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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.

Strawberries – Poor growing conditions (cold and rain) in California continue to affect quality throughout the market. Pricing is fairly stable, but quality remains fair to poor. Short shelf life, white shoulders and decay are reported. **Blackberries, Blueberries and Raspberries** are all better quality options.

Lettuce – Quality of **Iceberg, Romaine** and **Leaf Lettuce** remains a concern, with puffiness, ribbing and short shelf life all common issues. Pricing has eased but may be higher than normal. **Romaine Hearts** and **pre-cut product** are still the best values.

Celery – Pricing remains very high on both bulk and pre-cut Celery, also due light supplies from the cold, wet conditions in Yuma. Quality is fair to good.

Cauliflower – Supplies of Heads and Florets are slightly improved, but pricing may be higher than normal, with good to fair quality reported.

Bell Peppers: Green and **Red** Bells continue to be in a supply gap in both Florida and Mexico. Pricing remains higher than normal, with fair quality. Choice **Grade Green Bells** are the best value.

Onions: Red and **Yellow** Onions are in a temporary supply gap for the next few weeks. The Pacific Northwest storage crop is finishing early, and the Texas harvest has yet to ramp up. Pricing may be higher in certain markets, with good to fair quality.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

Kale – The final harvest out of Yuma is yielding great quality at good prices. Quality is excellent with vibrant color and full bunches.

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

Chili Peppers – Anaheim, Serrano and Pasilla Peppers are all very good quality.

Berries – Blackberries and Blueberries are very good quality and pricing.

Specialty Potatoes – Quality is great on all Colored, Fingerling and Yukon Potatoes.

Grapefruit – Texas and Florida are at peak harvest on Ruby Reds.

Weather Update

California: Colder temperatures with moderate wind and rain.

Yuma, AZ: Gusty winds and cooler temperatures.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures and mostly dry conditions.

Florida: Rain and strong winds throughout much of the state early in 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 higher
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good, with smaller sizes the best value	 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 and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is fair; pricing is very high, particularly Red and Yellow	 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 fair; pricing is good	 ONIONS	Quality is good to fair; pricing is higher
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good	 GARLIC	Quality is fair; pricing is higher	 PEAR	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is poor; pricing may be higher	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is fair; pricing is good	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher	 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 is fair; pricing is good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality is fair; pricing is high, orders may be shorted	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is fair; pricing is slightly higher	 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher

