

# the Source +



## Market Alerts

**WESTERN SOFT VEGETABLES** Extreme heat in California's growing regions has affected availability and quality of **Eggplant, Red Bell Peppers and Cucumbers** that supply the Western half of the country. **Eggplant** is up from last week, and **Red Bell Pepper** pricing is also higher. We recommend using **Choice Green Bell Peppers** for optimal cost and quality. **Cucumbers** are also experiencing fair quality and slightly higher pricing.

**POTATOES** As the storage crop winds down, **Idaho 80 CT potatoes** and smaller are the best buys, and will continue to be throughout the summer. Avoid **70 CT or larger** where possible. Quality is good across all sizes.

**AVOCADOS** The supply of product out of Mexico continues to be severely restricted, due to a combination of growing condition and import issues. Product from other sources, including California, is not plentiful enough to offset the Mexican shortage, and pricing continues to be much higher than normal.

**APPLES** Apples are also a storage crop, and some varieties are running low on small fruit. **Granny Smith** and **Golden Delicious** are currently the most impacted, with **88 CT** and larger being more available than **100 CT** and smaller. Consider using **Fujis** or **Galas** as an alternative where smaller sizes are needed.

**MELONS** Supplies of **Cantaloupe** and **Honeydew**, particularly out of the West, are lighter than usual due to extreme heat. Prices are up from last week, with good to fair quality reported.

## A Peek at Peak Seasons

**Locally Grown Products:** The local growing season is starting up. Michigan Blueberries, Virginia Corn, New Jersey Peppers, Long Island Lettuces and other products are now available. Ask your distributor for this week's local farms list!

**Stone Fruit:** Domestic harvests of peaches and nectarines have begun. Ask your distributor for availability.

**Round Tomatoes:** All sizes and grades on round tomatoes are good quality and pricing with increasing supply going into July. Roma tomatoes are more expensive than usual, so Rounds are a great alternative this week.

**Asparagus:** Locally grown asparagus is being harvested in many parts of the Pacific Northwest, Midwest and Northeast U.S. Ask your distributor for what's available!

**Grapes:** California Red and Green grapes are in the early stages of harvesting with momentum building. Quality is excellent and pricing is good. Late spring/early summer is a wonderful time of year to feature grapes on your menus

## Weather Update

**California:** Temperatures will remain well above average through the rest of the week.

**Mexico:** Warm temperatures and an increase in "monsoonal moisture" over the week.

**Southeast U.S.:** Tropical Storm Cindy has made landfall near the Texas-Louisiana border, with the heaviest rain between New Orleans and the Florida Panhandle.



# Commodities at a Glance

 APPLES	WA, ID and MI are at peak season on certain varieties. Quality is excellent.	 CELERY	Quality and pricing are improved.	 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality is good to fair; pricing is good.
 ASPARAGUS	Pricing and quality are very good, especially on Pencil and Standard sizes.	 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher on certain sizes.	 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 AVOCADO	Pricing is slightly higher than normal, quality is good to fair.	 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good.	 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good to fair; pricing is higher on Western product.	 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing may be higher on certain sizes.	 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality is fair; pricing is good.
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Supplies better, quality is good. Pricing is higher.	 CUCUMBERS	Pricing is higher on some grades. Quality is good.	 ONIONS	Quality is good, pricing is higher.
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Supplies very light, quality is fair. Pricing is higher.	 EGGPLANT	Quality is good to fair; pricing is much higher on Western product.	 PEARS	New crop is being harvested, quality is good, pricing is stable.
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Supplies are lighter, quality is fair. Pricing is higher.	 GARLIC	Quality is fair; pricing is higher.	 PINEAPPLES	Quality and pricing are good.
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Supplies lighter, quality is fair. Pricing is higher.	 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality and pricing are good.	 POTATOES	Pricing is higher on 70 CT and larger. 80 CT and smaller are the best values.
 BROCCOLI	Pricing is higher; quality is good.	 GRAPES (RED)	Quality and pricing are good.	 POTATOES (COLORED)	All colors are at peak season.
 BRUSSELS SPROUTS	Quality and pricing are fair.	 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good.	 SQUASH	Pricing is higher on Yellow than Green. Quality is good.
 CARROTS	Quality is good, pricing is stable.	 KALE	Quality and pricing are good.	 STONE FRUIT	Quality and pricing are good.
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good.	 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality and Pricing are good.	 TOMATOES	Quality is good. Rounds and Cherries are the best buys.

