



# Market ALERT

WEEK 52: December 24 - 31, 2023

## asparagus



**EXTREME** | Asparagus production in Mexico and Peru is decreasing due to cooler temperatures and field transitions. Larger sizes are limited in all regions, and markets are highly active with less production. Supplies expected to be limited through January.

## carrots



Mexico's carrot region is facing challenges due to water and germination issues, causing crop losses, and further complicating the domestic market. California and other regions are also facing weather-related challenges, with jumbos and cellos in low supply. Prorates may be expected, and table carrots may be a good substitute. Tropical storm Hilary disrupted plantings in Imperial Valley, Riverside County, and Kern County, causing a week delay in planting and reduced yields. Hurricane Idalia's devastation in Georgia has significantly affected carrot farms, potentially impacting January volume.

## beans green



Supplies continue to be limited due to the growing regions impacted by weather. The market is escalating with high demands.

## berries



**BLACKBERRIES:** Prices are increasing, primarily from Mexico, with growers reporting high-quality production.

**BLUEBERRIES:** Prices are increasing, with production from Chile, Mexico, and Peru, and growers anticipate high volumes in January and February 2024.

**RASPBERRIES:** Prices are increasing, with growers anticipating tight supplies next week or two, primarily from Mexico. Quality is good.

## cauliflower



Cauliflower demand is strong, with supplies coming from Santa Maria and Yuma, and Mexico. Supplies are limited and expected to be light in the coming weeks, with market pricing expected to escalate.

## broccolini



Due to increased demand, supplies are expected to be limited for a few weeks, with brown beads and flowering defects, impacting yield. Although improved supplies are expected in Yuma, the market may take a few weeks to catch up.

## celery



Light supplies from Oxnard and Santa Maria are expected to remain light for a few weeks, with market pricing increasing due to fair quality. Moving to Yuma in January should improve supply and pricing.



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## mushrooms



Mushroom supplies are expected to be tightened up for the holidays due to quality issues with raw ingredients in compost. Markets are expected to react to these limited supplies, leading to a escalated price.

## strawberries



Prices are slightly down, with production from Oxnard, Santa Maria, Florida, and Mexico. Supplies remain tight. Cool temperatures and rains have had a big impact on crops from California, Florida, and Mexico. Prorates may be expected. Growers predict increased volumes in the coming weeks, requiring sunshine and warm, dry weather.

## onions



**RADAR** | The onion market is experiencing steady demand and good to excellent quality in all growing regions. However, the market is facing shrinkage concerns due to Hurricane Hillary's rainfall on the US west coast, shortages in onion-producing regions like Quebec, Canada, Michigan, and New York, and a decrease in sweet onions imported from Peru and reduced onion yield in Mexico due to Hurricane Otis. This has led to rising prices and is expected to persist until late spring or early summer. Medium red and white are tight. This will also affect precut.

## tomatoes



**FORCE MAJEURE** | Tomato prices are rising due to unfavorable weather conditions, with growers calling for a Force Majeure. As the season ends in Baja and Eastern Mexico, supplies are limited, and Western Mexico is expected to arrive two weeks later in January. South Florida experienced wind and rain, leading to high prices in the next 2-4 weeks.

## peppers chili



**Anaheim & Poblano** | Chili pepper prices are decreasing, but supplies are limited. Prices remain high on Anaheim's and Poblanos. Growers anticipate increased volume due to South Florida and Mexico production, despite rain slowed down production.



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