

The Source

Commodity of the Month - Romaine Lettuce



MARKET ALERTS

Blackberries - Limited supply and the quality is fair.

Blueberries - Limited supply and good quality.

Raspberries - Limited supply and good quality.

Strawberries - Limited supply and the quality is excellent.

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

CROP UPDATES

As Central California transitions to the Southwestern Desert regions, supplies remain steady. The Huron region continues to produce, acting as a bridge for supplies. Yuma will begin light harvests next week, with full production expected in November. Temperatures in the Salinas region are expected to continue, with fringe burn and insect populations being main concerns. [Read more](#)

WEATHER

Arizona - Max temperatures will be below normal but will warm throughout the week with mid-70s to low-80s Monday and low-mid 80s by Thursday.

California - There will be low 40s near the coast, upper 30s in Santa Clara Valley, and upper 20s to upper 30s in the southern Salinas Valley with near-freezing temperatures south of King City. Throughout the rest of the week, daytime highs will be in the upper 70s to mid 80s.

Florida - Under high pressure, there will be much cooler temperatures in the latter half of this week, but shower activity will be limited.

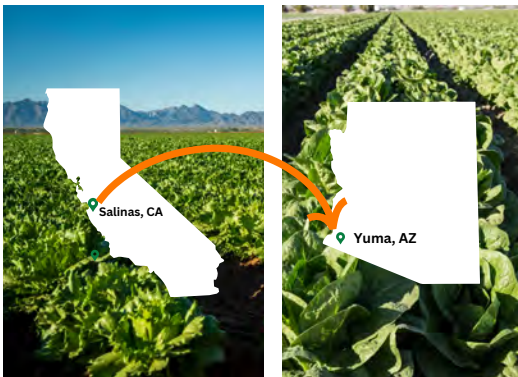
Mexico - A few isolated showers will occur on Tuesday into Wednesday (rain totals are generally less than 0.10"), followed by drier weather by Thursday and Friday.

FREIGHT

Shipper delays in Salinas due to diminishing supplies cause over 8 hours of dwell time. Yuma shipping begins next week, transitioning into November, requiring multi-region loading.



Fall Transition



We are moving into the colder months in the Salinas Valley, which means it's time for the big Transition!

AT PEAK SEASON



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Commodities at a Glance



Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Apples

Yakima, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Asparagus

Caborca (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Ciudad Obregon (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Peru (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Avocados

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Bell Peppers

California (May-October)	steady	\$\$\$	Good
Georgia (June-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Berries (Blackberries)

ALERT

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Berries (Blueberries)

ALERT

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Berries (Raspberries)

ALERT

California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Berries (Strawberries)

ALERT

California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Dover, Florida (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
McAllen, Texas (October-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Excellent



Commodities at a Glance

Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Broccoli

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Poor
Salinas, California (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Brussel Sprouts

Mexico (December-August)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Oxnard, California (May-July)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (July-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Carrots

Various Northwest Regions (July-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Kern County, California (May-July) (October-February)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Cauliflower

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair

Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Celery

Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May-August)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Citrus (Lemons)

Oxnard/ Ventura County (February-September)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
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Citrus (Limes)

Veracruz (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
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Citrus (Oranges)

California Desert/Yuma (April-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
San Joaquin Valley (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Commodities at a Glance

Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Cucumbers

Baja California (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Georgia (June-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Eggplant

California (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Georgia (June - October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Garlic

East Coast (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Bakersfield, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Gilroy, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Grapes (Green)

San Joaquin Valley (June-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Grapes (Red)

San Joaquin Valley (June-December)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Green Onions

Canada (June-September)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Mexico (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Kale

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Salinas, California (May-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Lettuce Iceberg

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (March-June)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May-October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Santa Maria, California (March-December)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair

Commodities at a Glance



Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Lettuce Leaf

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May-October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Yuma, Arizona (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Lettuce Tender Leaf

Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair
Oxnard, California (Year Round)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Salinas, California (May-October)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Melon (Cantaloupe)

Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
San Joaquin Valley (July-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair



Melon (Honeydew)

Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
San Joaquin Valley (July-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Fair

Commodity/Region Supply Price Quality



Melon (Watermelon)

San Joaquin Valley (July-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Arizona (June-July) (October-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent



Mushroom

Nationwide	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
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Onions

South Texas (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Tri-Cities, Washington (July-April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Eastern Oregon/Parma, ID (August-April)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
San Joaquin Valley (May-August)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair
Hatch, New Mexico (July-April)	Light	\$\$\$	Fair



Pears

Sacramento Valley (July-September)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Hood River, Oregon (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Yakima, Washington (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good

Commodities at a Glance



Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Pineapples

Costa Rica (Year round)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
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Potatoes

Bancroft, Wisconsin (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Idaho Falls, Idaho (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent
Monte Vista, Colorado (August-July)	Steady	\$\$\$	Excellent
Pasco, Washington (August-July)	High	\$\$\$	Excellent



Squash

California (May-October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Georgia (June-October)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (November-May)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good



Stone Fruit

San Joaquin Valley (May-October)	High	\$\$\$	Fair
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Commodity/Region	Supply	Price	Quality
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Tomatoes

Baja California (Spring/Summer-November)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
California (July-October)	Light	\$\$\$	Good
Mexico (Year Round)	Steady	\$\$\$	Good
Florida (November-May)	Light	\$\$\$	Good



Commodity Updates



The majority of varieties are now packing in new crops. The quality and supply are excellent.



The majority of Mexican asparagus is harvested in southern Baja, Constitucion. Several fields in this growing region are shutting down for the year, as a result of hurricane rains, and others will continue with steady volume until the end of the year. At this point there will not be any major flushes of raw material, just steady volume, for the Thanksgiving holiday and as long as the weather permits. Sonora will also have fall/winter production beginning in December from Sonoyta and San Luis, which will help close the production gap before Caborca 2024. We are waiting for the historically large volume in the north to return in late November - early December to import Peruvian asparagus. There are already some fields closing in the south that have been going for about 8 weeks, and others will close as November approaches. Despite higher markets and overall supply concerns, there is enough supply for the Thanksgiving holiday push. As we move into December and January, we will see the effects of El Nino/warmer temperatures on northern growing areas.



Contracts for Q4 are now in play, with no triggers. Flora Loca is nearly finished with Adventajada creeping in. The adventajada crop will have a higher percentage of #2-grade fruit available in all sizes.

Key Partners





Commodity Updates



Markets are fairly steady. As Georgia is the primary region in the east, western production is moving to Coachella this week. Some pepper has started out of Florida in a very light way. As a result of Hurricane Norma, early assessments report a delay of 7-10 days for the start of Nogales. The overall quality is good.



Due to adverse weather patterns caused by hurricanes passing through the region of Central Mexico, this item continues to be in short supply.



Both the West and East coasts are still offloading very small quantities of Peruvian offshore fruit from ocean containers. There has been a lull in demand due to high prices. The Central Mexico production is expected to ramp up next week, resulting in lower pricing on this item. Over the next few weeks, central Mexican production should begin in a small way.

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Commodity Updates



Berries (Raspberries)

Mexico's Baja and Central regions are transferring plenty of products. Central Mexico has good availability.



Berries (Strawberries)

A slight increase in crossings from Central Mexico is just beginning to be seen in this area. Currently, demand exceeds supply. Santa Maria and Oxnard, California, are experiencing cooler days and shorter hours of sunlight, leading to low production. Production will begin in Florida in early December.



Broccoli

Broccoli supplies continue to be good. The quality and yield of the crop continue to improve. We should expect this market to remain steady and supplies to remain adequate as we approach the weekend.

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Commodity Updates



The supply of Brussels sprouts continues to improve. Salinas and Oxnard are improving in terms of sizing and production. We expect this market to continue to decline next week.



As a result of the lack of size in Mexico, Texas, and Canada, the market for Jumbos remains steady at a slightly higher level. Shippers are keeping an eye on averages.



There is a good supply of cauliflower. Recent warm weather has brought fields forward, resulting in better crops. Over the weekend, the market should remain steady with good supplies.

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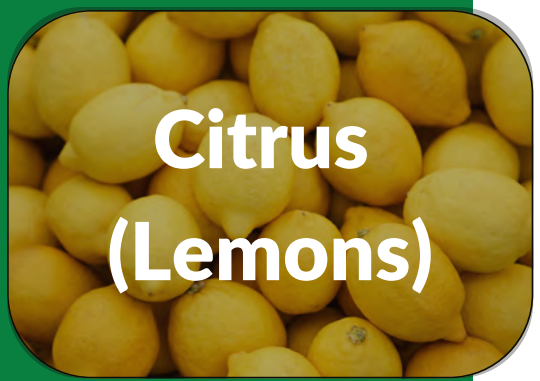


Commodity Updates



Celery

As in previous weeks, this market is steady. There is a lack of demand. There is very little production in Salinas, but there will be plenty in southern California to meet the demand. There will be the best availability in the large size, twenty-four counts. Shipping companies loading in Yuma through November will add a delivery charge to the contract as well as open market business. You will save 2-3 dollars a case if you load in southern CA during November.



Citrus (Lemons)

As District 2 nears the end of its season, markets remain elevated across the board. There is a shortage of lemons across the board. There has been a light start to District 3 (California desert/Arizona). District 1 will also begin in a light way.



Citrus (Limes)

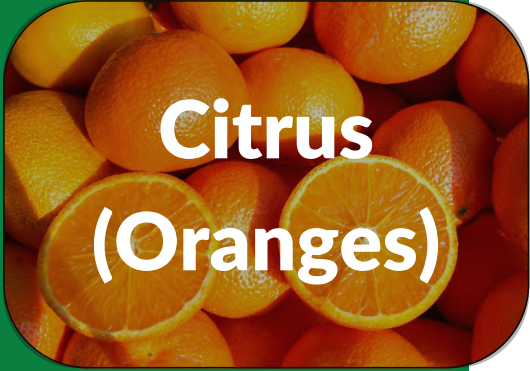
Demand has fallen this week, resulting in lower prices. Still seeing some stylar and blanching on fruit, but quality is still good. Peaking on small 200/230/250, with 110 and 150 still having minimal volumes in manifests. Markets will level around \$20-30s with a limited winter crop, but they should firm up again mid-December.

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Commodity Updates



School demand continues to be strong, resulting in strong markets. For the remainder of the Valencia season, 113ct and 138ct will remain at elevated prices. The peak sizes are 72ct and 88ct. During the week of 11/6, domestic navels will begin shipping.



In general, good supplies are available in GA/FL and Nogales, including South Texas. Quality is good.



The markets in the west are firm, while Georgia has a bit better availability. Late November will see some eggplant loading out of Nogales and McAllen.

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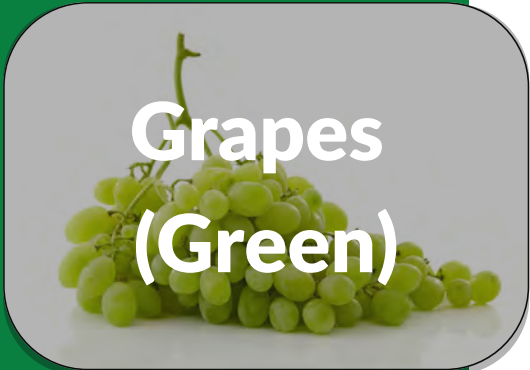


Commodity Updates



Garlic

The production in California is expected to remain steady throughout the week. It has been reported that the quality is good.



Grapes (Green)

The majority of shippers believe they will have supplies until the middle of November. Several shippers believe they will have domestics through November. A short period of tight supply may occur at the start of December, but it does not appear that there will be a gap. Currently, the grape market has leveled off in price as the industry continues to harvest the remaining crop. For the remainder of the domestic season, the market will remain high and tight.



Grapes (Red)

The majority of shippers believe they will have supplies until the middle of November. Several shippers believe they will have domestics through November. A short period of tight supply may occur at the start of December, but it does not appear that there will be a gap. Currently, the grape market has leveled off in price as the industry continues to harvest the remaining crop. For the remainder of the domestic season, the market will remain high and tight.



Commodity Updates



Green Onions

Green onions are in good supply and the market is slowing down. There will be good supplies on the market as the week progresses.



Kale

Kale supplies are looking good due to the recent warmer weather. Now is a good time to promote kale. It is expected that the market will remain steady, and the quality is good.



Lettuce Iceberg

Salinas, Huron, and Santa Maria will continue to produce well throughout the week. Yuma will be available from a few suppliers next week, followed by more the following week. In Salinas, lettuce weighs between 35 and 42 pounds. Huron lettuce has been a little heavier than usual. Currently, the market is soft, but it is expected to improve over the next few weeks. At this time of year, the quality remains above average.

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Commodity Updates



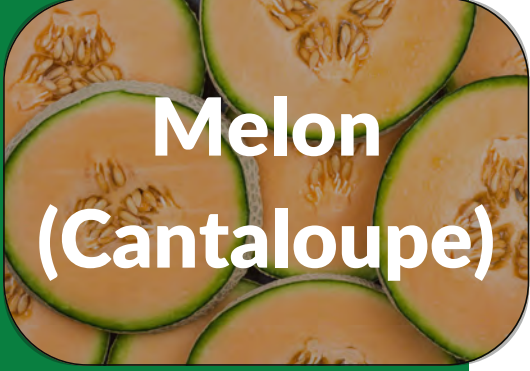
Lettuce Leaf

All leaf items remain flat in this market. Salinas and southern California continue to produce romaine, green, and red leaf. Yuma will start next week, followed by more suppliers the following week. The quality reports on current production have been good. There has been some fringe burn and insect damage, but it is minimal. Throughout the week, most suppliers should have good supplies of romaine hearts.



Lettuce Tender Leaf

Because of the recent and current warmer days and cooler nights, spring mix, tender greens, and spinach supplies are steady. Going into the weekend, these items should remain steady.



Melon (Cantaloupe)

Offshore cantaloupes should be available the week of 11/6/2023. The market for Arizona Cantoupes is steady and production has picked up. Despite a slow start, the new crop is now producing better numbers. Mexican fruit has good color and sugar, and the sizes are more available. Production was affected by Arizona's stunt with White Fly. The California Cantaloupe season will end this week. The last crop's quality was fair, and the market is steady.

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Commodity Updates



Melon (Honeydew)

Honeydews from offshore should be available the week of 11/6/2023.

There is a steady market for Arizona Honeydews and production has increased. Despite a slow start, the new crop is now producing better numbers. Mexican fruit has good color and sugar and is more available in different sizes. Production was impacted by Arizona's stunt with White Fly. The honeydew season in California will end at the end of the week. In the last crop, the quality has been fair and the market has been steady.



Melon (Watermelon)

Fruit from Mexico has both good color and sugar. There are promotion deals available and sizes are readily available.

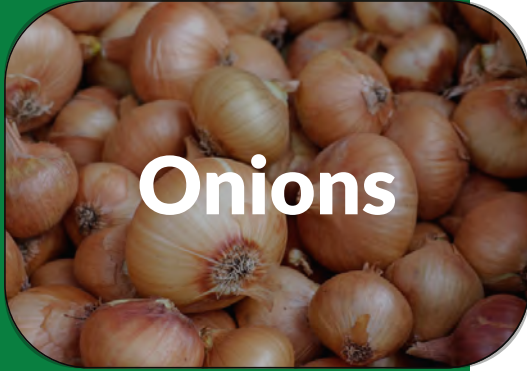


Mushroom

There is a shortage of supplies due to holiday demand. Pricing is elevated.



Commodity Updates



Onions

Shipping from Northwest offers excellent supplies and availability in all colors and sizes. As a result of increased holiday demand, medium sizes have strengthened.



Pears

Currently, Washington is packing Anjous, Bosc, and Bartletts. Mountain district Bartletts are being packed by California pear shippers. Currently, Bartletts, Boscs, and Red pears are being shipped.



Pineapples

Due to continued storms in the tropics and delays at the port of Caldera, pineapple supplies remain scarce. Normally, supplies are tight during this time of year, but excess storms have made it even harder. The problem affects all sizes, especially 7ct crowns.

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Commodity Updates



Potatoes

The availability of 40 - 70 CT is less than in recent weeks, but there are still plenty available. As shipping runs smaller potatoes for retail ads, 90 CT stocks are at their peak.



Squash

Mexico is in full production out of Nogales, so Santa Maria squash is in promotable volume on both coasts. The quality is good.



Stone Fruit

Domestic peaches and nectarines are done. The plums are mostly higher, and there are more blacks than reds. Plums will be available until November. Markets are high. The Asian pear season will run through December. Domestic kiwi have started.

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Commodity Updates



Tomatoes

Markets are elevated and active on all varieties, particularly Romas, grapes, and cherries. In addition to tomatoes from CA, AL, and TN, tomatoes from GA, MX, and FL continue to arrive. With the winter months approaching, expect volatile markets through January, which is normal for this time of year.

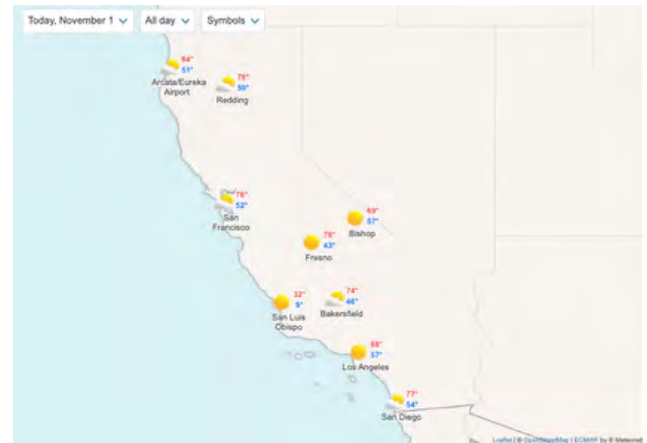
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Weather Updates



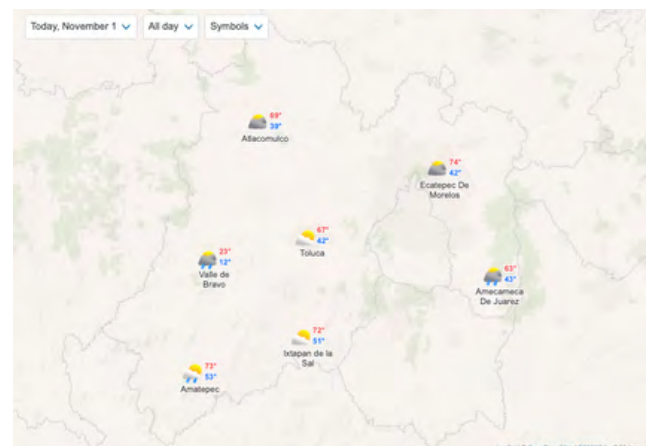
CALIFORNIA

As a result of high pressure and offshore winds, maximum temperatures are near to above average, while minimum temperatures are below average. There will be low 40s near the coast, upper 30s in Santa Clara Valley, and upper 20s to upper 30s in the southern Salinas Valley with near-freezing temperatures south of King City. Throughout the rest of the week, daytime highs will be in the upper 70s to mid 80s. Wednesday's offshore flow weakens and the marine layer returns, resulting in steadily warming overnight lows.



MEXICO

A few isolated showers will occur on Tuesday into Wednesday (rain totals are generally less than 0.10"), followed by drier weather by Thursday and Friday. As a cold front approaches the region, shower chances increase. The latter half of the week will bring cooler temperatures and dry northerlies. Some isolated patches of frost are possible in wind-sheltered areas on Thursday morning.



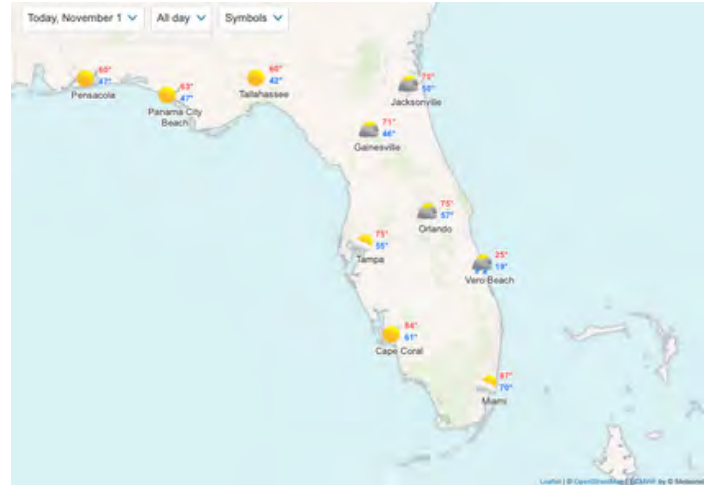
For more information: <https://www.ventusky.com/?p=31.4;-89.7;3&l=rain-3h>

Weather Updates



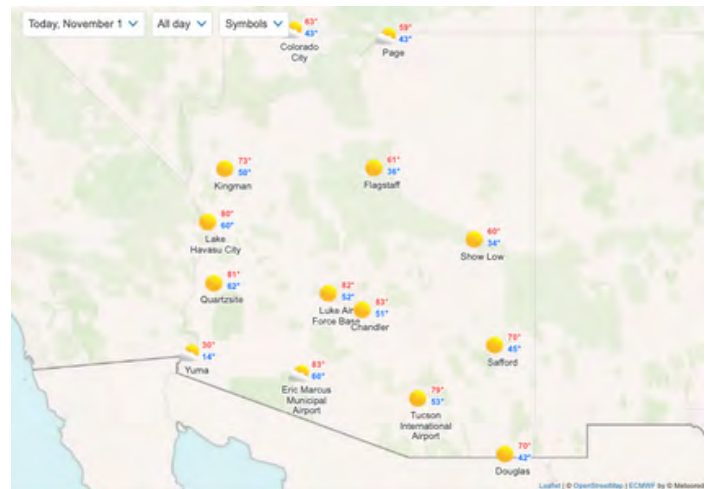
FLORIDA

On Monday and Tuesday, a cold front will move toward the region. Under high pressure, there will be much cooler temperatures in the latter half of this week, but shower activity will be limited.



ARIZONA

Strong northerly winds continued Monday with gusts of 25-30mph. The winds will subside Tuesday but remain gusty through midweek. It is possible that we will see the first dip in lettuce icing this season if overnight winds decrease enough on Monday. Overall, max temperatures will be below normal but will warm throughout the week with mid-70s to low-80s Monday and low-mid 80s by Thursday. The morning lows in most fields are in the 40s-low 50s Monday, then cool to 4-5 degrees Tuesday, before warming up again by Thu-Fri. Throughout the week, humidity levels will remain exceptionally low.



For more information: <https://www.ventusky.com/?p=31.4;-89.7;3&l=rain-3h>



Freight Updates

In Salinas, diminishing supplies are creating delays at the shipper, in some cases 8+ hours of dwell time are common. Yuma is slated to begin shipping in a light way next week, the 10th, with the transition set to last well into November. Be advised that multi-region loading may be needed to load out trucks. Plan your loadings to accommodate delivery to your dock, in advance.



U.S. On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices*(dollars per gallon)

[full history](#) [XLS](#)

	10/16/23	10/23/23	10/30/23	Change from	
				week ago	year ago
U.S.	4.444	4.545	4.454	↓ -0.091	↓ -0.863
East Coast (PADD1)	4.404	4.408	4.342	↓ -0.066	↓ -1.058
New England (PADD1A)	4.557	4.551	4.537	↓ -0.014	↓ -1.315
Central Atlantic (PADD1B)	4.672	4.668	4.633	↓ -0.035	↓ -1.244
Lower Atlantic (PADD1C)	4.290	4.299	4.217	↓ -0.082	↓ -0.966
Midwest (PADD2)	4.304	4.554	4.441	↓ -0.113	↓ -0.886
Gulf Coast (PADD3)	4.114	4.186	4.115	↓ -0.071	↓ -0.850
Rocky Mountain (PADD4)	4.664	4.754	4.650	↓ -0.104	↓ -0.652
West Coast (PADD5)	5.528	5.468	5.348	↓ -0.120	↓ -0.462
West Coast less California	5.010	4.988	4.873	↓ -0.115	↓ -0.551
California	6.119	6.016	5.890	↓ -0.126	↓ -0.364

*prices include all taxes

For more information: <https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>

Crop Insights



As we approach the transition from Central California to the Southwestern Desert regions of California and Arizona supplies look to remain fairly steady. The Huron region will continue to have production into mid-November adding to supplies. This region acts as a bridge for supplies during the transition. More growers are using the area this season due to the strong winter precipitation. This provides water that has been scarce in previous seasons due to the prolonged drought in California. Generally good size, weight, and quality are currently coming from Huron, however previous warm temperatures have caused an increase in insect activity and some seeders have shown up recently. This looks to continue as their short season winds down finishing around mid-November.

Yuma will begin light harvests next week with full production expected to come from the region in the 2nd week of November. Early reports expect a fairly smooth transition to these desert-growing regions. Lettuce and leafy green supplies traditionally begin with lighter carton weights due to lighter densities (puffy heads, light hearts) in these early fields. Very strong winds in the region the past couple of weeks will likely cause some wind and fringe burn as well as add a little dust to the leafy green crops as harvests begin.

As the Salinas season winds down the roller coaster in temperatures looks to continue. Cooler nights of late should help the overall texture and shelf life of leafy green products, especially tender spinach and spring mix items. Growers in the region have planted a bit of extra acreage for the transition and most indicate enough product for demand over the next week or so. Fringe burn, small seeders, and increased insect populations are the main problems growers are facing as the season quickly winds down.



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