



Market ALERT

Week 5: January 29 - February 4, 2024

asparagus



Low supply, good quality, and strong demand from Mexico and Peru. Supplies are expected to improve in the next two weeks, with prorates on larger sizes.

beans



Green Beans: **EXTREME** Supplies are extremely tight in all growing regions due to the cold weather. Florida continues to be impacted by the cold and wet weather. This has affected plant growth and supplies. Orders are being prorated.

Snow peas: Guatemalan production is steady, with a lower yield due to weather. Quality is fair. Mexico has light supplies, and the market remains active.

berries



Raspberries: Prices are stable, with Mexico's production impacted by cool weather, but quality continues to be good.

Strawberries: Prices are down while production in Oxnard is steady with good quality. Production in Santa Maria, Florida, and Mexico is increasing with good quality despite challenges from cool, wet weather. Santa Maria is reporting some green shoulders.

broccoli



Broccoli: Light supplies and good demand from Santa Maria, Yuma, and Mexico, with lower yields due to rain, causing escalating market pricing for the next few weeks.

carrots



The growing region in Mexico is facing water and germination issues, causing crop losses and complicating the domestic market. California and other regions are also facing weather-related challenges, with a low supply of jumbos and cellos. Prorates may be expected, and table carrots may be a substitute. Tropical storm Hilary disrupted plantings, causing reduced yields. Hurricane Idalia's devastation in Georgia may impact January volume.

cauliflower



Light supplies and good demands from Santa Maria, Yuma, and Mexico with lower yields due to rain, causing limited supply and steady market pricing for the next few weeks.

citrus



Limes: Regardless of availability, growers are hesitant to cut fruit in order to secure the best price. Rain has provided an advantage for fruit growth, with many big fruits finishing. However, the quality of small fruit has not been the best due to the rain and cold weather. More oil spots will appear due to the rain. The market has been steady, with a high market for a few months.

Oranges: In 2023, the California citrus region faced intense weather conditions, including excessive rain and sun, which led to a decline in small orange sizes. As the crop continues to develop, small sizes will become limited, and the remaining season and the upcoming Valencia season will be challenging. It is recommended to open specs or switch to Mandarins.



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corn



Rain and cool weather have impacted Florida and Mexico production, leading to increased prices and tight supplies. Quality is typically fair this time of year, and the sizes are smaller than in the summer.

honeydews



Limited relief is expected over the next 3-4 weeks due to the limited availability in all growing regions. Sizing is mostly 5s and larger, with some 6s. Flexibility may be required during loading. Mexican production is primarily 8s, with questionable quality on larger sizes.

mushrooms



Supplies are a little tight due to quality issues with raw ingredients in compost. Markets are expected to react to these limited supplies, leading to an escalated price. For the next few weeks.

onions



EXTREME (White) The quality is good in all growing regions, with steady demand. The market prices are increasing, especially on whites. Whites are extremely tight to non-existence, followed by medium red and large yellow. Some growers are done with whites and will not have them available again until late April. Some suppliers are already calling AOG on whites. Recent ice storms and weather in the growing region have caused loading and

production delays. Imports aren't due to start until March. The freight rate has increased, and trucks are a little tight. This will impact the precut.

onions green



Supply gaps due to holidays and reduced labor in Mexico have led to light supplies. Markets are expected to increase as demand exceeds supplies, and freezing temperatures have delayed crop maturity. Supply is expected to improve post-holidays as workers return to work.

peppers chili



ALERT (Tomatillos) Prices have decreased due to increased production and soft demand, making them normal for this time of year.

squash



Yellow and zucchini squash prices are up with fair to poor quality due to rain and cool weather in South Florida and Mexico, with tight supplies until February.

tomatoes



FORCE MAJEURE Prices are up due to weather challenges in Florida and Mexico, with the market being extremely tight and approaching record levels. Despite supply recovery, it may take weeks to fill the pipeline, and growers are reporting empty coolers.

If you have any specific questions or concerns on any commodities not mentioned in this report, please feel free to reach out to jhoppe@nproduce.com and we will be happy to give you those current market conditions. Also look for our Spanish version that will be released on Monday. Have a great week!

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