



SUPPLYING FOODSERVICE SOLUTIONS

SCHIFF'S FOOD SERVICE, INC.

WEEKLY PRODUCE MARKET REPORT

WEEK OF 2-19-18

Asparagus: Mexican supplies and quality are very good; demand is getting stronger but should remain steady until the end of March. Peruvian supplies will remain very light and quality fair at best, with improvements forecasted in March.

Avocados: The market is moving up for the month of February as inventories are replenished from Game Day; the outlook for the next six months looks good, and Mexico supplies are ripening evenly with very good quality. CA has started with light volume and expecting a larger crop this year than last.

Blueberries: Supplies are mostly South American; expect occasional break down and desiccation.

Strawberries: Production has reached normal levels in all growing regions due to unusually warm conditions. Out west, quality has remained steady with no major concerns this week.

Broccoli: The market is unsettled. Quality is fair with brown bead, loose bead, open bead, occasional under-sizing, and branchiness.

Cauliflower: Quality is fair to good; the market is mostly steady with occasional bruising, oversizing, and sun damage.

Celery: Quality is mostly good, with defects due to inconsistent sizing.

Lemons: We are seeing a lot of fruit coming off from District 1 (the CA Central Valley) now, due to warmer temps turning the fruit yellow too fast.

Limes: The market is active as rain continues to affect the harvest and quality; we are starting to see some skin and styler-end (opposite end from stem) break down.

Oranges: Fruit quality is excellent; there is more Choice showing up due to puff and crease.

Cucumbers: Quality is fair to good from Mexico. We are into all imports now until mid-March from Honduras with good quality and supply reported.

Eggplant: Quality is good from Mexico; FL production continues to improve, with more Choice than Fancy. The market is increasing.

Grapes: Supplies continue to arrive from South America with varied sizing between lots. Look for split fruit, ambers, and mold—typically associated from long transit.

Iceberg Lettuce: Overall, quality fair to good with a range of quality issues.

Melons: **Cantaloupe** quality is very good; **Honeydew** quality is mixed with spotting as their biggest issue.

Seedless watermelon are seeing yet another twist as this week opens. Mexican supplies will be lighter for the next two weeks as we transition north into new growing areas.

Onions: The market is steady with good supplies. Quality is good on all colors.

Peppers: **West:** Green bell peppers from Sinaloa are running Large and X-large, and showing a slight increase in volume. Red bells are available in moderate supply with good quality; yellow bells have good quality and supply. **East:** Supply and quality are improving from FL with the warmer temps.

Potatoes: An increase of supplies on the market is due to poor demand, driving prices downward. Quality remains good.

Squash: We are transitioning to new fields in southern and northern Sinaloa with improved quality and availability. FL supplies are improving due to warmer temps, with better quality in zucchini than yellow squash.

Tomatoes—all varieties: Markets have stabilized this week due to good supply in all growing regions. The overall market should remain steady through the month of February.