

# Notes from the Greengrocer

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**Stone Fruit:** Washington Peaches and California Plums are still around but quality is very poor; Flavor is very sour. Apricots and Nectarines are finished; new crop Chilean and New Zealand are a month away. Figs are still available but pricing is very steep...



**Specialty:** Pomegranates, Rambutan, Baby Kiwi's, Dragon Fruit, Fuyu Persimmons, Hachiya Persimmons, and Star Fruit are available. Baby Squashes and Specialty Beans (Haricot Vert, Yellow Wax, etc.) are still short and prices are still high....

**Tomato Report:** The entire tomato market remains in short supply; prices on 2 layers and volume filled are very strong. Roma tomato supplies are better; prices are on the rise. Grape Tomatoes: Prices are up. Cherry Tomatoes: Quality is good; prices are up. Heirloom Tomatoes: Varieties are limited and prices are firming up. Cluster tomato prices remain low....

**Lettuce Report:** Iceberg prices are rising daily; we expect growers to be selling in the \$40 - \$50 range by the end of the week. Romaine is reacting to the iceberg prices; prices are up. Greenleaf and Redleaf are in the picture too but pricing is not quite as steep....

**Berry News:** Rain is wreaking havoc on the strawberry market; Quality is suffering and prices are up. Blackberries are out of Mexico; quality is good and prices are down. Blueberries are very short; prices are strong. Raspberries are maintaining their status quo....

**Fruit Report:** Apples: Washington is shipping new crop; varieties include Braeburn, Gala, Fuji, Honeycrisp, Jonathan, Jonagold, Macintosh, and Pink Lady. Avocados: We are shipping primarily Chilean Fruit; Mexican fruit should be available to us by the end of the week. We expect Mexican fruit by the end of the week. Citrus: Texas Grapefruit is now available; Lemons are getting tougher; Lime prices are easing up. California Valencia's are good; Texas Juicing Oranges are here; prices are high. Grapes: California is winding down; quality is improving but prices are on the rise. Cantaloupes are in good shape but Honeydews are having problems with sugar content being short. Watermelon prices remain strong. Maui Pineapple quality is poor; Costa Rica has the better fruit now.....

**Vegetable Report:** Artichokes: Choke supplies and prices are unchanged. Asparagus: Prices have leveled off. Blue Lake Beans: Mexican beans are arriving; the market is off. Broccoli: Prices remain firm; product is short. Cauliflower: Availability also tight; prices are up again. Celery: Prices are edging back up. Cabbage: Green Cabbage is very short; prices have rebounded; Red is unchanged. Carrots: No change in prices. Corn: Corn is winding down; White is very short and prices are up. Cucumbers: Supply is better; prices are unchanged. Eggplant: Quality is still good; prices are unchanged. Onions: Brown, red, and white onions prices are low. Peppers: Green bells are up; Red and Gold bells are unchanged. Zucchini: Product is in good supply; quality is good and prices are low. Gold Zucchini is very short; prices are high and what little is out there is being prorated; we are substituting Straightneck. Straightneck quality is excellent; prices are unchanged