

Produce Market Advisory

For the week of August 6, 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 Heat damage is affecting **Strawberry** quality in the California regions of Salinas and Watsonville, which are currently the primary growing areas. Bruising, softness, smaller berries, and shortened shelf life are all reported, and pricing is good. **Blackberries, Raspberries and Blueberries** are all better quality options.



CILANTRO California's extreme heat, and similar conditions in Mexico's growing region, has created quality issues including smaller product, seeding and withering. Harvests are also light, causing pricing to be higher than normal.



LIMES Supplies have tightened due to the heat in Mexico. Quality is good to fair, but pricing may be higher in certain markets.

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

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



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



Green Onions: The hotter-than-normal temperatures in Mexico's growing region is benefiting the Green Onion harvest. Quality is excellent.



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: Coastal areas are cool, with seasonal marine moisture. Interior regions continue to be very hot, with several wildfires and an air quality alert.

Mexico: Above average temperatures in most of the country, with seasonal precipitation. Offshore tropical storms are being monitored.

Southeastern U.S.: Above average temperatures and normal precipitation in most growing areas.

 APPLES	Quality and pricing are good
 ASPARAGUS	Quality and pricing are good
 AVOCADO	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 BELL PEPPERS	Quality is good, pricing is higher
 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 and pricing are good
 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 and pricing are 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 and pricing are good
 TOMATOES	Quality and pricing are good