

MARKET ALERTS

Bell Peppers: Eastern volumes are down due to weather, with Florida facing a potential gap, while strong demand boosts California prices; Nogales green bell peppers will peak by Thanksgiving, and red bell prices remain high until January.

Strawberries: Mexico's light volumes are gradually increasing, while cooler temperatures in Santa Maria and Oxnard are limiting supply and raising prices, with full season production expected in 6 to 8 weeks.

Broccoli: Supplies remain very limited in Salinas and Santa Maria due to insect pressures, while Mexico's output is steady, and tight supplies are expected to continue for the next couple of weeks.

Cauliflower: Supplies are limited across all regions this week, with steady quality, and the market is expected to remain elevated for the next few weeks.

Iceberg Lettuce: Demand exceeds supply and will remain tight through Thanksgiving, with rising prices on value-added lettuce due to shortages in Salinas, Santa Maria, and Huron, moderate supply in Yuma, and Taylor, Mexico, as an alternative.

Lettuce Leaf: The romaine market remains active with price increases expected on value-added items, while supplies of romaine hearts, green, and red leaf are tight, and lightweight produce is anticipated for the next few weeks due to limited production in key regions.

NOVEMBER 6, 2024 CROP UPDATES

Cool temperatures and diseases in coastal California are reducing yields, while heat in Yuma will cause defects like tip burn and seeders. Mildew and insect pressures are affecting leafy greens in Salinas. Yuma's light harvests begin this week, with full production expected by mid-November, but early harvests may have lighter weights and seeders. Read more

WEATHER

Arizona - Strong high-pressure over Nevada increases northerly winds, with gusts of 25-35mph in the lower Colorado River Valley and 20-25mph in southeast CA. Lows in fields are expected in the 40s, with highs in the upper 60s-mid 70s.

<u>California</u> - High pressure will persist through the week, causing cold mornings and mild afternoons. Lows will be in the 20s to 40s south of King City, while highs will be in the 60s to 70s.

Florida -Tropical Storm Rafael is expected to pass over Cuba and west of the Florida peninsula by late tonight into Thursday. Tropical Storm conditions are expected over the Florida Keys today, likely weakening and possibly heading towards the Gulf Coast by the end of the week. Temperatures will remain warm over the next five days, with highs in the low-upper 80s and lows in the upper 60s to upper 70s.

<u>Mexico</u> - The weather forecast predicts mostly dry conditions with light showers and sprinkles, with steady, warm temperatures in the mid-70s to mid-80s for the next five days.

FREIGHT

Start of Yuma is two weeks away from full transition and volume in Northern California is dwindling. We are still seeing orders moved from the norther regions to Southern California. At this point, we are anticipating with certainty that trucks will load both Salinas and SoCal.



Tender Leaf Lettuce: Tender leaf supplies are tight due to the transition period, with Yuma processors helping to supplement northern shortages, and prices are expected to remain elevated for the next 2-3 weeks.

Pears: Washington is harvesting all major pear varieties, with a smaller crop leading to higher prices, while California pears have finished for the season.

Tomatoes: Markets are tight, with Force Majeure in Florida driving higher West Coast prices. As demand shifts to romas, prices will rise further. Mexican supply remains steady, with increased volume expected in January.

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Apples

The apple market overall is steady with ample supply. Certain varieties, especially Granny Smith, have been skewing towards larger sizes, with packouts favoring 80s and 88s, while 125s and 138s are less available. This trend may shift as the season advances.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Hudson, New York (September -June)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Asparagus

Mexican asparagus is widely available, with both Sonora and Baja California del Sur in production. While plenty of SM and ST are being offered in California, LG remains very limited and will stay that way through the end of 2024. Baja is nearing the end of its season, with growing areas in Constitucion, Insurgentes, and Loreto expected to last 2-3 more weeks, making Thanksgiving their final push. Peruvian asparagus fob prices are expected to rise in the next 7-10 days due to Mexico's transition and the Thanksgiving demand.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Caborca (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Ciudad Obregon (Year Round)	Light	\$\$ \$	Good
Peru (Year Round)	Light	\$\$ \$	Good



Avocados

Markets are steady, with the size curve heavy on small fruit and tight on large fruit. Prices are lower for small fruit, while large fruit remains strong. The size curve is expected to shift as fruit sizes up and harvests move to higher elevations toward the end of the year. The industry anticipates good supplies from Mexico through year-end, providing excellent opportunities to promote small fruit.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
California (April - July)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Bell Peppers

ALERT

Eastern volumes are down due to previous weather, with Georgia heading into its first frost. Florida's numbers are also low and may experience a gap in late November to early December. Strong demand from the East is driving prices higher out of California. Nogales green bell peppers have started to arrive, but significant volume is not expected until the week of Thanksgiving. Red bell prices remain high, with relief not anticipated until early January when Nogales ramps up production.

С	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
	Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Georgia (May - June)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair









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Commodity Updates



Berries (Blackberries)

Product from Central Mexico is now arriving in steadier volumes at West and East Coast consolidation points, bringing greater stability to the market.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Berries (Blueberries)

Peruvian offshore fruit is arriving in strong volumes at ports in New Jersey, Los Angeles, and Miami. Central Mexico is also sending increased quantities into the U.S. through McAllen and Laredo, Texas, which is adding slight downward pressure to the market. Currently, ample product from Peru is readily available.

C	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	California (Year Round)	High	\$\$ \$	Good
	Dover, Florida (Year Round)	High	\$\$ \$	Good
_	McAllen, TX (October - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Berries (Raspberries)

Rising quantities of transferred fruit from Central Mexico are driving downward trends in the market. The increased crossings from Mexico are also improving FOB availability in the area.

•	Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
	McAllen, TX (October - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Berries (Strawberries)

ALERT

Light volumes are beginning to arrive from Mexico, with production expected to gradually increase over the next several weeks. Cooler temperatures and shorter days are reducing output in Santa Maria and Oxnard, leading to a sharp market increase and limited availability on the open market. We anticipate the season will fully kick off in about 6 to 8 weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, TX (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Driscoll's° Only the Finest Berries™





Broccoli



Broccoli supplies remain extremely limited in Salinas and Santa Maria, with Mexico's output holding steady. In Salinas, the persistent Diamondback moth issue, along with insect pressures, continues to restrict availability. Expect supplies to stay tight over the next couple of weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Brussel Sprouts

Overall volume remains strong this week, with the market expected to improve as the holiday approaches. Quality challenges persist, with instances of mildew and elongated seed cores observed. Pre-booking for Thanksgiving orders is highly recommended.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (December-August)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Oxnard / Salinas, CA (May - July) (July-Dec)	High	\$\$ \$	Good



Carrots

Harvest continues in Soledad and Shandon, CA through mid-November, then shifts to Bakersfield for the Fall season, running late November to February. Due to 60 days of 100+ degree heat this summer, Bakersfield growers expect a tight Fall season, with potential allocations. Hurricane damage in Lake Park, Georgia, has delayed crops by nearly two months. Please submit snack pack orders 48 hours in advance.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Imperial Valley (February - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent
Kern County (October - Feb)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Various Northwest Regions (July - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Cauliflower



Cauliflower supplies remain limited across all regions this week, with quality holding steady as we head into the weekend. Expect this market to stay elevated for the next few weeks.

C	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Salinas, California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Celery

Demand has increased across all sizes, driving higher demand nationwide. Production remains steady in Oxnard and Santa Maria, while Salinas is winding down, and Yuma will not see production until after Christmas. Quality is strong overall, with only minor seeder issues, making it one of the best among major row crops. Expect this market to strengthen further throughout the week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good

















<u>Citrus (Grapefruit)</u>

Desert Rios are starting to come online in limited volume, shipping out of Riverside and the San Joaquin Valley.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Texas (October - April)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Citrus (Lemons)

Markets remain steady across the board. District 3 (CA Desert/AZ) is performing well and will continue through February. District 1 (San Joaquin Valley) has started slowly but is expected to ramp up in the coming weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard/Ventura (October - February)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
San Joaquin Valley (October - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Citrus (Limes)

Prices have stabilized, and supplies are abundant across the board. We are seeing a shift in sizes, with more medium-sized fruit emerging as small fruit begins to decline. Quality remains strong.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Veracruz (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Citrus (Oranges)

The Navel season is underway, with peak sizes in the 138ct, 113ct, and 88ct ranges. Markets are currently tight on 138ct, but should stabilize soon. As the season progresses, peak sizing will shift toward the 113ct and 88ct sizes. 72ct and larger will remain limited for the foreseeable future. Gas times are around 72-96 hours, and Brix levels are in the 12 range, making it a strong year for foodservice. Domestic mandarins have also begun.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent



<u>Cucumber</u>

Prices are steady to slightly lower, with limited availability in the East expected throughout November. Mexican volumes are strong, with improved quality coming from Nogales.

C	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Georgia (May - June)	Light	\$\$ \$	Good
	Mexico (November - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
	Baja California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good







<u>Eggplant</u>

Supplies are adequate, though Georgia is light with inconsistent quality. Southern Florida will begin production in a few weeks. Coachella is set for light harvest this weekend, and we are seeing some early crossing through Nogales. Expect improved supplies as Nogales ramps up production.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair
Mexico (November - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Garlic

California garlic season is in full swing, with good quality and robust supplies expected to continue steadily in the weeks ahead.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
East Coast (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Bakersfield, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Gilroy, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Grapes (Green / Red)

The green grape market is higher as fall varieties near their end. California greens remain in good condition, but supplies will decline over the next 2-3 weeks. Imports will begin in mid-November and increase through December. The red grape market is steady as fall varieties continue, with California supplies expected to last another 2-3 weeks, and some shipments continuing into December. Imports will start in mid to late November and ramp up through December, with no expected gap between domestic and import supplies.

Grapes (Green)

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (May - June)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent

Grapes (Red)

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Mav - June)	High	\$ \$\$	Good



Green Onions

Green onion supplies and quality are both strong. Cooler temperatures in Northern Mexico are contributing to the steady supply. This market is expected to remain stable into next week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Kale

Kale supplies and quality are expected to remain strong this week, with the market staying steady heading into next week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good
Salinas, CA (May - OCT)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good

















Lettuce Iceberg



Demand for this commodity significantly exceeds supply and is expected to remain tight through the Thanksgiving holiday. Ideal weather in Salinas and Santa Maria led to production being 2-4 weeks ahead of schedule, which has contributed to current supply shortages. Production in Huron is nearly complete, and supplies in Yuma are moderate at best. All value-added lettuce items are seeing price increases, which are expected to continue for at least two weeks. Taylor, Mexico, is a viable alternative for value-added lettuce, so please take note. Carton lettuce is lightweight, with weights ranging from 32-38 pounds, as reported by multiple shippers.

C	commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Santa Maria, California (March-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
	Salinas, California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Lettuce Leaf



The romaine market is very active and is expected to remain so for the next few weeks. All value-added romaine items will see price increases by Wednesday, continuing for at least a few weeks. Green and red leaf are more readily available, but their markets are also rising. Romaine heart supplies will be tight over the next few weeks. Yuma and Santa Maria are seeing light to moderate production on leaf items, while Salinas will have limited availability in the coming weeks. Huron production is nearly finished. Expect lightweight romaine, as well as green and red leaf, for the next few weeks.

C	ommodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
	Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
_	Salinas, California (May - October)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Fair



Lettuce Tender Leaf



All tender leaf items are tight as we head into the transition period. Some processors in Yuma are harvesting to help supplement the shortage in the north. These markets are expected to remain elevated for the next 2-3 weeks.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May - October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



<u>Melon (Cantaloupe)</u>

Prices remain steady, with consistent volumes from Arizona, though some suppliers are still facing cosmetic issues due to Yuma soil conditions. The Arizona-California desert season will continue through late November/early December, until offshore fruit begins arriving at domestic ports. Domestic fields are currently peaking on 9-count melons, with Mexican fruit from Nogales also peaking on 9-counts. The first Florida melons have started arriving, with 9-counts dominating early production. Domestic MFC cantaloupe melons are also available.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent













Melon (Honeydew)

Prices remain steady as harvesting begins in Arizona. Volumes are expected to increase over the next two weeks, with five-count melons dominating early production. The Arizona-California desert season will continue through late November/early December, until offshore fruit arrives at domestic ports.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Good



Melon (Watermelon)

Watermelon supplies are improving on the West Coast, particularly in Nogales. East Coast and Georgia suppliers have been heavily impacted by Hurricane Milton, shifting demand to the West Coast.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Arizona			
(June-July)	Light	\$\$ \$	Good
(October-November)			



<u>Mushroom</u>

Limited supplies continue to restrict availability, driving prices higher.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Nationwide	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Onions

With harvesting completed and storage full, growers are scaling back movements and focusing on regular contract business. Open market availability is becoming more limited, and prices for all colors, especially red and white, are trending higher.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality	
Eastern Orgeon/Parma, ID (August - April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent	
San Joaquin Valley (May - August)	Light	\$ \$\$	Good	
Tri-Cities, Washington (July - April)	High	\$\$\$	Good	



Pears

ALERT

Washington is now harvesting all major pear varieties, with the market remaining firm and prices higher. This will be a tight year for pears, as the Washington crop is significantly smaller compared to last year's volumes. California pears have now finished.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Hood River, Oregon (August-July)	Light	\$ \$\$	Good
Yakima, Washington (August-July)	Light	\$\$\$	Good











Pineapples

Suppliers are maintaining 6-week averages, prioritizing contracted business. Costa Rican pineapple supplies are improving, with better quality expected after upcoming rainfall. Larger fruit is scarce, but Mexican pineapples are more available with improved quality.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Costa Rica (Year round)	Light	\$\$ \$	Good



Potatoes

There is still an abundance of 40-70 CT potatoes with promotional pricing available. However, 80-120 CT and #2 potatoes are commanding a premium.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Idaho Falls, Idaho (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Pasco, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$ \$	Excellent



Squash

Supplies are plentiful, with promotable volumes available on both coasts. Pricing is low on green, yellow, and gray squash coming out of Nogales.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (November - May)	High	\$ \$\$	Good
Georgia (May- June)	Hlgh	\$ \$\$	Good



Stone Fruit

Plum supplies are quickly dwindling as shippers wrap up the season, with the remaining few expected to finish within the next two weeks. Asian pears are in good volume, and domestic supplies will continue into January. Domestic kiwi supplies are plentiful as the market stabilizes. Fall fruits are in full production, with an abundance of pomegranates, persimmons, and quince available.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (May-October)	High	\$\$ \$	Excellent



Tomatoes

ALERT

Markets remain extremely tight, with several shippers declaring Force Majeure in Florida, likely lasting for the rest of the year. As a result, demand is strong on the West Coast, particularly for rounds, pushing prices higher. Expect a shift in demand from rounds to romas for cost savings, which will also drive up prices. Mexican supply remains steady at current levels, with significant volume increases not expected until Sinaloa ramps up production in January.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Baja California (Spring/Summer - NOV)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good









Weather Updates



CALIFORNIA

High pressure remains over the region through the end of the week causing cold mornings and mild afternoons. Morning lows will be in the upper 20s to mid 30s south of King City with mid 30s to mid 40s further north. Daytime highs will be in low 60s to mid 70s. A low pressure system moves into the region Sunday night bringing a chance of rain, increased winds and below average temps with max temps in the upper 50s to low 70s.



MEXICO

Mostly dry weather beyond a few light widely isolated showers or sprinkles. Any rains that do develop should be less than 0.10". Temps will remain steady and warm over the next five days. Max temps in the mid 70s to mid 80s through Sunday. Lows in the upper 40s to mid 50s on Wednesday and mostly low 50s to near 60 for Thursday through Sunday morning.



FLORIDA

Showers and t-storms will occur on today into Thursday as moisture streams into the region. Hurricane Rafael is expected to pass over Cuba and then pass west of the Florida peninsula by late tonight into Thursday. Tropical Storm conditions are expected to occur over the Florida Keys today and then likely weaken and head possibly toward the Gulf Coast toward the end of the week. Temps will remain warm over the region over the next five days, except where rains limit daytime heating. Highs in the low-upper 80s today, upper 70s to mid 80s on Thursday and low-mid 80s for Friday through Sunday. Lows in the upper 60s to upper 70s through Sunday morning.



ARIZONA

Strong high-pressure over Nevada increases northerly winds this morning with gusts of 25-35mph expected along the lower Colorado River Valley, 20-25mph in southeast CA. This should keep morning lows in the 40s for most fields but as winds decrease Thu-Fri, min temps should cool to the mid 30s-low 40s in Yuma Co., low-mid 40s elsewhere by Friday and Saturday mornings. Wenden could see lows in the upper 20s Thursday, low 30s Friday and Saturday. Highs will be in the upper 60s-mid 70s Wednesday-Friday, warming to mid 70s-low 80s by Sunday under strengthening high-pressure.

Freight Updates

Start of Yuma is two weeks away from full transition and volume in Northern California is dwindling. We are still seeing orders moved from the norther regions to Southern California. At this point, we are anticipating with certainty that trucks will load both Salinas and SoCal.



.S. On-Highway Diesel	uel Prices*(dollars per gallon)			full history XLS	
	10/21/24	10/28/24	11/04/24	week ago	year ago
U.S.	3.553	3.573	3,536	* -0.037	♦ -0.830
East Coast (PADD1)	3.590	3.605	3.590	* -0.015	* -0.704
New England (PADDTA)	3.760	3.753	3.753	0.000	♦ -0.770
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	3.816	3.804	3.792	♦ -0.012	♦ -0.796
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	3.489	3.516	3.500	÷-0.016	* -0.663
Midwest (PADD2)	3.543	3.569	3.517	♦ -0.052	♦ -0.817
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	3.199	3.230	3.184	♦ -0.046	♦ -0.848
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	3.636	3.655	3,583	♦ -0.072	* -0.906
West Coast (PADD5)	4.210	4.206	4.190	♦ -0.016	* -1.068
West Coast less California	3.785	3.791	3.763	♦ -0.028	♦ -1.006
California	4.698	4.682	4.681	* -0.001	♦ -1.135
prices include all taxes					

For more information: https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/

G Prop Updates

As the coastal California growing regions season rapidly winds down the roller coaster in temperatures looks to continue. Cooler temperatures, winds and light rainfall last week will not help any of the remaining crops in the Salinas Valley. The cooler temperatures have decreased growth rates while increasing mildew, foliar and soil diseases in the valley decreasing yields in these late stands. Add to this the extended warm temperatures during the Yuma growing season and transition supplies look to become extremely tight as we move through November.

The warm desert temperatures will contribute to heat related defects including weak tip internal burn, twist/irregular shape and especially seeders in these early leafy green fields. In the remaining Salinas stands Broccoli seems to have been hit the hardest with heat and insect issues severely impacting current yields. In the leafy green fields mildew along with disease and insect pressure are taking a toll on current production of iceberg and romaine with some fields being left behind due to poor quality. These supplies will continue to show some premature pinking along the rib. This condition is not evident at harvest and tends to show up during transit and storage. Processed leafy green items will also likely see an increase in pinking showing up in the bag along with lesser texture and shelf life.

Processed tender leaf items will also likely see an increase in discoloration and breakdown showing up in the bag affecting shelf life. Spinach and spring mix items tend to be most susceptible to weather fluctuations due to being harvested at a very young stage. The spring mix and tender leaf items will continue to show some insect damage, yellowing, discoloration and breakdown in the bag along with weaker texture and lesser shelf life due to the growing conditions in the region.

Yuma will begin light harvests this week with full production expected to come from the region around mid-November. Lettuce and leafy green supplies traditionally begin with lighter carton weights due to lighter densities (puffy heads, light hearts) in these early fields. Seeders will likely be an issue in these early harvests in the region.







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QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER