

THE FRESH REPORT

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2019



Availability subject to change.

GROWING AREA FORECASTS

WEST COAST

Rains continue in Southern and Central California. Temperatures remain cool in the desert and Yuma regions.

EAST COAST

Temperatures are mild, but a week long front bringing rain is sweeping across the east coast.

MEXICO

Warm, dry conditions continue, especially in the Southern and Central Regions.

TOP PICKS

Onion, Vidalia Bulb #6510

Shiitake Mushrooms, GA Grown #4663

Baby White Turnips #8006

Beans, Yellow Wax #7488

Hydro Mache #4321

FRESH MARKET INFORMATION

 ASPARAGUS	Overall, markets on both coasts remain steady. We are headed into Mexico's peak season now.
AVOCADOS	No rain forecasted this week. Temps 70's-80's. Demand staying strong with pricing edging up a notch.
BEANS - GREEN	Supplies remain steady. We should not see any issues for awhile.
BERRIES - BLACK / BLUE / RASPBERRY	Blackberry supplies are lower this week due to short shipments out of Mexico associated with weather. Raspberry and Blueberry supplies are steady and should improve into next week. Quality has been good.
 BERRIES - STRAWBERRIES	Rain and cold continue to disrupt southern California - shippers have not been able to harvest much if any fruit, and fields will take some time to recover. Florida has seen an increase in production and Mexico has been steady. With the shortages out of CA, the market remains firm.

FRESH MARKET INFORMATION

BROCCOLI / CAULIFLOWER	Colder weather in Yuma has cauliflower supplies light this week, as this market continues to ebb and flow. Broccoli has been steady out of several growing areas, although lower out of Yuma - the market is trending upwards, but not as extreme as cauliflower.
CELERY	Celery supplies are short out of Southern California, Arizona, and Florida, as overall production is down at least 10% from this time last year. Prices will remain high for the coming weeks. Quality is taking a hit from colder weather.
CILANTRO / PARSLEY / GREEN ONION	Green onion supplies are improving with better weather in their growing region. Parsley and Cilantro is steady out of Yuma and Mexico. Prices are coming down slowly.
CITRUS - LEMONS / LIMES / ORANGES	Rain in the San Joaquin Valley has halted citrus harvests a few times over the last week. Most shippers have been able to keep up with demand, but supplies are starting to tighten up. Oranges and tangerines continue to ship with good supply and quality out of Florida. Grapefruit is available from several regions, with Texas having the best quality. Lime prices are rising and will continue as supplies remain light out of Mexico.
 CORN	Supplies are still extremely tight. Quality is ok. Price continues to rise.
CUCUMBERS	Supplies have tightened up a little bit from Honduras and Mexico. Quality is still good but prices have gone up a bit.
EGGPLANT	Starting to see some product out of Florida. Still a mix of both offshore and domestic. Supplies are better and prices have dropped.
 GRAPES	Grape shipments are coming in slowly out of South America, but still very limited. Reds are improving this week, while greens remain extremely light. Prices remain elevated.
ICEBERG / ROMAINE / LEAF LETTUCE	Rain at the end of this week is causing inventories to be lighter, overall the market is up. Blister, epidermal peel, and pinking issues caused by rain and cold continue.
 MELONS	Watermelon supplies are increasing out of Mexico and Guatemala, but the prices remain high. Honeydew demand remains strong and supplies have not been able to catch up as overall production is down considerably this season. Cantaloupes are in good supply, with sizing trending large.
ONIONS	Supplies are steady; no yellow and reds, but pricing has increased a little mainly due to higher freight rates. White onions are extremely tight and will remain so. Idaho is pretty much done with whites. What is coming out of Mexico has issues due to rain.
PEPPERS	Supplies are finally back to normal. Prices have dropped, quality is good. Red peppers are shipping with good supplies and quality out of Mexico, but yellow supplies are very limited.
 POTATOES	Due to extreme cold temperatures, supplies in all sizes are challenging. Packing days are still limited and prices continue to rise. Overall quality is good.
SQUASH/ZUCCHINI	Markets are getting better on yellow and green squash daily. With consistent warm temperatures in Florida we have seen steady increase on supplies.
STONEFRUIT	Stonefruit availability is improving with a good supply of plums, peaches, and nectarines.
TOMATOES	Supplies continue to be good. We are seeing some issues with quality on Mexican product; mainly color and some interior greening. Prices overall are good.