

Notes from the Greengrocer

February 22, 2010

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Item of the Week

Item #0473
Blue Cheese Crumbles
5#
\$13.25



In Season Right Now

Dragon Fruit	Romanesco
Mini Peppers	Gold Kiwi
Asian Pears	Black Radish
Comice Pears	Celery Root
D'Angou Pears	Mandarins
Black Garlic	Pummelos

Tomato Report: Tomatoes are expected to be in short supply this week due to the cold and wet weather conditions in Mexico. Prices for grape tomatoes are starting to trend higher. We do not expect to see any relief until mid-March.

Lettuce Report: Iceberg, Romaine, and Leaf lettuces continue to be in good supply but prices are starting to rise.

Berry News: Demand continues to exceed supply for strawberries. Due to the rain in Mexico growers are unable to fill orders in full. We do not expect to see an improvement in the supply situation until late February. Mexican raspberry, Chilean blueberry and blackberry production remains generally steady.

Fruit Report: Citrus is in good supply, especially on naval oranges for all sizes. Quality and appearance is great. Lemons are in good supply, with smaller sized lemons coming out of San Joaquin Valley, and Ventura County. Due to the rain in Mexico prices on limes have continued to rise. Cantaloupes from Central America are in extreme tight supply especially on 12's. We expect to see an improvement in supply by early March. Watermelon is still limited in supply, resulting in higher than usual prices. Good availability on red and black plums. California kiwi is in tight supply. Good availability for Bosc and D'Anjou pears.

Vegetable Report: Prices are steady bunched broccoli, broccoli crowns, and cauliflower. Celery quality is excellent with medium to dark green color. Asparagus is in good supply. Spring mix is in good supply as well as baby spinach. Arugula is in tight supply. Green, and yellow bell peppers are in extreme tight supply coming out of Nogales. The best buy for peppers are red bell peppers. Growers have reduced the amount of planted acreage for yellow squash resulting in prices rising due to supplies being short. Eggplant, zucchini, cilantro, parsley, napa, green onions, leek, and snow pears are all in good supply. Onion market will likely get tighter this week. We expect double digit prices on white and yellow. Availability on Bok Choy has began to improve resulting in prices starting to trend downward.