

Notes from the Greengrocer

February 1, 2010

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Item of the Week

Item #0473
Blue Cheese Crumbles
5#
\$14.95



In Season Right Now

Minneolas	Romanesco
Black Arkansas	Gold Kiwi
Asian Pears	Black Radish
Comice Pears	Celery Root
D'Angou Pears	Mandarins
Black Garlic	Pummelos

Tomato Report: Tomato production in Mexico is steady. Demand has gone up and pricing is slightly rising. Roma tomatoes continue to be at a great buy and quality is great this week. The market remains firm for grape tomatoes.

Lettuce Report: The quality and pricing on all the lettuce items has stabilize. Rain is predicted for the end of this week in Yuma, which may have some affect on pricing next week, but we are not sure.

Berry News: There are now strawberries available in Florida, which has helped increase the supply; however, berry quality and appearance in the West is still inconsistent! Stem strawberries are in short supply, as berry-size is currently not large enough to make 20 count stem strawberry packs. Raspberry supplies in Mexico have increased slightly, while the blackberry crop was affected by the high winds. Chilean blueberries are in good supply.

Fruit Report: Navel oranges are in adequate supply; however with limited harvesting activity this week, we anticipate a shortfall in availability to soon op on the smaller sizes. The Florida citrus harvest is back in full production, with the exception of tangelos. Variety citrus items are available in California, including Murcott mandarins, pummelos, blood oranges, Oro Blancos, and Minneola tangelos. Texas Navels and juice oranges are available, along with Texas grapefruit. Mexican Valencia oranges, tangerines and limes are also available for shipment from Texas. Lime production has rebounded following the recent shortfall caused by transition in growing areas. Pineapples from Central America are in good supply. Honeydews from Central America are in good supply, and quality is excellent. Cantaloupes will continue with steady availability for the larger sized 9s & 12s.

Vegetable Report: Mexican cucumbers are in good supply in Nogales with steady availability in Florida for cucumbers harvested locally, in addition to imports from Central America. Production supplies are steady for green bell peppers in Nogales, with great supplies for red and yellow bell peppers. Zucchini is good supply with great prices. Green beans are in limited supply at high prices. Good supplies of eggplant in Nogales. Spring mix, arugula and baby spinach are in good supply. Carrot availability is normal, pending any additional weather issues.