



Produce Supply Update

August 20th, 2018

Good Morning!

The Green Cabbage market remains fairly active due to adverse weather in some of the eastern growing regions. Rains in Georgia and North Carolina have significantly reduced this year's crop and postponed harvest, driving demand to the west coast. Slightly colder weather in California has slowed growth and we are in a small gap. Most growers are expecting better supplies over the next 2 weeks.



All of the rains on the east coast cleaned up all of the extra tomatoes on the market and suddenly everyone was looking for tomatoes. Rain causes quality issues on harvested fruit because the tomatoes suck up all of that water and resemble water balloons a couple of days after harvest.

Warmer weather in California growing areas is bringing on the strawberries. Harvests are very strong on the berries, but the warm days and nights are causing some quality issues like bruising and dark red berries.

Several growing areas are harvesting green pepper now, driving prices back down. Quality is improving with the increase in supplies.

High winds late December heavily damaged the lemon crop, but the recent high heat delivered the knock out blow to the lemon industry. Supplies are at critical levels and not expected to recover for months. Expect record level high pricing, marginal to poor quality, hit or miss availability and non-typical sizing. In recent weeks we've been suggesting substituting limes where possible and that's still a good idea.



All colors of corn are plentiful and beautiful, with harvests going on in several areas. Michigan, Ohio, Jersey, and even Canadian farmers are picking corn right now and flooding the market so it's a great time to feature them. They're low in price and high in quality.

Asparagus harvests are improving in both Mexico and Peru. Volumes are increasing and pricing is on a slide as a result. Quality should be better with the change also.

The new crop galas and Bartlett Pears are being packed as are a few ginger golds. Projections of the new crop are showing it to be similar to last year's crop, but possibly slightly down. Generally, the apple size will be larger this year as compared to last year.

Q: What do you call an old snowman? A: Water.

Thank You for Your Business!

Have a Great Week!

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