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Market Alerts

Transition – The springtime movement of major growing regions, from Yuma AZ northward to Central California, is underway. “Transition,” as this is called, is a time of year when certain crops are more susceptible to supply disruptions, higher pricing, and quality issues.

Avocados – With Mexico not harvesting fruit during Holy Week, supplies remain tight and pricing much higher than normal. Fully ripened fruit may be less available, and larger sizes (48 CT and up) are more plentiful.

Colored Bell Peppers – While supplies have improved on most peppers, **Red** and other **Colored Bells** remain light. Pricing is still higher than normal for those, with good quality reported. Consider using **Green Bells** as a cost alternative.

Celery – Pricing remains very high on both bulk and pre-cut **Celery**, with continued short supplies out of Yuma and California. Quality is fair to good.

Cauliflower- Pricing remains slightly higher than normal on **Heads** and **Florets**, with good to fair quality reported.

Onions: Red and **Yellow Onions** remain in a bit of a supply gap. The Pacific Northwest storage crop is finishing early, and quality is fair at best, with sprouting and translucency reported. Pricing may be higher in certain markets.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Fiddlehead Ferns – A delicate vegetable with a very short growing season, be sure to ask your distributor for availability in April and May.

Ramps – Like the ferns, this wild onion has a very short springtime season – ask your distributor for availability!

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

Green Bell Peppers – All grades and sizes of Green Bells are good values right now, with Choice Grade being the best buy.

Strawberries – The best quality in months is reported on all California Strawberries.

Squash – Zucchini Squash has terrific quality and low pricing.

Grapes – Quality is very nice on Red Grapes out of Chile.

Potatoes – Smaller-sized Idaho baking potatoes are less expensive than larger ones. 80 CT and smaller are the best values.

Asparagus – Be on the lookout for early spring local Asparagus in the Midwest, Northeast and Pacific Northwest.

Weather Update

California: Drier conditions and warming temperatures to seasonal levels.

Yuma, AZ: Very windy conditions and warm temperatures.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures and precipitation.

Florida: Cooler temperatures at the start of the week behind a strong storm system, drying and warming at the end of the week.



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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 slightly higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is higher; fully ripened product less available	 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 is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Red and Yellow	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher	 CUCUMBERS	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher	 EGGPLANT	Quality is fair, pricing is good	 ONIONS	Quality is fair, pricing is higher on Reds
 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 and pricing are good	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good	 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 and pricing are good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair, pricing is higher	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair, pricing is slightly higher	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good