

Produce Market Advisory

For the week of July 9, 2018

Market Alerts

Recommended Items to Avoid

LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCE The local season is here for the summer in most parts of the country. Be sure to look at the regional recommendations in **A Peek at Peak Seasons** on page two.



TOMATOES Supplies of **Round, Roma, Grape and Cherry Tomatoes** have all increased, with California, Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern growing areas all ramping up for their summer harvests. Pricing is lower than in prior weeks and is expected to continue dropping, but still slightly higher than normal this week. 5x6 or smaller Rounds and Grapes are the best buys.



STRAWBERRIES After the recent long stretch of abundant supplies and great pricing, the **Strawberry** crop is harvesting lower numbers than expected. Quality is good to fair, with smaller/unevenly sized fruit the most common issue reported. Pricing may be higher in certain markets. **Blueberries, Blackberries** and even **Raspberries** may be better overall values.



ASPARAGUS The aftereffects from Tropical Storm Bud in Mexico continue to impact supplies of all sizes of **Asparagus**. Quality is good, but pricing is as high as 20% above normal. **Pencil** and **Standard** sizes are the best value, and are Compass' preferred spec.



TENDER LEAF LETTUCE Extreme heat in California's growing regions may affect quality on Spinach, Arugula, and Spring Mix. Withering and short shelf life are the most common issues being reported.

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

Berries: Quality is excellent on Blueberries, Blackberries and Raspberries.



Eastern Vegetables: Eggplant, Squash, Bell Peppers and Cucumbers out of the Southeastern U.S. are all very nice quality and good pricing.



Leaf Lettuce: Green Leaf, Red Leaf and Romaine Lettuce are plentiful, with great quality and low pricing. Great alternatives to Iceberg!



Avocados: Quality on Avocados out of California and Mexico is outstanding.



Stone Fruit: California, Georgia and South Carolina are producing great Peaches, Nectarines and Plums.



Produce Meter

● Good ● Fair ● Caution

Commodity	Quality	Market
Apples	●	●
Asparagus	●	●
Avocado	●	●
Bananas	●	●
Bell Peppers (Western)	●	●
Bell Peppers (Eastern)	●	●
Berries: Strawberries	●	●
Berries: Raspberries	●	●
Berries: Blackberries	●	●
Berries: Blueberries	●	●
Broccoli	●	●
Carrots	●	●
Cauliflower	●	●
Celery	●	●
Citrus: Lemons	●	●
Citrus: Limes	●	●
Citrus: Oranges	●	●
Cucumbers (Western)	●	●
Cucumbers (Eastern)	●	●
Eggplant (Western)	●	●
Eggplant (Eastern)	●	●
Garlic	●	●
Grapes, Green	●	●
Grapes, Red	●	●
Green Onions	●	●
Lettuce: Romaine / Leaf	●	●
Lettuce: Iceberg	●	●
Lettuce: Spring Mix/Spinach	●	●
Melons: Cantaloupe	●	●
Melons: Honeydew	●	●
Melons: Watermelon	●	●
Onions	●	●
Pears	●	●
Potatoes	●	●
Squash (Western)	●	●
Squash (Eastern)	●	●
Tomatoes (Western)	●	●
Tomatoes (Eastern)	●	●

Produce Market Advisory

(continued)

A Peek at Peak Seasons

The local growing season for most of the U.S. is heating up. Look for these most commonly harvested products in the following regions, and be sure to ask your distributor for locally grown recommendations!

Northeast/Mid-Atlantic – Blueberries, Squash, Eggplant, Peppers

Southeast – Tomatoes, Peppers, Squash, Peaches, Watermelons

Midwest – Blueberries, Peppers, Corn, Greens

Pacific Northwest – Asparagus, Blueberries, Cherries, Radishes, Beets

Southwest – Cabbage, Sweet Potatoes, Okra, Melons

Weather Update

California: Temperatures remain extremely warm in all the major growing areas, with coastal temps 10 to 15° hotter than normal, and inland regions in the 100s.

Mexico: Seasonal temperatures and frequent thunderstorms expected most of the week in all major growing areas.

Florida: Seasonal temperatures and afternoon showers throughout most of the state.

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality is good, pricing is much higher. Pencil and Standard are the best values.
 AVOCADO	Quality and pricing are good
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher on Red and Yellow
 BERRIES (BLACKBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (BLUEBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (RASPBERRIES)	Quality and pricing are good
 BERRIES (STRAWBERRIES)	Quality is good to fair, pricing may be higher
 BROCCOLI	Quality and pricing are good
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good
 CELERY	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality and pricing are good
 CITRUS (LIMES)	Quality and pricing are good
 CITRUS (ORANGES)	Quality is good, pricing is slightly higher on smaller sizes

 CUCUMBERS	Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher
 EGGPLANT	Quality is good to fair, pricing is higher on Western product
 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality and pricing are good
 GRAPES (RED)	Quality and pricing are good
 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing is good
 MELON (CANTALOUPE)	Quality and pricing are good
 MELON (HONEYDEW)	Quality and pricing are good
 MELON (WATERMELON)	Quality and pricing are good
 ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 PEARS	Quality and pricing are good
 POTATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher. 90 CT and smaller sizes are the best value.
 SQUASH	Quality and pricing are good
 TOMATOES	Quality is good, pricing is higher, smaller Rounds are the best value