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## Market Alerts

**SEVERE WEATHER ALERT**— Unseasonably cold temperatures and heavy rains continue to affect many crops grown in California and Yuma AZ. Quality and availability of products impacted include **Strawberries, Iceberg, Romaine, Celery, Cauliflower, Broccoli and Brussels Sprouts**.

**GRAPES**— Supplies continue to be limited, pricing is slightly higher than normal and quality is fair. Red Grapes are a better cost and quality option than Green this week.

**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**— The quality of **Iceberg**, and to a lesser degree **Romaine** and **Leaf Lettuce**, is fair at best. Puffiness, ribbing and short shelf life are all common issues, and pricing is higher than normal. Consider using **Romaine Hearts** or **pre-cut product** for best overall value.

**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**— The cold, wet conditions in Yuma AZ have tightened supplies of Cauliflower Heads and Florets. Pricing is higher than normal and quality is good to fair, with some bruising and yellowing reported.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Late Winter Greens**— Endive, Chicory and Frisee are all available. All are great cold-weather menu favorites!

**Pears**— Bartlett, Bosc and Anjou pears are excellent quality out of Washington and California.

**Blueberries**— Quality is terrific on South American imported fruit

**Avocados**— Quality is excellent and pricing is lower than in recent months. Fully ripened product is plentiful.

**Asparagus**— Pencil and Standard size Asparagus pricing and quality are very good.

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

**Squash**— Green (Zucchini) and Yellow Squash are great quality in all sizes.

**Colored Bell Peppers**— Mexico's harvest of Red, Yellow and Orange Bells is all very good quality.

## Weather Update

**California**: Cold temperatures and rainy conditions persist in all growing regions, but a warming trend is possible at the end of the week.

**Yuma, AZ**: Cold temperatures and rainy conditions persist in all growing regions, but a warming trend is possible at the end of the week.

**Mexico**: Seasonal temperatures and precipitation in all growing regions.

**Florida**: Warmer temperatures and scattered showers over most of the state.



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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, Pencil and Standard sizes are 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 fair; pricing is higher	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality and pricing are good	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality and pricing are good	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is fair
 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 and pricing are good
 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 higher	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is fair; pricing is higher	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is fair; pricing is good	 POTATOES	Quality and pricing are good
 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 higher	 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good

