

# ATLANTIC

## FOOD DISTRIBUTORS

### Commodity of the Month - Strawberries

**Driscoll's**  
Only the Finest Berries™

#### MARKET ALERTS

**Asparagus** - Limited supply and the quality is good to fair.

**Blackberries** - Limited supply and the quality is fair.

**Strawberries** - Limited supply and the quality is good.

**Oranges** - Limited supply and the quality is good.

**Onions** - Supply is steady and the quality is excellent.



**Ice this morning in Bard, CA  
Lettuce, Romaine & Leaf**

**JANUARY 10, 2023**

#### CROP UPDATES

Cold Pacific storm systems are causing problems for growers in California, Southwestern Desert, Baja, Mexico, and Florida, with systems expected to enter Southwest and Northern Mexico before exiting to the east. Florida faces significant precipitation this week and weekend, impacting growers and crops, with heavy rains threatening strawberries and dry veg crops in the north and south. [Read more](#)

#### WEATHER

**Arizona** - Yuma expects frost or freeze conditions from Tuesday-Wednesday, with warmer temperatures on Thursday morning due to cloudiness and light rain. Highs in mid-50s to low 60s.

**California** - Temperatures will remain below average through midweek, with morning lows in the mid-30s and daytime highs in the 50s to 60s. Light rain may occur on Wednesday, but temperatures will return to Monday's levels on Thursday night.

**Florida** - On Tuesday, Northern and Central FL will experience moderate to heavy rains and strong gusty winds due to a cold front, with increased rain chances in northern Florida and central/southern Florida.

**Mexico** - The forecast predicts cool mornings and mostly seasonal daytime temperatures through Friday, with a possible cold front by Saturday. Lows are in the 30s-40s, highs in the 60s-70s.

#### FREIGHT

Shipper delays due to lettuce ice is expected all week and into next.

Truck capacity is returning to normal post-holiday.

**PRO FRESH**  
LOGISTICS

#### AT PEAK SEASON



# Table of Contents



[Apples](#)



[Citrus \(Lemon\)](#)



[Melon \(Cantaloupe\)](#)



[Asparagus](#)



[Citrus \(Limes\)](#)



[Melon \(Honeydew\)](#)



[Avocados](#)



[Citrus \(Oranges\)](#)



[Melon \(Watermelon\)](#)



[Bell Peppers](#)



[Cucumbers](#)



[Mushroom](#)



[Berries \(Blackberries\)](#)



[Eggplant](#)



[Onions](#)



[Berries \(Blueberries\)](#)



[Garlic](#)



[Pears](#)



[Berries \(Raspberries\)](#)



[Grapes \(Green\)](#)



[Pineapples](#)



[Berries \(Strawberries\)](#)



[Grapes \(Red\)](#)



[Potatoes](#)



[Broccoli](#)



[Green Onions](#)



[Squash](#)



[Brussel Sprouts](#)



[Kale](#)



[Stone Fruit](#)



[Carrots](#)



[Lettuce Iceberg](#)



[Tomatoes](#)



[Cauliflower](#)



[Lettuce Leaf](#)



[Celery](#)



[Lettuce Tender Leaf](#)



# Commodity Updates



## Apples

The overall supply of apples remains robust. Market movement is generally good, and prices will remain stable at lower levels. The Pink Lady's might get tight in a few months due to a frost at harvest time, but at the moment there are plenty.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Hudson, New York (September - June)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
--	--------	--------	------



## Asparagus

**ALERT**

Consistucion and Loreto in southern Baja are the last areas to produce asparagus and Sonora and northern Baja are just starting to produce. Caborca remains Sonora's largest region. The past 7-10 days have seen scattered showers in the valley, preventing cutting and burning as planned. This has only caused further delays. Additionally, the temperatures are very cold with highs of mid-60°F and lows of mid-30°F, which are not helpful for asparagus production. Until any form of supply can offset the current lack of supply, Mexican asparagus prices will remain high. Weather may delay this until late January or early February. Increasing heat and decreasing quality are also limiting asparagus from Peru at this time of year. Lack of supply from Mexico has caused others to look to Peru for supplemental supply, increasing pressure on already limited production. In Peru, yields remain low due to hot weather, with highs in the low-90°F range and lows in the mid-60°F range, which is too hot for asparagus. There are also scattered showers, which complicate matters further.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Caborca (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Ciudad Obregon (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Peru (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Avocados

There are no triggers in effect: markets are steady. The main crop is adventajada. The 48ct and larger size is steady. 60ct and smaller markets are inching up.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
------------------------	--------	--------	------



## Bell Peppers

Due to unfavorable weather patterns, FL and MX continue to struggle with production; overall quality is ok. It is expected that supplies will remain adequate until the end of January. The supply of colored bell peppers is finally improving, but still very limited.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Key Partners



# Commodity Updates



## Berries (Blackberries)

**ALERT**

The cold weather and sporadic rain have reduced availability. Most fruit is subject to transfer delays and we expect some fill rates on this item.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



## Berries (Blueberries)

Product from Chile and Central Mexico are now the dominant supplies being offered. The Peruvian season has ended.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Berries (Raspberries)

We should see better availability from CMEX and Baja moving into the end of January, aside from some transfer delays.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
McAllen, Texas (October - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Berries (Strawberries)

**ALERT**

Lighter than normal numbers continue to cross into the U.S. due to the weather.

The Oxnard area is experiencing a cold snap which is hurting production. We expect to see better numbers moving into the first week of February.

Sporadic rain fronts and cooler weather keep yields low. We anticipate better production moving forward.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair

# Commodity Updates



## Broccoli

There is a good supply of broccoli. Yuma's supply is good. Mexico and Santa Maria continue to have good supplies. As we enter the weekend, we can expect this market to remain steady.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



## Brussel Sprouts

Brussels sprouts are in good supply. Oxnard and Mexico have grown in size and production. This market is expected to remain steady next week.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (December-August)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (July-December)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



## Carrots

Whole carrot markets are steady at a higher level, but there is a slight improvement in availability as suppliers return to Bakersfield towards the end of February. Grimmway has also started shipping out of their Lake Park, GA facility.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Kern County, California (May-July) (October-February)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Lake Park, Georgia (December - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Cauliflower

There is a good supply of cauliflower in Yuma, and the market is aggressive. Look for supplies to stay good going into next week with good quality.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma (November - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Celery

This market is firm with most shippers. Southern California continues to have better supplies, and pricing reflects this, so please be aware. There are a few suppliers harvesting in Yuma while others continue in Oxnard and Santa Maria. Quality continues to be above average with most suppliers. Compared to previous weeks, labor issues are minimal now.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (December - April)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Key Partners





# Commodity Updates



## Citrus (Lemons)

Currently, all three districts are shipping, with an overall peak size of 140/165ct. The market is steady. Early-February is expected to be the end of District 3.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

CA Desert/Yuma (October - February)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
--	--------	--------	------



## Citrus (Limes)

The markets are much higher than last week. Labor during the holidays reduced supply and shippers are now working to refill the pipeline. The quality is average; there are occasional oil spots and stylers. The crop is peaking on large 110/150ct sizes. As we go into February, expect supply to decline as the new crop cycle begins in about 2 weeks.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Veracruz (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
--------------------------	-------	--------	------



## Citrus (Oranges)

**ALERT**

There is a peak in fruit production for 72ct and larger; 88/113/138ct are extremely scarce and will remain so until the end of the navel season. Due to low fruit set and rain events, fruit will continue to grow in size as the season progresses. Please be flexible with size and grade as we navigate our way through this short Navel season. Lead time is very important; please send orders 3-4 days in advance. The quality is good; Brix is between 12 and 14. Currently, there is no gassing.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

San Joaquin Valley (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
------------------------------------	-------	--------	------



## Cucumber

Honduras is the primary supplier of Eastern supply; volume is slowly increasing. The supply out of Sinaloa is steady, but cooler temperatures are expected to cause a skip in two weeks.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Eggplant

The supply in South Florida remains low due to inclement weather. MX supply is moderate, supply is expected to increase by late January.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Key Partners



# Commodity Updates



## Garlic

Garlic supplies are tightening up overall. There has been a good harvest of Argentinian garlic in South America in the past few months. It is estimated, however, that it will not be enough to fill the overall supply gap. The garlic market is expected to become tighter and more volatile as spring approaches.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
East Coast (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Bakersfield, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Gilroy, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Grapes (Green)

Domestic grapes are done. Imports are currently tight as Chile is running about 10 days behind schedule and the Peruvian deal is past its peak production. Chilean arrivals will start picking up in mid January. Expect the market to stay high and tight through January.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (June-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Grapes (Red)

Domestic grapes are done. Imports are currently tight as Chile is running about 10 days behind schedule and the Peruvian deal is past its peak production. Chilean arrivals will start picking up in mid January. Expect the market to stay high and tight through January.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
San Joaquin Valley (June-December)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Green Onions

Due to the colder weather in Mexico, green onions remain very tight this week. We should see slightly better supplies next week as the weather warms a bit.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Kale

Supplies are expected to be plentiful this week. Now is a good opportunity to promote kale.

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November- May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Key Partners



# Commodity Updates



## Lettuce Iceberg

Yuma is expected to experience cool weather over the next two to three weeks. All suppliers will have to deal with frost delays leading to shorter harvests as supplies tighten up. Expect to begin seeing pinking and discoloration upon arrival. There are more crews than in previous weeks. The average weight will be thirty-seven to forty-two pounds.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (March-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Lettuce Leaf

In the growing regions, the cold weather will affect romaine, green leaf, and red leaf. Expect to see reports of blister and peel upon arrivals for the next few weeks. Discoloration and pinking will also be reported. The supply of Romaine hearts will be moderate to good, but there will be some quality issues as well. Demand is off currently and shippers for now are flexing on volume type orders.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Lettuce Tender Leaf

Supplies are mostly steady for all tender leaf items. This cold could change the leaves texture for the next few weeks.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



## Melon (Cantaloupe)

Supply is currently meeting demand, and it is expected to remain so for the rest of the month.

- Weather delays in Guatemala and Honduras have lowered volumes.
- Cantaloupes peak at 9s and Jumbo 9s.
- External and internal quality characteristics remain good to great with higher shell color.
- Brix levels are between 12-14 %.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Central America (December - May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
----------------------------------	--------	--------	------

Key Partners





# Commodity Updates



## Melon (Honeydew)

Supply is currently meeting demand, and it is expected to remain so for the rest of the month. Weather delays in Guatemala and Honduras have lowered volumes. Honeydew is heavily impacted. Pricing has doubled in the last month. There are limited Mexican honeydews available causing offshore honeydews to cover contract commitments. Guatemala's sizing is expected to peak at 5ct and higher for the remainder of the month. Quality has been fair with some spotting and discoloration but it is expected to improve as more product becomes available. Brix levels are between 12-14 %.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Central America (December - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Melon (Watermelon)

The domestic season has ended, and Honduran product is now available. Great color, the product is available for processing. Mexican watermelon supplies meet demand on the west coast only. Rains in Northern Mexico have impacted supply and Southern Mexico fruit is slowing becoming available. Suppliers did not want to send product East Coast in fear of rejections. Additional inventory is expected to be available within the next two weeks.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Central America (December-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



## Mushroom

Supply and availability are excellent.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Nationwide	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
------------	--------	--------	------



## Onions

**ALERT**

The market remains active with extreme export demand. Yellows are escalated and white onion supplies are limited. The quality remains excellent.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

South Texas (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Tri-Cities, Washington (July-April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Eastern Oregon/Parma, ID (August-April)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
San Joaquin Valley (May-August)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Hatch, New Mexico (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



## Pears

Washington's Bartlett pear season is winding down, but they're still readily available. There is a good supply of Anjou and Bosc, and the market is stable.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Hood River, Oregon (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yakima, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

# Commodity Updates



## Pineapples

Supply meets demand and growers are fulfilling their contract with limited transactional volume available. 6ct crowned pineapples have been in tough supply and being able to sub will ensure product.

- Mexican volume has dropped and growers are not exporting the product.
- Rains and thunderstorms are expected this week in Costa Rica which may continue to limit product.
- High markets are expected due to harvest being short during the holidays.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Costa Rica (Year round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
----------------------------	-------	--------	------



## Potatoes

Cold weather is slowing down movements. Burbanks and Norkotahs are both available. To help find transportation, we recommended increasing order lead time.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Bancroft, Wisconsin (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Idaho Falls, Idaho (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Monte Vista, Colorado (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Pasco, Washington (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent



## Squash

In FL, intermittent rain and wind have affected supply, especially yellow. MX is also dealing with similar issues with production and quality. We are not expecting seasonal volumes for another three weeks.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Florida (November - May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



## Stone Fruit

Peaches and nectarines are now arriving in small quantities on both coasts. About two weeks from now, imported plums will be available. Pomegranates and persimmons will be finished in two weeks. Until the end of February, the domestic kiwi is expected to remain steady.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

San Joaquin Valley (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
-------------------------------------	--------	--------	------



## Tomatoes

In all regions, demand exceeds supply. FL harvesting has been curtailed by rain; quality is fair. Production of MX has begun, but volume is slow to start; cooler weather will delay seasonal volumes until the end of the month for all varieties.

### Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality

Baja California (Spring/Summer-November)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Florida (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good

Key Partners





# Weather Updates



## CALIFORNIA

Despite not being as cold as Monday, temperatures will remain below average through midweek. The morning lows will be in the low-mid 30s, and the daytime highs will be in the low 50s to low 60s. There will be a slight chance of light rain Wednesday as a low pressure system approaches, but temperatures will fall back to Mon's levels with upper 20s to mid 30s area wide on Thursday night. Despite the next system passing near the area Saturday, any rain that falls will be less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ ".



## MEXICO

Through Friday, it will be cool in the mornings and mostly seasonal in the daytime. A cold front may move toward the region by Saturday, bringing slightly cooler temperatures. Lows will be in the upper 30s to upper 40s most days through Saturday. The highs will be in the upper 60s to upper 70s through the weekend. Through Jan 13, rain chances will remain low, with mostly dry weather expected.



## FLORIDA

Tuesday, much of Northern and Central FL will experience moderate to heavy rains and strong gusty winds due to a strong cold front. The Florida Panhandle will experience rain overnight on Monday and Tuesday, with rain chances increasing over northern Florida in the morning and in the afternoon and evening on Tuesday over central/southern Florida. During Tuesday's day, gusty winds of 35 to 45 mph are expected, while by Wednesday and Thursday, gusts will be closer to 20 mph.



## ARIZONA

In and around Yuma, widespread frost or freeze conditions are expected Tuesday-Wednesday. In the I-10 corridor and southeast California, Thursday morning should be noticeably warmer due to increasing cloudiness associated with a low that may bring light rain. There will be near-to-below freezing lows for most fields on Friday and Saturday. Highs in the mid 50s to low 60s Tuesday afternoon, warming a few degrees Wednesday. A lengthy period of 25-30mph gusts is expected from Wednesday through Thursday, as light northeasterly winds Tuesday shift southerly Wednesday, then strengthen and shift westerly late Wednesday through Thursday.

For more information: <https://www.ventusky.com/?p=31.4;-89.7;3&l=rain-3h>



# Freight Updates



Shipper delays due to lettuce ice is expected all week and into next.  
Truck capacity is returning to normal post-holiday.



## U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices\*(dollars per gallon)

[full history](#) [XLS](#)

	12/25/23	01/01/24	01/08/24	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	3.914	3.876	3.828	▼ -0.048	▼ -0.721
East Coast (PADD1)	4.022	4.002	3.959	▼ -0.043	▼ -0.853
New England (PADD1A)	4.339	4.334	4.322	▼ -0.012	▼ -0.772
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	4.323	4.304	4.249	▼ -0.055	▼ -0.954
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	3.879	3.858	3.814	▼ -0.044	▼ -0.827
Midwest (PADD2)	3.798	3.750	3.692	▼ -0.058	▼ -0.698
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	3.608	3.565	3.531	▼ -0.034	▼ -0.692
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	3.916	3.887	3.797	▼ -0.090	▼ -0.900
West Coast (PADD5)	4.651	4.618	4.570	▼ -0.048	▼ -0.510
West Coast less California	4.169	4.126	4.063	▼ -0.063	▼ -0.697
California	5.202	5.184	5.152	▼ -0.032	▼ -0.296

\*prices include all taxes

# Crop Updates



Mother Nature continues to cause havoc for growers from California and the Southwestern Desert regions to Baja, Mexico and Florida as a series of cold Pacific storm systems look to roll in from the west into the weekend. This continues the train of storm systems moving in from the Pacific Ocean over the past week or so. These systems will dive into the Southwest and Northern Mexico with very cold temperatures before exiting to the east.

As these systems move to the east significant precipitation is once again expected across Florida this week and into the weekend. This region has been impacted by numerous weather events this season and the recent heavy rains will not help supplies as growers look to increase production. Many crops remain in the line of fire from strawberries in the north to dry veg crops (tomatoes, peppers, squash, beans, cucumbers etc.) to the south.

Forecasts bring very cold temperatures to Northern Mexico and the Southwestern Desert growing regions this week into the weekend with frost and lettuce ice conditions expected. This round of cold temperatures is expected to be some of the coldest of the season and more widespread than previous cold temperatures. While blister and epidermal peel will certainly impact quality in many leafy green stands, overall extended cold temperatures will also slow overall growth rates of all crops in the region. Along with blister and epidermal peel you can expect to see lighter color and carton weights and smaller head sizes as growers trim out damaged outer leaves. The tender spinach and spring mix items will also take a hit with the expected cold temperatures impacting yields, texture and shelf life of these products.

On a positive note, growers have plenty of acreage planted which will allow them some choices in harvests depending on damage in the fields. Long range forecast models show a high-pressure ridge building out west that will push the storm track well to the north next week. This will allow for some warming in the desert locals next week.

At this point we will have to wait and see how the various regions on both coasts come through the storm systems and growers have time to assess crop damage. Overall supplies look to remain light with growers hoping for warmer weather to help growth rates and quality in the various regions.

