

# the Source +



## Market Alerts

**Celery** – The shortage of **bulk and pre-cut Celery** is at almost an unprecedented level. Pricing is extremely high, and quality is fair.

**Avocados** – Supplies have not yet caught back up from the Holy Week harvest gap in Mexico. California's harvest is very light and is estimated to be about half of last year's crop. Pricing is extremely high, and fully ripened fruit may be less available. 48 CT and larger sizes are the best value.

**Broccoli** – Wet conditions in California's Salinas Valley are impacting **Crowns** and **Bunched** product. Pricing is higher than normal, with good quality. **Florets** may be a better option

**Cauliflower**- The Salinas Valley conditions are also affecting **Cauliflower**. Pricing is higher than normal, with fair quality reported. **Colored product** is very scarce and much more expensive than normal.

**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.

**Green Grapes** – Both Mexico and California's harvests are off to a slow start. Supplies are light, pricing is slightly higher than normal, and quality is good. Conditions are expected to return to normal by mid-May. **Red Grapes** are a much better cost and quality option until then.

## 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:** Warmer temperatures and continued light rain across the Central growing regions.

**Yuma, AZ:** Very windy conditions and warm temperatures.

**Mexico:** Seasonal temperatures and precipitation throughout the country.

**Florida:** Heavy rain over the weekend, followed by dry conditions and seasonal temperatures most 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 fair, pricing is very high, avoid use if possible	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are good
 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 is fair, pricing is high, fully ripened product less available	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality is good, pricing is higher	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 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 is good, pricing is higher on bulk product	 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 and pricing are good	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good