowed harvesting and caused a small supply gap. Pricing is higher than normal, and quality is fair, with decay and short shelf life reported.

**TOMATOES** Tropical Storm Sergio and Hurricane Willa brought even more heavy rain to Baja and western Mexico, slowing the harvest and affecting quality of Grape, Round and Roma tomatoes. In the East, central Florida's harvest has begun but not fully ramped up. Nationwide the best buys are 5x6 or smaller Rounds, and Grapes are a better value than Cherries. Quality is good to fair across all varieties and sizes.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Apples:** All varieties are being harvested out of the major growing areas: Washington, Michigan and New York and more. The perfect autumn hand fruit!

**Pears:** Bartlett, Bosc and Red Pears are approaching peak harvest out of Washington and California. Quality is excellent.

**Onions:** – The new crop of Yellow and Red Onions are in, with excellent quality. Pricing is high for **Green Onions** as supply is tight.

**Grapes:** Quality is excellent, with great texture and sweetness, on Red and Green medium-sized fruit.

**Kale:** Quality is excellent on all Green and Tuscan Kale, with good color and full bunches.

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

**Squash:** Autumn Squash is beginning to be harvested throughout the country. Butternut and Acorn are the most available—ask your distributor for recommendations!

## Weather Update

**California / Yuma, AZ:** Slightly warmer daytime temps and cold overnights expected from the Central to Southwestern desert regions.

**Mexico:** Seasonal temperatures and isolated showers.

**Florida:** Cooler temperatures, rain and gusty winds expected in the central and northern regions.



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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 and pricing are good	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality and pricing are good	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, 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 to poor, pricing is 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 and pricing are good	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher