



MARKET TRENDS

FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 29, 2019



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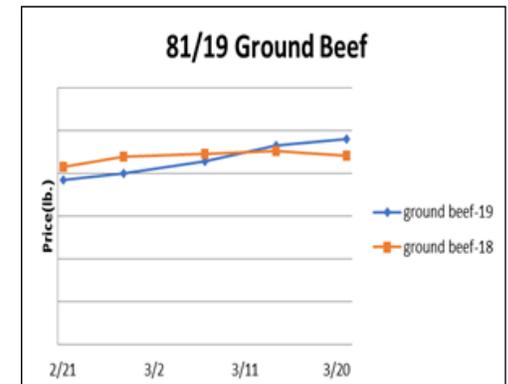
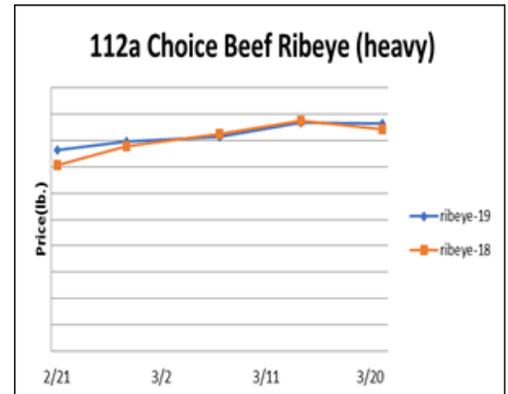
PERFORMANCE
FOODSERVICE



Beef, Veal & Lamb

The weather bomb cyclone that battered parts of the Southern Plains and Midwest tempered total beef production last week, but an aggressive Saturday harvest salvaged some of those losses. Packers' need to slaughter the 50k head on Saturday speaks to the beef sales committed for delivery into the early spring. This lessens the likelihood for a sharp pullback on production schedules. Wholesale beef prices continue to escalate, with Choice end cuts making the largest gains as of late. Beef prices usually retreat during this time of year before they accomplish their annual highs which typically occur during May or June.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Cattle (Steer)	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Feeder Cattle Index (CME)	Decreasing	Short	Lower
Ground Beef 81/19	Increasing	Good	Higher
Ground Chuck	Decreasing	Good	Higher
109 Export Rib (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
109 Export Rib (pr)	Increasing	Good	Lower
112a Ribeye (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
112a Ribeye (pr)	Increasing	Good	Lower
114a Chuck , Shlder Cld(ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
116 Chuck (sel)	Increasing	Good	Lower
116 Chuck (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
116b Chuck Tender (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
120 Brisket (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
120a Brisket (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
121c Outside Skirt (ch/sel)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
121d Inside Skirt (ch/sel)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
121e Cap & Wedge	Increasing	Good	Higher
167a Knuckle, Trimmed (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
168 Inside Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
169 Top Round (ch)	Increasing	Good	Higher
171b Outside Round (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
174 Short Loin (ch 0x1)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
174 Short Loin (pr 2x3)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 0x1 Strip (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
180 0x1 Strip (pr)	Increasing	Good	Higher
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	Lower
185c Loin, Tri-Tip (ch)	Decreasing	Good	Lower
189a Tender (sel, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
189a Tender (ch, 5 lb & up)	Decreasing	Good	Higher
189a Tender (pr, heavy)	Increasing	Good	Higher
193 Flank Steak (ch)	Increasing	Good	Lower
50% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
65% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
75% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Higher
85% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Higher
90% Trimmings	Increasing	Short	Lower
90% Imported Beef (frz)	Increasing	Good	Lower
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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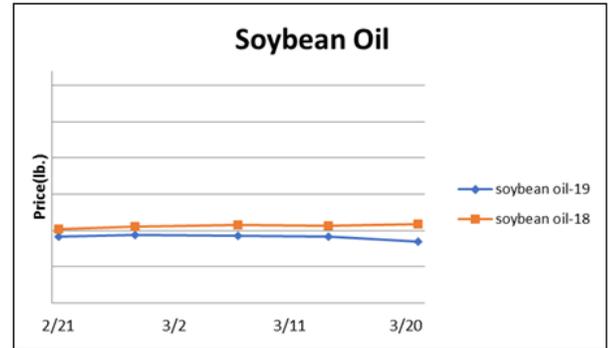
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Grains

Heavy rainfall and snow melt have flooded notable portions of the western grain belt. Concerns are building that the planting season for grains could be further delayed. Although there is a lack of correlation between crop yields and planting timing, delays should shift some acreage out of corn. The grain markets could firm this spring.

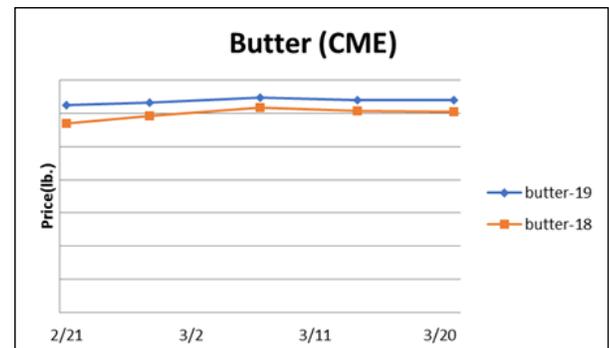
Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Soybeans, bushel	Increasing	Good	Lower
Crude Soybean Oil, lb	Decreasing	Good	Lower
Soybean Meal, ton	Increasing	Good	Lower
Corn, bushel	Increasing	Good	Higher
Crude Corn Oil, lb	Increasing	Good	Lower
High Fructose Corn Syrup	Increasing	Good	Higher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



Dairy

The cheese markets are trending higher, and the butter markets remain steady. Per the USDA, February milk production was up just .2% due in part to a .8% smaller milk cow herd and a 1% gain in milk-per-cow yields (vs's 2018). Perhaps most important however was the milk cow herd was unchanged from January making two straight months without any herd loss. This suggests that milk output gains may improve from here. Strong exports have supported the cheese markets this year, but prices usually top in mid-April. This spring's seasonal move upward for butter is likely to be tempered.

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



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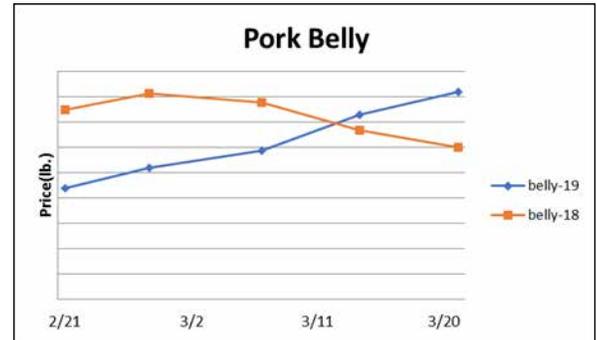
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Pork

Severe winter weather last week caused the extended closure of at least one production plant which limited total pork output. Last week, pork production was down 3.3% week-to-week, but was up 1.6% from a year ago. Pork belly prices are moving sharply higher, but pricing in the \$1.30's is expected to curb some buying enthusiasm in the coming weeks. Since 2014, the average move for the pork belly primal during April was down 16.2%. China remains a bullish story and is supporting lean hog futures as expectations grow for increasing pork exports.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Live Hogs	Increasing	Ample	Lower
Sow	Decreasing	Ample	Lower
Belly (bacon)	Increasing	Good	Higher
Sparerib(4.25 lb & down)	Increasing	Good	Lower
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	Higher
Tenderloin (1.25 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Boston Butt, untrmd (4-8 lb)	Increasing	Good	Lower
Picnic, untrmd	Increasing	Good	Lower
SS Picnic, smoker trm box	Steady	Good	Lower
42% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower
72% Trimmings	Increasing	Good	Lower



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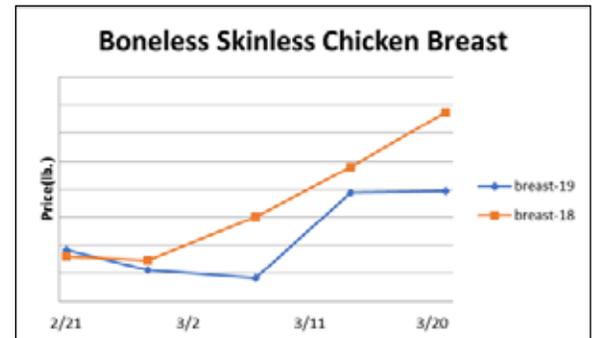
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Poultry

For the week ending March 9th, total chicken slaughter was near even with both last week and last year. However, lighter year-over-year bird weights pulled ready to cook (RTC) chicken production down near 1%, bringing the 6-week average to 1.2% below a year ago. Chicken production is expected to begin expanding as early as April, and wholesale prices will likely decline in response. Chicken wing prices have notched a modest bump which is seasonally in line with fill-in needs ahead of March Madness. Yet, wing prices are expected to seasonally decline well into the summer. Price gains for leg quarters have been sharp, hinting a resurgence of chicken export demand.

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



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

Eggs

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



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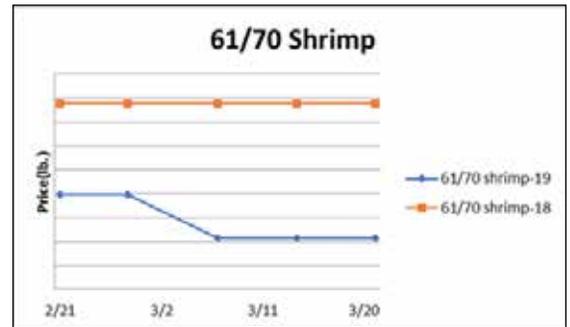
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Seafood

The snow crab leg markets remain inflated, although well off their 2018 highs. U.S. snow crab imports during December were solid, up 45% year-on-year. Despite a bigger fishing season in Alaska, world snow crab supplies are anticipated to remain limited for the next several months due to a small Newfoundland harvest. This could underpin snow crab leg prices.

Description	Market Trend	Supplies	Price vs. Last Year
Shrimp (16/20 frz)	Steady	Good	Lower
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	Higher
Tuna Yellowfin, frsh	Steady	Good	Higher
Salmon Atlantic Filet, frsh	Steady	Good	Higher
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	Decreasing	Good	Higher
42 lb. Linerboard-corrugated box	Decreasing	Good	Higher
PLASTIC RESINS (PLASTIC, FOAM)			
PS-CHH-utensils, cups, to-go cont.	Steady	Good	Lower
PP-HIGP-heavy grade utensils	Steady	Good	Lower
PE-LLD-can liners, film, bags	Steady	Good	Lower

Retail Price Change from Prior Month

Description	Feb-19	Jan-19	Dec-18
Beef and Veal	Increasing	Increasing	Decreasing
Dairy	Decreasing	Increasing	Increasing
Pork	Decreasing	Increasing	Decreasing
Chicken	Increasing	Decreasing	Increasing
Fresh Fish and Seafood	Decreasing	Increasing	Increasing
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Decreasing	Increasing	Increasing

Various Markets

Nearby cocoa futures this past week have fallen and are down 10.9% so far this year. West Africa's main crop cocoa harvest has culminated, and reports are that bean shipment arrivals are up 11.4% year-over-year. Nearby cocoa futures could decline to the quarterly pivot S1 at \$2.119 before April.

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



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Produce

Market Overview

We are quickly approaching transition; most growers will start transition towards the end of March, and we expect to be fully transitioned by the end of April. Celery is still in a very EXTREME situation. We have seen improvements in most West Coast veg commodities. Strawberries have also improved.

WATCH LIST

- Mushrooms
- Sweet Potatoes and Yams
- Tomatoes (Rounds and Romas)

Apples & Pears

The market is stable. Golden Delicious and Granny Smith supplies are in strong demand; prices are higher for these varieties. Quality is excellent: fruit is crisp and juicy. Sugar levels range from 14 to 18 Brix. The Pear market is stable. D'Anjou Pears are on the market, as are packer label Bosc stocks. Sugar levels range from 12 to 14 Brix. California Bartletts will become available in June.

Artichokes

Supply industry-wide is fair. Demand is fair and prices are steady to higher.

Arugula

Supply is steady to good.

Asparagus

Growers have good supply. Quality is good and steady.

Avocados

Markets are stronger. All sizes are around the same price in the high 20's and will be in the low 30's at some point over the next couple of weeks. A Holiday on the 18th and the border cleaning up, has led to higher peso prices in MX. Demand continues to stay steady. Non-Certified growing areas are still in between seasons, adding to the demand for smaller fruit. The growing areas are now moving into the higher elevations, where the growers do not need to pick until the market gets better. #2 fruit continues to be available but will increase in value as the #1 markets get stronger.

Bananas

We are expecting GOOD grade, Excellent quality and back to normal supplies! This should continue through May.

Beans

EAST: Round beans are readily obtainable with excellent quality available.

MARKET ALERT

- **Bell Pepper (Green, Red & Yellow) - EXTREME**
- **Cabbage (Red/Green) - ESCALATED**
- **Carrots (Jumbo) - ESCALATED**
- **Cauliflower - ESCALATED**
- **Celery - EXTREME**
- **Lettuce (Iceberg/Blends) - ESCALATED**
- **Limes - ESCALATED**
- **Onions (White) - EXTREME**



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Produce (continued)

Berries:

Blackberries

The market is steady to slightly lower than last week. The Mexican crop is past its peak. California supplies are increasing with warmer, drier weather in the forecast. Quality is very good: berries are deeply colored, juicy, and sweet. Sugar levels range from 12 to 13 Brix.

Blueberries

Low prices persist. California volume is increasing and will reach its peak by mid-April. The South American seasons are winding down. Overall quality is very good: berries are dark blue with a slight blush and sweet, yet tangy flavor.

Raspberries

Although prices remain high, volume is starting to increase. Quality is very good: berries are plump and juicy with sweet flavor. Sugar levels range from 13 to 14 Brix.

Strawberries

The market is high. Low temperatures in California have inhibited growth. More rain is in the forecast this week; growers are cancelling production and packing ahead when possible. The Florida season is winding down. Most Mexican suppliers have ended harvesting for the season. Quality is average: bleeding and bruising are industry-wide issues.

Bok Choy

Supply for 30lb and 50lb are both short.

Broccoli

The market remains high; supplies are tight. Although recent weather has been challenging, quality has remained very good: discoloration and mildew are minor problems.

Brussels Sprouts

Cool weather in the desert and Mexico is slowing down production and the market is up from last week. Prices are rising and may continue to rise into next week.

Cantaloupe

Offshore fruit to the west has increased and we have good supplies, and heavier volumes landing on the east coast. The overall quality has been good with a firm green to straw cast and sugars have been much better on this weeks and last week's arrivals. There are good supplies of 9's, tight on 12's and very few 15's. We expect continued good volumes going forward mainly larger fruit and quality should hold good as well.

Carrots

ESCALATED Jumbos are still escalated, but we are seeing improvements.

Cauliflower

ESCALATED Supply is very tight as normal winter varieties are not cooperating this year. We continue to struggle with labor; this is also impacting supply.

Celery

EXTREME We will have fair to light volume from Mexico this week. The weather has warmed up slightly, but sizing is still a little smaller than we would like. Extremely high, open-market prices for celery.

Cilantro

Quality is improving and supply is good.

Corn

Steady supply and good quality out of Florida and Mexico.

Cucumbers

EAST: Honduras will most likely wrap up by the end of next week, leaving Florida's early spring crop to pick up the demand. FOBs are down a few dollars with the lackluster demand. Quality from HON is mostly selects or plains. Quality from FL is mostly good, but some scarring is evident. This is expected to improve as farms move further into the season. WEST: Warm weather has brought on the crop with great supply readily available. FOBs are down slightly with strong quality available. We expect this trend to continue through April as more growers come on board.



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Produce *(continued)*

English Cucumbers

Supply has improved through Nogales.

Eggplant

EAST: Florida's supply is snug as old fields wrap up. New fields haven't quite gotten started yet, or enough to meet demand at least. Look for things to remain short for the next few weeks due to rain and wind as the fruit was setting & growing. FOBs are feeling some pressure to move up but aren't quite there yet. Quality is fair to good, with #2s being primarily produced.

WEST: Good volume is available with FOBs steady. We expect good supplies for the 10-14 days with decent quality available.

Fennel

Supply on fennel will be short for the next few weeks due to frost damage and the Yuma season finishing with light supply. We will continue to see a majority of smaller fennel this week - 18s and 24s will remain limited.

Garlic

Supply is firming up and markets are active.

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

We are getting good volumes on both east and west coasts and we have received 20% less volume than normal to date, volumes are down due to some of the early varieties in Chile have been pulled out and new varieties planted but production not at full capacity this year. The Chilean volumes have started to increase this week. The overall quality has been good to fair, greens will remain tighter than reds and this will be the case through the remainder of the season, and you will see some minor discoloration in the greens. We will start our California and Mexico fruit around the first week of May.

Green Cabbage

ESCALATED Due to the cold weather, there will be lighter supply for the next week.

Red Cabbage

ESCALATED Supply continues to be light.

Green Onions

Due to rain and recent freezes, we are seeing product with weaker quality. Some light-colored onions will be present over the next few weeks.

Honeydew

We have better supply and we are going out of Mexico with better volumes but not overwhelming volume. The fruit quality out of Mexico is good with some lots showing heavier scarring. The Offshore Honeydew are also suffering from a white fly problem and volumes are lighter than normal and also the fruit quality has been rough with spotting and also weaker fruit due to the white fly problem. We will keep you posted going forward and hope things start to get better.

Jicama

Steady supply crossing through Texas.

Kale (green)

Supply has increased a bit.

Lemons

We have finished our Dist. 3 (Desert) crop and going with heaviest volume here out of Dist. 1 (Central Valley) and will start to pick some Dist. 2 (Coastal Regions) fruit in the coming weeks and just primarily size picking to relieve the trees of some stress. We will also have disruptions on harvesting in Dist. 1 and 2 as the rains are going to blanket the state through Friday. We will also keep you posted on when we will be getting back in to pick next week. The moisture has also been creating spores in the fields as well and we will hope that it is not to extensive on the clear rot. Again, we are blessed to have the moisture, we will get through it one way or another.

Lettuce:

Butter

Supply is good. Quality is fair.



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Produce (continued)

Green Leaf

Supply is slightly above normal. The issues we are seeing are mainly tip burn and some bug pressure. Yields are getting better. Demand has fallen a bit, and weights are in the 18-20lbs range.

Red Leaf

Supply is good. Quality is fair.

Iceberg Lettuce

ESCALATED Lettuce supply is going to be closer to budget. However, there are some very uneven fields, low yields, and possible light weights on the bins. With demand up and supply down, the market is forecasted to be very active. Quality continues to be fair. Last week, we had both rain and ice. We are getting close to the end of the desert season and options are limited. Huron has pushed back a week and is now projected for the week of April.

Romaine

Supply is right on budget and demand has lightened up. Bug pressure in the desert has become a slight issue. Expect to see some bugs in field-packed commodities. The Salinas crop is still small as we prepare to transition in one week. Yields on Romaine continue to improve.

Romaine Hearts

Supply is good, and quality is fair.



Limes

ESCALATED Supply remains tight due to lower volume crossing through the border as a result of weather issues in Mexico.

Napa

We will have limited supplies of the 50lb, but we have good supplies of 30lb. Quality is fair

Onions

Onions have continued to increase as storage reports indicated lower stock on hands than expected. Additionally, Mexico is very short supplied and keeping majority of their crop within Mexico as their market is currently stronger than our domestic market. Because white onions are extreme in price, they are continuing to buy domestic yellows for export, which is further stressing supply. This is unprecedented for this time of year. Texas is 2-3 weeks away from starting domestic supply and their crop is also short by about 25-30%. It is likely we will see this market remain volatile for the next 6-8 weeks until summer onions really ramp up in May. The Imperial Valley, CA crop is expected to be down by about 30%-40% as well since the majority of their growers planted much less acreage after several consecutive losing seasons. It is imperative to stay ahead of this market while also remembering that it is mid-March already and these onions have been out of the ground for 7+ months so shelf life is shorter.

White Onions: EXTREME White onions are extreme as supply is very limited. Mexican white onions are the only source at the moment with the Northwest crop finishing their white supply early. We do not expect to see relief on whites until early to mid-May.

Oranges

More rain is on the way. The forecast is for rain tonight and Saturday and will start again next week on Tuesday-Thursday. We are experiencing some clear rot and also puff and crease in most blocks showing up and will continue to get worse once our weather warms up, just lots of moisture in the ground. The overall color is full, and the fruit is eating good, and will only get better once the sun comes out as the water does leach out some of the sugar. We will keep you posted first of next week as to our outlook of getting in to harvest. We will hopefully be able to make it through first of next week with what we have in the house now. We sure need the moisture, but it does cause some problems and interruptions, but we will get through it.

Parsley(Curly, Italian)

Quality is fair to good. Supply is steady.

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Produce (continued)

Green Bell Pepper

EAST: Bad News/Good News. Bad news is FOBs are still high and quality is still suffering, especially on #1 big fruit. Good news is things should start to rebound in the next 2-3 weeks as Mexico's supply picks up and Plant City FL crop comes on board.

WEST: Bad News/Good News here too. The good news is we are starting to slowly see an increase in production from Sonora & Sinaloa. The bad news is the fruit has seen rain & cold which is impacting quality. Even as yields increase over the next week, we will see quality concerns for the next 3 weeks roughly. Keep your inventory tight!

Jalapeños (Chiles)

EAST: Status quo here. This is the eastern region's light supply time of year. FOBs are steady with good quality available. Look for new crop to start from Plant City in about 3-4 weeks.

WEST: Things are finally looking up as more and more growers come on board. Sinaloa, Culiacan, & Esscuinapa are all producing great numbers. Look for FOBs to start feeling downward pressure and excellent quality is available.

Red & Yellow Bell Pepper

No big changes here as Mainland Mexico continues to struggle. Yellow is still very tight and hard to get while red is only slightly better. What is available has about 20-50% greening to it. Look for improvement in roughly 2-3 weeks. Until then, FOBs are high and quality, excluding color, is mostly good.

Pineapple

Conditions in Costa Rica are very dry which has resulted on slightly lower volumes than expected for this time of the year. We do expect situation to improve for within the next couple of weeks. We are preparing for Easter and will have good volumes.

Idaho Potatoes

Potatoes have remained steadily increasing about .50 to 1.00 every few weeks. The majority of the strength is occurring on 40-70 counts, and we are now seeing 80s tighten up some as well. The Norkotah supply continues to dwindle throughout the state, and the Burbank size profile is small. As we continue to lose Norkotah supply and get deeper into Burbanks, we will continue to see the large size cartons increase in price and garner a premium. We may see a big disparity in price this season between 90s and 100s and larger size count cartons. No. 2 potatoes are becoming more plentiful as well since Burbanks generate more of this grade than Norkotahs do. We are expecting an active market this Summer as other growing regions have a much more limited crop, and the Idaho supply is believed to be down.

Radishes

Markets are firming up due to heavy precipitation and wind damage to fields. We see FOB pricing ticking up this week.

Salad Blends

Prices are level. Iceberg and romaine supplies are sufficient. Inspectors are closely monitoring finished cartons for the highest quality product to achieve the best packs.

Snow and Sugar Snap Peas

Supply is tight, quality is good, and demand should be increasing.

Spinach (Bunched)

Quality has improved and supply is good.

Spinach (Baby)

Supply is good and quality has improved.

Spring Mix

The market is unchanged; stocks are adequate. Quality is fair: mildew and discoloration are reported issues near the end of shelf-life.

Yellow Squash/Zucchini

EAST: Warm weather is bringing on the spring FL crop. Although fields are yielding a little on the light side, we expect things to really ramp up with the good weather. FOBs are feeling some slight downward pressure. Yellow squash is still seeing some quality issues, but green is in excellent condition. WEST: Just as things got better, there was a cold front that came through the region which dipped production. This should be short lived, and we expect things to get back to normal over the next week, especially as more growers begin their spring crops from the northern growing areas. FOBs are steady with good quality available.



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Produce *(continued)*

TOMATOES – EAST

Rounds

As Florida continues the transition from winter to spring crops, volumes are still light as we move into next week. Weather during the growth cycle slowed things down, but there is still a reasonable amount of fruit available. FOBs remain higher than usual, but steady. Look for things to taper off around April 1st when Mexico increases their spring crop supply. Volume will increase from Florida in the next 2-3 weeks. Quality is looking nice on the crown picks, but 2nd and 3rd picks are showing some shape, scarring and sunburn concerns. Overall the crops are good quality.

Romas

Look for volume to increase from Florida in the next 2-3 weeks. Until then, the transition is a little sluggish with low volume available. FOBs are still high, but definitely feeling downward pressure as Mexico's spring roma crop is quickly filling the pipeline. Expect FOBs to start tapering downward around April 1. Quality is good to excellent.



Grapes

Just like rounds and romas, supply is on the light side as we push through the transition. However, good supply is on the cusp of harvest as we transition into spring crops. Our Naples crop will continue to pick with our Estero crops coming on board this week. FOBs remain a little high, but mostly steady. Quality is good to excellent.

Cherries

Yields are still a little light but there is enough to meet demand. Currently, FOBs are steady week over week with good to excellent quality available.

TOMATOES – WEST/MEXICO

Rounds

Like Florida, Mexico's round crops are in a slight lull as growers wait for new plantings to begin later this month and into early April. Between vine ripens and mature greens, most sizes are available. Last week, jumbos were on the short side, and this week it's about the same story but things are improving each day. FOBs are feeling downward pressure as the pipeline fills. Quality is mostly excellent.

Romas

Things are looking up as West Mexico's crop comes on board. FOBs are moving down with the good volume coming. We expect supply to be great through April, which will keep FOBs to affordable prices. Quality is excellent.

Grapes

Some growers are starting to see supply taper off a little earlier than usual for this time of year. However, there is still enough supply to meet the somewhat sluggish demand. Look for FOBs to remain steady and excellent quality is available.

Cherries

Fairly good volume continues to cross daily. FOBs are steady; however, quality continues to be a struggle, with fruit poor to fair at best. We recommend keeping your inventory snug until quality improves.

Watermelons

The market is stable; Mexican and offshore stocks are abundant. Quality is good: sugar levels are average for this time of year.