



veg
fresh
— farms —



Food Service Report

May 15th, 2019

Lettuce

Iceberg Lettuce Volume hit record high totals last week and is projected to remain the same for this week. We are a little concerned about the forecast, with low temperatures and rain forecasted through Thursday. The focus this week will be to minimize the light insect and mildew starting to emerge at field level, which is common for this time of year. With extreme weather predicted, there could be a slight increase in the market.

Romaine Lettuce Supplies are slightly above normal this week and will continue for the remainder of May. Quality is good, and product looks clean with some mild fringe burn. We are currently packing in Salinas and Gonzalez. Rain is expected in the growing region for the next 5 days which could generate issues including mildew. Weights averaging 34-46 pounds.

Green Leaf Lettuce Supplies are slightly above normal. Overall quality is good with only moderate cupping.

Red Leaf Lettuce Good supply and quality.

Weather Outlook

California A wet pattern returns as a series of winter type storm systems roll into California going into the weekend. Strong winds (30-40mph) along with substantial rainfall will accompany these three systems as they move through the region.

Mexico Seasonably warm temperatures look to continue in Mexico going into next week with a slight chance of rain across Central Mexico.

Florida Humid conditions along with scattered showers across the southern counties of Florida and looks to continue into early next week.



Tomatoes

Florida Production continues out of the Palmetto/Ruskin regions in Florida. Business is slow with ample supplies available. Harvest will transition to the Quincy, Florida area by the end of May. Markets are in the mid-teens for best quality.

Mexico Tomatoes are currently available from the Jalisco region and Baja California. Good availability on slow movement. Markets are in the low teens for best quality round and roma tomatoes.

California Indio, California will start tomato production this week. The market looks to open in the low teens.

Outlook Plentiful supplies available for promotions over the next several weeks.

Squash

Yellow Squash Availability is down this week. The East continues to see production out of Florida as Georgia is starting to ramp up. Harvest in Mexico remains sporadic from the northern farms and California is another week or two from starting production. Poor quality being reported from all growing regions.

Italian Squash Prices have declined for this week. Georgia is ramping up for the East, which is helping current supplies. Mexico continues to generate consistent product, and California is on the verge of starting.

Avocados

Mexico The market is becoming stronger with production moving up to higher elevations in Mexico causing supplies to tighten. Mexico is harvesting reduced volume to push market prices upwards. New crop fruit will hit the market in early July.

California The market prices are mixed this week, with 60s and 70s showing a slight price drop. All other sizes out of California are seeing a price increase for the week. Harvest will likely only go through June.

Peru A good amount of early season Peruvian fruit is available on the market. Peruvian fruit has thick, bumpy skin externally that may turn amber red when ripe.

Cilantro

Mexico The market remains steady in Mexico with the recent warm weather and production starting in Salinas. Quality is good with an occasional yellow leaf. Look for the market to remain steady going into next week.

Cucumbers

Eastern Supply Farms are finishing up in South Florida but there's an adequate amount of cucumbers available in the East from Plant and Georgia. Quality has been good despite the weather issues that affected other commodities. Eastern Northern Carolina expects to begin harvesting in 2-3 weeks.

Western Supply The West is working through a transition from the Mainland to Otay, however there is enough overlap and shouldn't experience a gap. Quality has been hit or miss but has improved since some of the growers with older fields have finished.



Citrus

Lemons The food service sizes 165s and smaller sized lemons are tight, and availability is expected to remain limited moving forward. Market prices continue to climb weekly, currently in the low \$30s on choice and fancy fruit. Supplies continue to peak on large sizes 75ct/95ct/115ct. Offshore harvest is expected to begin hitting the ports by mid-July.

Limes Supplies continue to peak on 200s and smaller with markets in the mid to high teens. Limited availability persists on larger fruit consisting of 110s-175s. Lack of rain in the growing regions has brought on heavy volume of small sizes. The market is expected to remain strong until supplies improve.

Onions

Northwest/California Northwest storage onions are finishing up for the season out of Idaho and Washington. Suppliers will have sporadic volume available for the next 7-10 days. Quality on the remaining storage yellow onions will show some translucency and sprouting, particularly on super colossal and colossal sizes. Availability on red onions is limited, while white onions remain extremely tight. Texas will have production and good volume on all color varieties through May. The California desert is also going with all three-color varieties. Supplies are improving against white onions and markets are starting to decline. New crop onions in Texas and California will exhibit thin flaky skin and reduced shelf life. The California Valley and New Mexico will get going by early June.