



Produce Supply Update

March 25th, 2019

Good Morning!

Iceberg supplies remain fairly tight this week. Quality reports show fair overall condition with blister and peel on the outer leaves as a result from the frost in February. The weather forecast for this region calls for warm temperatures again this week, which should continue to speed up growth rates. Supplies of romaine, green and red leaf lettuces available are good with stronger volume available.



While red seedless inventories are building rapidly on both coasts, all green seedless varieties are winding down extremely quickly for the Chilean season. The red seedless market has decreased with each week into mid-March, and the next month will see some of the lowest prices of the season on red seedless. On the other hand, the majority of the white seedless volume will have already arrived by the week's

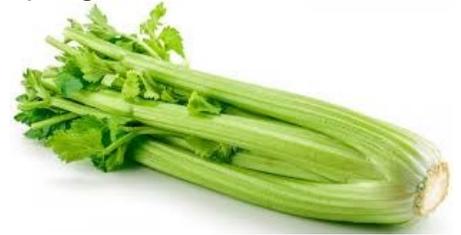
end. Expect the market to only rise on green seedless from this point on, with availability becoming extremely limited by mid-April. We expect April to be extremely difficult on all green seedless grapes, with a likely gap on green grapes until Mexico can start in early May.



Onions are reaching the end of their storage life, and we're looking forward to the start of the Mexican New Crop in just a few weeks. We should see increased quality available at that point. Whites are always the first to come to harvest and when they do we should see improved pricing too.

Broccoli & Cauliflower are both seeing reduced yields this week. With frost in the field in the mornings, growers are predicting reduced harvests for the next few weeks and, some say, until the Yuma, Arizona season ends! Rain also hit the Salinas area during the first plantings of these crops so we

are anticipating a volatile market through the transition to spring



Supplies of celery remain very limited this week as markets remain near all-time highs. Quality reports show some evidence of frost damage visible on the stalks. There are also reports of problems in the product from the desert growing region. These defects are expected to be prevalent over the next few weeks as the desert season comes to a close. The markets are expected to remain elevated in the near term and supply gaps from the heavy rains are expected the transition begins to Central California later this month.



Q: What is a Pirate's favorite salad?

A: Arrrrrugula

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Have a Great Week!

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