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Market Alerts

TRANSITION The movement of major growing areas from California to points as far south as Yuma Arizona is underway, and will continue through early December. 'Transition', as this movement is called, is a time when certain crops are more susceptible to disruptions in supply and quality. Currently no issues are reported, outside of the product alerts listed below.

TOMATOES After-effects of Hurricane Irma has production of **Round and Grape Tomatoes** down 40% vs. normal, and California/Mexico are past peak harvest. Quality is good, however product is very scarce and much more expensive than usual. **Romas** are primarily grown outside of Florida, and as such are more plentiful and a much better cost option than **Rounds** for the coming week.

ORANGES The severe shortage of all grades and sizes of **Oranges** is expected to continue through the beginning of December. The **Navel** crop is now being harvested, but it is the lightest crop since 2009 and is not enough to keep up with demand. What little product available is up to 4 times more expensive than normal, with fair quality. Please avoid using, and substitute **Apples** or **Pears** where possible.

BERRIES Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries are in limited supply, with good to fair quality reported. **Strawberries** have improved greatly in the past week, and are a much better cost and quality option.

GREEN BEANS The after-effects of Hurricane Irma included crop flooding and inability to plant. There is now a shortage of product, and pricing on what little is available is extremely high. Quality is fair to poor.

A Peek at Peak Seasons

SWEET POTATOES All sizes and grades of Sweet Potatoes/Yams are plentiful, with good quality and pricing just in time for fall menus.

Autumn Squash: With cooler weather approaching, it's the perfect time to highlight hard (autumn) Squash on your menus. Butternut, Delicata, Carnival, Acorn and Spaghetti are all great options.

Lettuce: Iceberg, Romaine and Leaf Lettuces are all excellent quality and very good pricing.

Pears: Bartlett and Red Pears are at peak harvest out of Washington, along with in California and New York. It's the perfect time of year to use them for hand fruit and recipes.

Asparagus: Supplies will begin to decrease out of Mexico. The market is already trending higher on the West Coast. Steady supplies out of Peru on the East Coast with the market remaining steady.

Leeks: This cold-weather root vegetable is a great fall menu and ingredient staple.

Weather Update

California: Colder temperatures and dry conditions are expected over much of the growing regions throughout the week.

Mexico: Warm and dry conditions throughout much of the country.

Florida: Cool temperatures and dry conditions throughout much of the week, with possible showers mid-week in the central growing regions.

Commodities at a Glance

APPLES	Peak season for fall varietals.
ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good.
AVOCADO	Pricing remains much higher than normal, quality is good to fair.
BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good.
BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality is fair to poor, pricing is fair.
BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality is fair, pricing is good.
BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good.
BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good.
BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality is improved, pricing is higher than normal.
CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good.
CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good.

CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher on certain sizes.
CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good.
CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, supplies are very limited, pricing is extremely high.
CUCUMBERS	Quality and pricing are good.
EGGPLANT	Quality and pricing are good.
GARLIC	Quality is fair, pricing is higher.
GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is fair.
GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is fair.
GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good.
KALE	Quality and pricing are good.
LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality and pricing are good.

LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are good.
LETTUCE TENDER LEAF	Quality and pricing are good.
MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is fair, pricing is good.
ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good.
PEARS	Quality and pricing are good.
PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good.
POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher on medium sizes.
POTATOES (COLORED)	Quality and pricing are good.
SQUASH	Quality and pricing are good.
TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Rounds and Cherries.