



MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 9, 2018

 **PERFORMANCE**
FOODSERVICE



MARKET TRENDS

MARCH 9, 2018

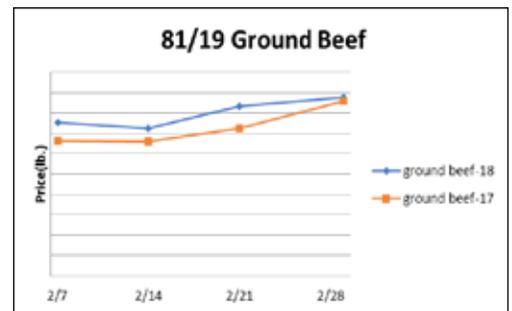
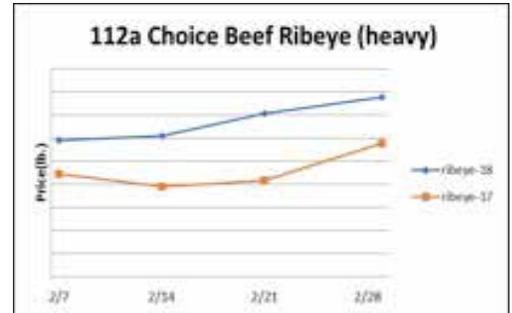
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Beef, Veal & Lamb

Beef production last week rose .4% and was 5.5% larger than the same week last year. Near term cattle supplies are growing, and overall cattle numbers are projected to rise further this spring as reflected by the big discounts in the April and June cattle futures markets. The February 1st cattle on feed inventory was 7.9% bigger than last year, while cattle placements into feedlots during January were up 4.4% from 2017. The average placement weight was 5.7 pounds heavier than a year ago. January retail ground beef prices were up 2.5% from last year. This factor, and strong beef output, may temper this year's seasonal price gain for wholesale ground beef which happens during March.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Cattle (Steer)	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Feeder Cattle Index (CME)	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Ground Beef 81/19	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ground Chuck	Increasing	Good	Higher
109 Export Rib (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
109 Export Rib (pr)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
112a Ribeye (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (pr)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
114a Chuck , Shlder Cld(ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
116 Chuck (sel)	Increasing	Good	Higher
116 Chuck (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
116b Chuck Tender (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
120 Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
120a Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
121c Outside Skirt (ch/sel)	Increasing	Good	Higher
121d Inside Skirt (ch/sel)	Increasing	Good	Lower
121e Cap & Wedge	Increasing	Good	Higher
167a Knuckle, Trimmed (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
168 Inside Round (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
169 Top Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
171b Outside Round (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (ch Ox1)	Increasing	Good	Lower
174 Short Loin (pr 2x3)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 Ox1 Strip (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
180 Ox1 Strip (pr)	Increasing	Good	Lower
184 Top Butt, boneless (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
184 Top Butt, boneless (pr)	Steady	Good	Higher
184-3 Top Butt, bnls (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
185a Sirloin Flap (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
185c Loin, Tri-Tip (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
189a Tender (sel, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (ch, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (pr, heavy)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
193 Flank Steak (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
50% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Higher
65% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Higher
75% Trimmings	Steady	Good	Higher
85% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Higher
90% Trimmings	Decreasing	Short	Higher
90% Imported Beef (frz)	Steady	Good	Higher
95% Imported Beef (frz)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Veal Rack (Hotel 7 rib)	Steady	Good	Higher
Veal Top Round (cap off)	Steady	Good	Higher



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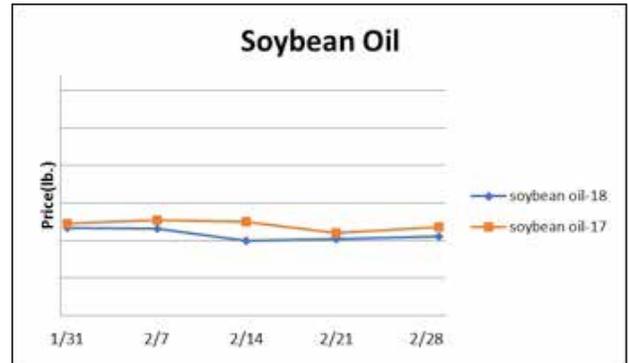
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Grains

Concerns around the domestic winter wheat crop continue, despite rain falling last week in a large portion of the region. The National Weather Service forecasts dry weather to persist during the key development time for winter wheat. Still, ample world supplies could temper the upside in wheat prices into the spring.

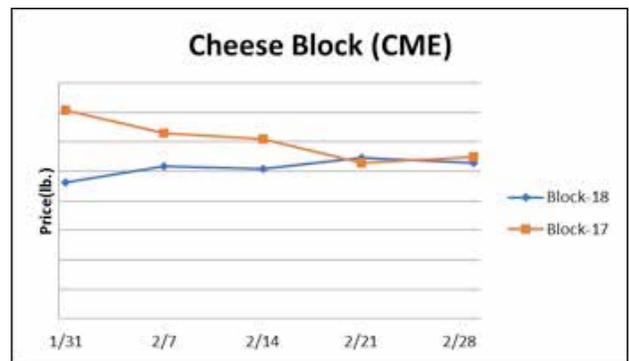
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Lower
Soybean Meal, ton	Increasing	Good	Higher
Corn, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Increasing	Good	Higher
Distillers Grain, Dry	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Crude Palm Oil, lb BMD	Increasing	Good	Higher
HRW Wheat, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
DNS Wheat 14%, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Durum Wheat, bushel	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Pinto Beans, lb	Steady	Good	Lower
Black Beans, lb	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Rice, Long Grain, lb	Steady	Good	Higher



Dairy

U.S. milk production continues to expand. During January, the U.S. produced 1.8% more milk than the previous year due to a .5% larger milk cow herd and a 1.3% gain in milk per cow yields. A net 4,000 head was added to the herd during the month making it the biggest since 1996. Seasonally strong milk output this spring could weigh on the dairy markets. Cheese prices have been relatively range-bound during the last week. Export interest is starting to escalate which could underpin the cheese markets in the near term. Butter prices could find near term support as well.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Cheese Barrels (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Cheese Blocks (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
American Cheese	Increasing	Good	Lower
Cheddar Cheese (40 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Mozzarella Cheese	Increasing	Good	Lower
Provolone Cheese	Steady	Good	Same
Parmesan Cheese	Increasing	Good	Lower
Butter (CME)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Nonfat Dry Milk	Increasing	Ample	Lower
Whey, Dry	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Class 1 Base	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Class II Cream, heavy	Increasing	Good	Higher
Class III Milk (CME)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Class IV Milk (CME)	Increasing	Good	Lower



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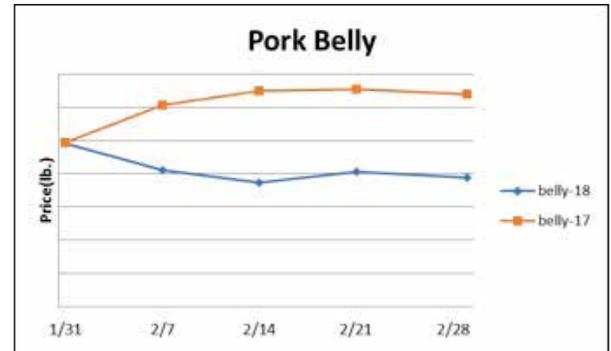
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Pork

Pork output last week fell .5% but was 5.4% better than the same week in 2017. Hog slaughter was the smallest in four weeks. Pork production will seasonally drop this spring but is forecasted by the USDA to be 4.9% more than last year during Q2. Pork belly prices have begun to weaken on news that January 31st holdings were a whopping 219.2% larger than last year and the biggest since July. January retail bacon prices were up 9.2% from last year. This factor, and big yearly output gains, should weigh heavy on belly prices this spring.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Hogs	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Sow	Decreasing	Ample	Higher
Belly (bacon)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Sparerib(4.25 lb & down)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ham (20-23 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ham (23-27 lb)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Loin (bone in)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Babyback Rib (1.75 lb & up)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin (1.25 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Boston Butt, untrmd (4-8 lb)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Picnic, untrmd	Decreasing	Good	Higher
SS Picnic, smoker trm box	Decreasing	Good	Higher
42% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
72% Trimmings	Decreasing	Good	Lower



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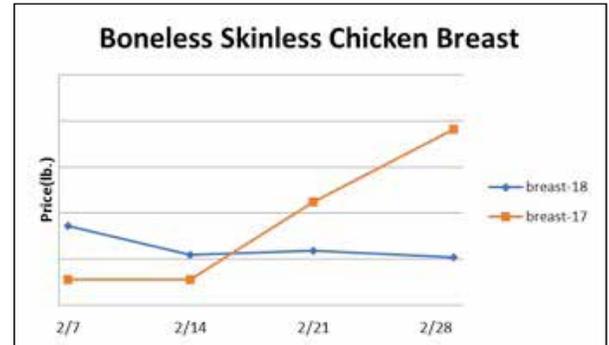
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Poultry

Chicken production for the week ending February 17th rose .9% from the prior week and was up 3.2% from the same week last year. The six-week moving average for chick placements was tracking just .7% above last year. Disappointing hatchery rates, and recent pullet-placement data, suggest a drop in the year-over-year gain in the size of the broiler layer flock which could slow chicken output gains. The chicken breast markets are expected to seasonally rise in the coming weeks. Since 2013, the average move for the ARA Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast Index during the next 12 weeks was up 33.3%. January 31st chicken wing stocks were down 9.4% from a year ago. Chicken wing prices typically seasonally bottom in early-March.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Birds WOG-Nat	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Wings (jumbo cut)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Wing Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Breast, Bnless Skinless NE	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Breast, Bnless Skinless SE	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Breast Boneless Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Tenderloin Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Legs (whole)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Leg Quarter Index (ARA)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Thighs, Bone In	Decreasing	Good	Higher
Thighs, Boneless	Increasing	Good	Higher



Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Turkey (8-16 lb)	Steady	Good	Lower
Turkey Breast, Bnls/Sknls	Increasing	Good	Higher

Eggs

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Large Eggs (dozen)	Increasing	Short	Higher
Medium Eggs (dozen)	Increasing	Short	Higher
Liquid Whole Eggs	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Liquid Egg Whites	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Liquid Egg Yolks	Decreasing	Short	Higher
Egg Breaker Stock Central	Increasing	Short	Higher



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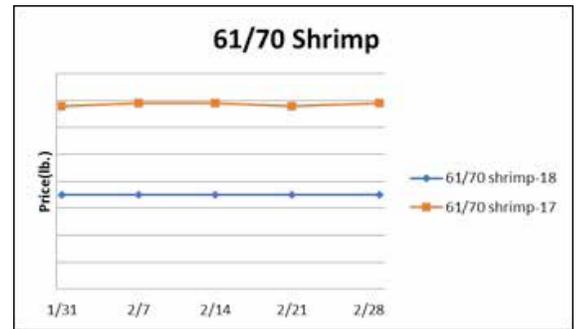
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Seafood

The shrimp markets continue to track close to 2017 levels due in part to solid imports. During December, the U.S. imported 13.4% more shrimp than the previous year despite trade with Thailand remaining a disappointment. Various countries have made up for the downfall in Thai production which should keep U.S. shrimp imports strong into the spring.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Shrimp (16/20 frz)	Steady	Good	Higher
Shrimp (61/70 frz)	Steady	Good	Lower
Shrimp Tiger (26/30 frz)	Steady	Good	Higher
Snow Crab, frz	Steady	Good	Higher
Tilapia Filet, frz	Steady	Good	Lower
Cod Filet, frz	Steady	Good	Lower
Tuna Yellowfin, frsh	Steady	Good	Higher
Salmon Atlantic Filet, frsh	Steady	Good	Lower
Pollock Filet, Alaska, frz	Steady	Good	Higher



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Paper and Plastic Products

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
WOOD PULP (PAPER)			
NBSK- Paper napkin	Steady	Good	Higher
42 lb. Linerboard-corrugated box	Steady	Good	Higher
PLASTIC RESINS (PLASTIC, FOAM)			
PS-CHH-utensils, cups, to-go cont.	Steady	Good	Lower
PP-HIGP-heavy grade utensils	Steady	Good	Higher
PE-LLD-can liners, film, bags	Steady	Good	Lower

Retail Price Change from Prior Month

Description	Jan '18	Dec '17	Nov '17
Beef and Veal	Decreasing	Increasing	Increasing
Dairy	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Pork	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Chicken	Decreasing	Decreasing	Decreasing
Fresh Fish and Seafood	Decreasing	Increasing	Increasing
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Increasing	Decreasing	Decreasing

Various Markets

Orange juice prices remain relatively range-bound despite the Florida orange crop declining to a multi-decade low. A 7% decline in world orange output this year suggests that the downside price risk for orange juice futures from here may only be modest.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Whole Peeled, Stand (6/10)	Steady	Good	Higher
Tomato Paste-Industrial (lb)	Steady	Good	Higher
Coffee lb ICE	Increasing	Good	Lower
Sugar lb ICE	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Cocoa mt ICE	Increasing	Short	Higher
Orange Juice lb ICE	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Honey (clover) lb	Increasing	Good	Higher



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Produce

Recently we have seen a swing in weather conditions for our desert growing regions. We have seen temperatures go from above normal to freezing. These weather changes have affected all crops, and we expect to see quality issues including blistering, epidermal peel and burn in almost all lettuce varieties. Cauliflower is in an escalated market. Limes are extreme right now, with potential to become an Act of God. Strawberry and raspberry supplies are good with favorable, steady prices and quality. Lemons are slowing improving. The tomato markets continue to trade at relatively engaging levels for buyers. The Florida tomato harvest has improved immensely during the winter from the Hurricane Irma damaged fields. Further, recent weather in Florida has been conducive for crop development. History suggests, however, that higher tomato prices could be forthcoming. The tomato (large-case) market has averaged higher in March from February in 9 of the last 10 years. Lettuce prices remain fairly appealing as well, but the downside risk is likely nominal.

Watch List

Pineapples

Several weeks of cooler temperatures have impacted the growing areas in Guatemala and Mexico. In addition, we have seen major flooding in Costa Rica which has not only caused major flooding and delayed harvesting, but has also affected infrastructure that has delayed shipments. Our growers are seeing lower yields, quality, and volumes.

Broccoli

Colder weather will slow down production, and prices are already seeing upward movement.

Lettuce

Due to the recent erratic weather pattern, quality issues are coming up which means we may see increased prices on these products.

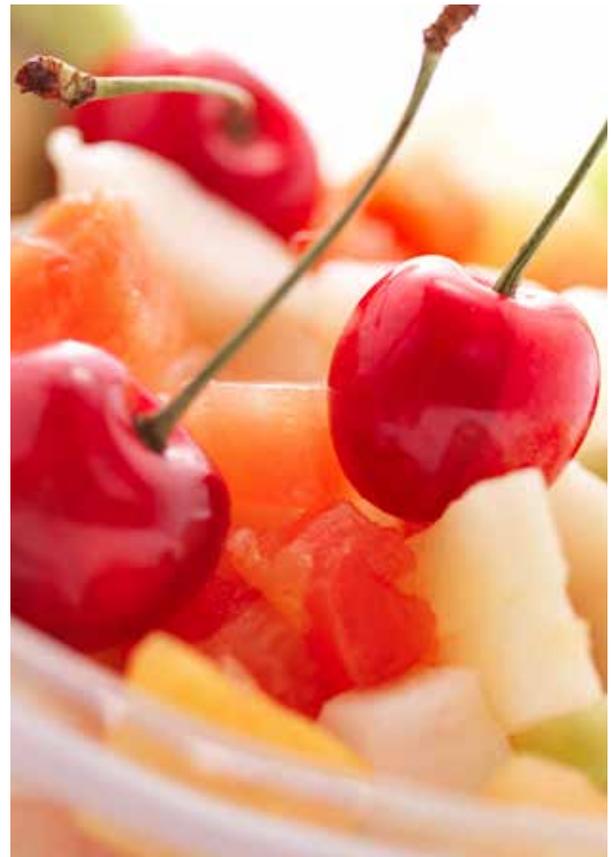
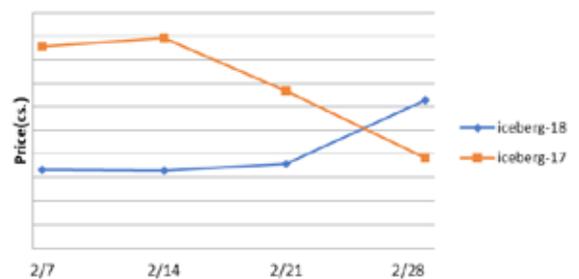
Zucchini and Yellow Squash

Supplies are very short and quality is not so great due to cooler weather in Mexico as well as finishing up older fields. Florida squash is short due to poor quality.

MARKET ALERT

- **Avocados – ESCALATED** (Large fruit only)
- **Bananas – ESCALATED**
- **Cauliflower – ESCALATED**
- **Lemons – ESCALATED**
- **Lettuce – QUALITY ISSUES**
- **Limes – EXTREME** (Potential for Act of God)
- **Mushrooms – ESCALATED**
- **Oranges – ESCALATED**

Iceberg Lettuce (24 count)



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Produce

Apples & Pears

New crop now available we are seeing the pressure on the market decrease and shortages diminish. Excellent quality available on all varieties; however, we are seeing less production of Golden Delicious as the trees are being pulled and replaced with more favorable varieties. Bosc, Bartlett and D'Anjou Pears are available out of Yakima and Wenatchee Districts.

Artichokes

Steady market with higher prices. Quality is good.

Arugula

Product is available and quality is fair due to the winds and colder weather.

Asparagus

Supplies, quality, and prices are steady, though we are seeing higher prices on larger sizes.

Avocados

Escalated (Large Fruit Only) - Overall volume should remain consistent; however, there has been a shift to smaller-sized fruit supplies which is drawing a premium in the fields for large fruit. We will also see continued production out of California which is keeping the general market and volume stable. Promotional volume is still available on small sized fruit.

Bananas

Escalated - Demand on this item remains firm; however, prices are mostly unchanged from last week in several markets. Quality is going to be inconsistent and supplies could be interrupted from the major weather issues that have impacted the growing regions in Guatemala, Mexico, and Costa Rica. This only further complicates an already short banana market across the country due to virus impacts. We expect fruit to be greener than average for the next several weeks until inventories rebalance with riper fruit becoming available.

Green Beans

The market is showing excellent supplies and quality. Promotable volume is available in the east. Supplies crossing through Nogales are firming as growers finish up older fields and break others. Prices are up at the border. Quality is excellent.

Berries:

Blueberries

The market is level; most supplies are being shipped from Chile. Quality is very good: berries have deep blue, firm skins with a faint blush and flesh that tastes mildly sweet.

Blackberries

Prices are steady; poor weather has tightened Mexican stocks a bit. Quality is very good; berries are plump and juicy with sweet, yet tangy flavor. Sugar levels range from 12 to 13 Brix.

Raspberries

Prices are level. California supplies are tight; Mexico is the main harvesting region at this time. Quality is very good: color is deep red and flavor is tangy, yet sweet. Sugar levels vary from 13 to 14 Brix.

Strawberries

Expect tight supplies and high prices into March. Freezing temperatures in the Oxnard and Santa Maria, California growing regions have affected production. Mexican berries (into South Texas) are also tight due to quality. Florida stocks are ample.

Bok Choy

Quality is average and we are seeing some higher quotes on WGA cartons.

Broccoli / Broccoli Florets

Supplies are getting tighter due to the colder weather.

Brussels Sprouts

Supplies are good and prices are down. Quality is good.



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Produce *(continued)*

Cantaloupe

Market has strengthened a bit here on the west coast and east coast seems to be steady as demand has been good. The offshore fruit quality has been nice with a firm green to cream to cast and good internal color and tight cavity, sugars are good. We expect to see the market keep steady for the next month and then start to get a bit stronger until we start the Imperial Valley and Mexico around the first week of May and possibly sooner as the Weather has been unseasonably warmer than normal. The vines are really maturing faster than normal in the desert, which looks to be about 7-10 days earlier than last year.

Carrots

We are seeing both good quality and volume.

Cauliflower

Escalated - Supplies are short due to the recent cold weather. We are seeing higher prices and a shortage in supply.

Celery

This market is steady, both quality and price are good.

Cilantro

Supplies are short and quality is fair due to the colder weather. We are seeing an increase in prices.

Corn

Promotional volume is available on sweet corn. Markets are down this week out of South Florida and we are seeing moderate crossing through Nogales. Quality is good.



Cucumbers

This is an active market due to lower yields and cooler weather in Mexico. Production is off in Honduras and Florida and production will be light for the next couple of weeks.

English Cucumber

There are excellent supplies crossing through Nogales and McAllen.

Eggplant

Markets are active due to short supply.

Fennel

Supplies for the week will be good and quality is good.

Garlic

Extreme - We are about 50% done with the 2017 crop. Supplies will remain tight between now and July. Prices remain high.

Ginger

Chinese ginger markets are mixed, but quality is good. Also, product is available at higher costs from Brazil, Costa Rica and Honduras and Peru with no major quality issues being reported.

Grapes

There is good supplies of Reds and green son both coasts from Chile, the overall quality is all over the board as well as prices due to quality. The flames are showing some blowers upon arrival and most are having to be repacked, the crimsons that are arriving are looking good with good sugar and very nice color. There will be good supplies through March and then we will see things start to strengthen as the volumes start to decrease. We will start here in California and Mexico around the first week of May and possibly start sooner as the weather in the desert has been much warmer than normal. We will keep you posted as we get closer to the start dates in the desert and Mexico.

Green Cabbage

Supplies have tightened and markets have firmed in the East. We are seeing improving volume and lower FOB prices in the West, and quality remains favorable.

Red Cabbage

Quality and sizing have been great showing good color. The market remains firm in the East as well as Texas. West Coast volume is improving.

Green Onions

Prices have come down; quality has improved.

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Produce (continued)

Honeydew

Market steady with good demand across the board on all sizes, they are on the tight side here on the west coast until we see some more volume coming in this weekend. The overall quality has been very nice with a nice green to cream exterior and very good sugar and a tight cavity. As we mentioned above for the Cantaloupes, the Honeydew will be on the same path in the desert starting earlier than normal out of Mexico and Imperial Valley.

Jicama

Markets remain firm due to ongoing short supplies and will continue to see some quality and shelf life issues.

Kale (Green)

Quality and supplies are good.

Kiwi

California supplies are tighter this week, but quality is good. Lighter supplies are also expected on Italian fruit coming through the East Coast. Markets are firming up.

Lemons

Market is steady with better supplies on most all sizes as demand has been fair as we are picking in dist. 1 and dist 2 and, with the heaviest volume coming from Dist. 1. The fruit quality is fair to good as the warmer than normal weather just weakens the fruit and also the trees are flushing with blooms which takes away some of the nutrients from the existing fruit and deters nutrients to the new growth and blooms. The Dist. 1 crop is going to get us through the end of April possibly into the first of May and then we will be dependent upon Dist. 2 until we see the Chilean fruit start to arrive around the first week of June. We expect the market to start to strengthen around the third week of March, which all depends on how much Freeze damage we got the last 2 nights.

Lettuce:

Butter

Quality Issues - Prices are stable. Quality could become an issue.

Green and Red Leaf

Quality Issues - As of now, quality remains steady; however, due to the recent weather patterns, it may become a concern.

Iceberg Lettuce

Quality Issues - Quality is average due to the colder weather. The market is steady, but production is light.

Romaine

Quality Issues - Quality is an issue due to the recent freezing weather. Supply is steady for now.

Romaine Hearts

Quality Issues - Supplies are good, but quality will become an issue due to the recent cold weather.

Limes

Extreme (Potential For Act Of God) - We expect to see this market fall into an Act Of God. Prices are extremely high and we are seeing huge supply issues due to weather-related issues.

Napa

Supplies are steady and quality is good in the West. Very light supplies will continue in the East.

Onions

Overall sluggish demand has put a downward pressure on all colors of the onion market. The transportation issues over the last several months turned an overall shortage into a surplus. Washington reported shipping over 1800 more loads year over year, but Idaho has significantly less shipments. Mexico is continuing to ramp up the volume. They are crossing on yellows and whites, and we will likely see this increase. The domestic Texas crop is about 3-4 weeks away, and we should simultaneously begin to see smaller volume sheds in the Northwest start to finish up as well. While April is typically a strong month on FOB pricing due to transitions, we do not expect to see the same type of spikes as year's past.



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Produce *(continued)*

Oranges

Market steady on all sizes, the demand has been good but not demand exceeds as we have been over the last few months. The weather has been unseasonably warm up until the last 2 nights where we had temperatures in the mid 20's for 5-6 hours which is an extended amount of time and we will probably see some damage in the coming weeks as the fruit starts to show signs of frost damage once we warm up, the fruit has lots of sugar so we are hoping the damage is minimal. We are still dealing with a crop that is actually about 30%-40% lighter than normal so we will see this market strengthen as we progress through the season especially on the 88's and smaller. We are all picking pretty heavy now as the warmer than normal winter that we have had is causing some puff and crease and some separation which will only get worse as we get later in the season. We are getting the fruit that is not gibbed off the tree and will start gibbed fruit in the next few weeks, which will be a bit firmer and stronger fruit to finish the season.

Parsley

(Curly, Italian) - Quality and supplies are good.

Green Bell Pepper

Supplies are excellent out of Florida and will continue to be so as the weather cooperates with excellent volume available on all sizes. In the west, excellent numbers on all sizes continue to cross through Nogales and McAllen.

Red Bell Pepper

Markets are active due to slower production from this past week's cooler weather.

Yellow Bell Pepper

Markets are active due to slower production from this past week's cooler weather.

Pineapples

Several weeks of cooler temperatures have impacted the growing areas in Guatemala and Mexico. In addition, we have seen major flooding in Costa Rica which has not only caused major flooding and delayed harvesting, but has also affected infrastructure that has delayed shipments. Our growers are seeing lower yields, quality, and volumes.

Idaho Potatoes

The demand on consumers and cartons is light and prices are lower on both cartons and consumer packs. We have seen some operations working shortened days mainly due to the poor demand on the other end. Some operations have chosen to work shorter hours to try and hold their present price structure.

Radishes

Quality is good and supply is slowing down. Expect to see stronger markets through the summer.

Salads & Blends

Prices are unchanged; iceberg and romaine supplies are adequate. Quality is average: growers must harvest higher volume as cold weather is reducing head weights.

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas supplies are steady through Miami.

Spinach (Bunched)

Supplies are available and quality is fair due to the recent colder weather.

Spinach (Baby)

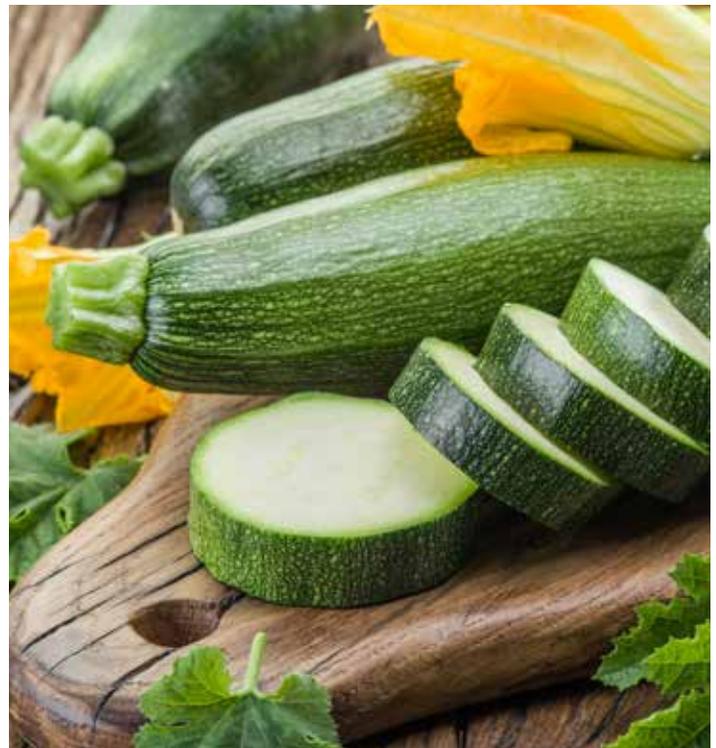
Baby and clipped spinach supplies are good and showing some quality issues due to colder weather.

Spring Mix

Supplies and quality are good.

Zucchini and Yellow Squash

Supplies are very short and quality is not so great due to cooler weather in Mexico as well as finishing up older fields. Florida squash is short die to poor quality.



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Produce *(continued)*

TOMATOES - EAST

Rounds

Quality is excellent out of South Florida. FOB prices are unchanged this week. We are seeing some quality issues resulting from last month's freeze, and we expect this to occasionally continue over the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Romas

Quality is excellent out of South Florida. FOB prices are up slightly due to normal crop transitions; however, quality is outstanding.

Grapes

Quality and production are excellent out of South Florida. Quality is outstanding.

Cherries

Quality and production are excellent out of South Florida. Quality is outstanding.

TOMATOES - WEST AND MEXICO

Rounds

Excellent volume out of Culiacan crossing through Nogales and McAllen. Quality is outstanding.

Romas

Excellent volume out of Culiacan crossing through Nogales and McAllen. Quality is outstanding.

Grapes

Excellent volume out of Culiacan crossing through Nogales and McAllen. Quality is outstanding.

Cherries

Excellent volume out of Culiacan crossing through Nogales and McAllen. Quality is outstanding.

Watermelon

Prices are slightly lower than last week; supplies are ample in both regions. Quality is good: issues such as odd shape, thick green/ white rinds, and under-ripeness are common for this time of year. Quality will improve as temperatures rise in spring. Sugar levels are higher in Mexican stocks.

