

Produce Market Advisory

For the week of August 13, 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.



LEMONS Extreme heat in the western growing regions for citrus has caused a shortage of all sizes of **Lemons** that is expected to last for several weeks. Orders may be shorted or substituted with a different size or grade, pricing may be higher than normal in certain markets, and quality is fair. The best values will be **140 CT, 165 CT and 200 CT choice-grade** product, where available.



AVOCADOS Supplies are decreasing rapidly, due to California's heat wave earlier in the month, and crop transition in Mexico. Pricing is higher than normal, but quality is still good. **#2-grade, 48 CT and 60 CT Avocados** are the best value, and are Compass' preferred specification.



STRAWBERRIES Quality is improved, but heat-related issues such as softness, bruising and short shelf life are still being reported. Blackberries and Raspberries are better quality options.



EASTERN VEGETABLES Quality of **Summer Squash, Cucumbers and Eggplant** in the eastern half of the U.S. is fair to poor, due to prolonged, heavy rains on the East Coast. Pitting, decay and short shelf life are all reported. Pricing is good.



ORANGES Supplies of **138 CT and smaller Oranges** are limited, and will continue to be through the end of the Valencia season in autumn. Use **113 CT and larger** where possible. "Re-greening", which is a heat-related greenish tinge to the exterior of fully ripened fruit, is being reported.

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

Pears: New crop Bartlett, Bosc and Red Pears are all being harvested out of California and Washington. Quality is excellent, with firm fruit and good sweetness.



Melons: Cantaloupe and Honeydew are very nice quality, with high sugar levels. Specialty melons such as Casaba, Galia and Juan Canary are also now in season



Kale: Quality is excellent with good color and full bunches.



Asparagus: Quality is very nice and pricing is good on Pencil- and Standard-size Asparagus.



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, Beefsteak Tomatoes, Eggplant, Cucumbers, Peppers, Corn, Stone Fruit

Southeast – Greens, Tomatoes, Peaches, Watermelons, Onions, Turnips

Midwest – Eggplant, Celery, Corn, Blueberries, Peppers, Apples

Pacific Northwest – Radishes, Cherries, Chard, Kale, Onions, Beets, Pears

Southwest – Cabbage, Sweet Potatoes, Melons, Tomatoes

















Weather Update

California: Hotter than normal temperatures continue throughout all growing regions. Hurricane John may bring thunderstorms to southern California.

Mexico: Hurricane John and Tropical Storm Ileana are bringing showers and thunderstorms to the southwestern and central growing regions.

Southeastern U.S.: Seasonal temperatures and thunderstorms, at times bringing heavy rain.

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality and pricing are good
 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 poor, pricing is good
 BROCCOLI	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 CARROTS	Quality and pricing are good
 CAULIFLOWER	Quality and pricing are good
 CELERY	Quality and pricing are good
 CITRUS (LEMONS)	Quality is fair, pricing is extremely high, supplies are limited
 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 on Super Select grade
 EGGPLANT	Quality is fair, pricing is good
 GARLIC	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 GRAPES (GREEN)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 GRAPES (RED)	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 GREEN ONIONS	Quality and pricing are good
 LETTUCE ICEBERG	Quality and pricing are good
 LETTUCE LEAF	Quality and pricing are 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 is fair, pricing is good
 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good