

Notes from the Greengrocer

March 8, 2010

1661 McGarry St Los Angeles 90021 213/747-4411 fax 213/741-1777 Web: wwproduce.com

Item of the Week

Item # 5901
Prosciutto di Parma ~15#
\$10.75/#



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	Pommelo

Tomato Report: The supplies on Roma tomatoes' are starting to improve resulting in prices beginning to start to trend downward. The market remains steady for round slicing tomatoes, but prices are expected to trend downward toward late March. In addition, grape tomatoes will continue to remain high in price for this week.

Lettuce Report: Availability has tightened for Romaine and Leaf lettuces. Iceberg quality is split between over-mature, jumbo sized lettuces and premium quality palletized iceberg. With the ongoing wet weather in the Salinas Valley the transition northward may not be as smooth as we would like.

Berry News: Due to the recent wet and cold weather strawberry production out of Florida is being limited. Raspberries and blackberries from Mexico are in adequate supply, although prices remain high. Blueberry availability has not yet been affected by the recent earthquake in Chile. Prices will remain steady, despite the potential for disruption in supply beginning in mid March, when the last vessels to ship prior to the earthquake arrive at U.S. ports.

Fruit Report: California navel oranges will continue to be in good supply this week. Small sized Navels (138's) are the only size currently in short supply. Lemons are in good supply for all sizes. Minneola tangelos, large sized Cara Cara oranges, selected sizes of Moro Blood oranges, all sizes of Murcott mandarins and Sweet Clementine are available and in good supply. Pineapple from Costa Rica has tightened. Braeburn, Golden Delicious, Fuji, Gala, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious are all in good supply coming out of the Northwest. Red seedless grapes are on the rise due to supply issues. Both Mexican and California Hass avocados are available; within a week more we should be switching over to carrying all California.

Vegetable Report: Prices continue to climb for broccoli and cauliflower, as production volume for broccoli and cauliflower is on the decline as we near the end of the season in the desert growing areas. Celery supplies continue to tighten this week. Green onions, leek, curly parsley, Italian parsley, snow peas, bunched spinach and cilantro are all in good supply this week. Arugula is in tight supply due to continuing issues with mildew affecting the product. Green beans continue to be in short supply and prices have continued to trend higher this week. Prices have risen for bok choy and napa cabbage this week.