



Market Update

MARKET ALERTS:

January 18, 2019

Grapes - Right now red and greens are tight for a few reasons: Industry thought told that California would have grapes deep into January, which did not happen. Because of that Peru found other world markets to send fruit to, so we are lighter on arrivals to US. Chile is running late due to cool weather and a lighter crop overall to start. They are also finding other markets due to lower anticipated opening prices in the US. Fruit should loosen up in Feb as Chile moves to southern growing areas. But January will be a day to day fruit availability issue. Prices are up and supply is scarce.

Raspberries - Availability is extremely tight and expected to remain so through January. Mexico is gapping. Pricing higher. Distributors: Get your pre-books in to get covered!

Broccoli - Supplies are extremely short this week. There is a high demand for Broccoli at the moment from processors and distributors. Rains and early morning frost in the desert areas are affecting supplies and quality. Growers are reporting fair quality at best, expect to see some yellowing on the Broccoli. Supplies will be short for at least two weeks.

Cauliflower - Supplies are extremely short this week. There is a high demand for Cauliflower at the moment from processors and distributors. Rains and early morning frost in the desert areas are affecting supplies and quality. Growers are reporting fair quality at best, expect to see some bruising on the Cauliflower Heads. Supplies will be short for at least two weeks.

Green Leaf/Red Leaf and Boston/Butter Lettuce- Green Leaf, Butter Lettuce and Red Leaf Lettuce are all reporting light supplies this week with the rain and early morning frost. You will encounter some quality issues with epidermal peel and blistering. Markets are expected to be stronger the next two weeks.

Green Cabbage - Supplies are extremely short this week. The cold weather is affecting supplies, there is also a higher demand for cabbage. Expect to see fair quality at best, markets to stay strong the next two weeks.

Green Onions - Supplies are very light this week coming from Mexico. Rain has really affected the harvest time. Mud is causing harvesting crews longer to pick product. The demand is high for Green Onions with limited supplies available. Expect strong markets the next few weeks. Once the rain settle we are hoping for Green Onion production to improve.

White Onions - This market has hit \$30, product is minimal. There are a few different reasons, the simplest way to put this is white onions are not grown in significant volumes in the United States. And the slightest demand can deplete the market very quickly. Other onions are up slightly but still steady to low.

If you have any specific questions or concerns on any commodities not mentioned in this report, please feel free to reach out to dforsythe@nproduce.com and we will be happy to give you those current market conditions. Have a great week!

Keeping You Informed,

Your Dedicated NPC, LLC Staff



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Asparagus- We're slowly starting to see Caborca's production start to pick up. JBO remains limited with a small prorate, but the rest of the sizes should be back to normal after next week. Prices are definitely up though, reaching \$50 fob on the west coast and in the high \$30s on the east. We will keep you updated.

Celery - Supplies are lower than expected for this week. Weather is causing for production to slow down. There is a high demand at the moment, Growers are reporting good quality. Supplies will be short for the next two weeks. Fobs remain around \$30.

Bell Peppers- Green bells are in a tight spot this week, With newer growers in Mexico starting and more going into shade, the plants are there but there's not enough warmth or sunshine to get them going. Big pepper is crossing in handfuls this week, not loads. Stronger volumes are available on large and smaller fruit but there are concerns with misshapen fruit and less blocky dimensions. Quality is all over the board, ranging from poor to excellent. Sinaloa farms seem to have the best fruit now, but their volume is lighter than Sonora's. Barring any weather issues, size and volume should pick up over the next 7-10 days. Meanwhile, Florida's few winter season pepper producers are experiencing light yields and the occasional quality issue.

Chili Peppers - The chili pepper market is at an all-time high! Weather patterns have rocked Mexico's production since October, in some cases wiping out crops completely. Growers are shipping what they can, but unfortunately, that brings a lot of quality issues to the table like scarring, mixed sizes, discoloration, shoe polish, etc. There's beginning to be talk that the situation may not repair itself until Spring. Stay tuned.

Transportation Alert out of Mexico : There was an investigation on gasoline theft in Mexico. The newly elected president shut down the pipelines to detect and deter illegal taps.

<https://www.npr.org/2019/01/15/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/>

On The Radar : Squash - Limes - Kale - Cilantro - Tomatoes

WINTER STORM HARPER : Winter Storm Harper has already pummeled parts of the West with heavy snow and will spread its mess of snow, ice and wind into the Plains, Midwest and Northeast into this weekend.

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