

## ***Custom Produce Sales***

559-595-6000 Phone  
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### **Melon Summary**

Offshore melons will continue through the middle of May out of Guatemala depending on the weather. Mexican Cantaloupe from approved shippers will start in early April and will last with steady supplies through the end of May. Texas Honeydews will be the first domestic melons, starting in mid April.

Imperial Valley Cantaloupes should start May 8<sup>th</sup>, with Honeydews starting a week later. Yuma Cantaloupe will start in the middle of May, with Blythe and Central Arizona starting June 1<sup>st</sup>. Mixed Melons will also start in the middle of May with better supplies and more varieties starting June 1<sup>st</sup>. Custom Produce will have its first mixed melon pack available starting June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Bakersfield starts Cantaloupe on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The Westside District should start approximately July 1<sup>st</sup> through October 20<sup>th</sup>. Huron will start with Honeydews approximately July 1<sup>st</sup>, and Westside/Turlock district will begin mid July. The Sacramento Valley will open with Honeydews August 1<sup>st</sup> and continue through the mid November. Mixed melons will be done by October 7<sup>th</sup>.

The desert will start back up October 1<sup>st</sup> on Cantaloupe and October 15<sup>th</sup> on Honeydew and should continue through November, weather permitting.

Mexico will start again mid November, with Guatemala starting again December 1<sup>st</sup>, as the cycle repeats itself.

Mixed Melon varieties are as follows: Casaba, Crenshaw, Juan Canary, Santa Claus, Galia, Persian, and Orange Flesh.

“Extended life” or Hybrid variety Cantaloupe will start June 1<sup>st</sup> with steady supplies into October. Organic Cantaloupe will start July 1<sup>st</sup> also going into October. All these melons will be consolidated at our new Parlier facility.

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### **Grape Summary**

The last day for Chilean grapes to arrive in the U.S. is April 10<sup>th</sup>. We will have storage grapes available until mid May, consisting mainly of Crimson Seedless, Red Globes, and a few Thompson. Limited supplies of Snack Pack grapes will also be available.

The Mexican grape season will begin the 2nd week of May. The first variety will be Perlettes (Green Seedless). Flame Seedless (Reds) will start about five days later. The next Green Seedless variety is Sugarones. They will be available by the end of May. Thompson Seedless will begin the beginning of June. Red Globes will be available the first week of June.

At this time it looks as though the grape crop will be very light through the month of May, with the volume coming in June.

The California (Coachella Valley) grape season will begin the 2nd week of May. Perlettes will be the first variety to be harvested with Flame Seedless to follow approximately five days later. Thompson Seedless and Superior Seedless will start production at the end of May.

We will harvest Snack Packs out of both of these districts. Both districts will finish harvesting all varieties by the end of June.

The grape harvest from the San Joaquin Valley will start the week of July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The first variety will be Perlettes, with Flame Seedless starting a few days later. Thompson Seedless will start about two weeks later. Flame Seedless will be the predominate Red Seedless variety until the beginning of September. The next Red Seedless varieties will be Ruby Seedless, Crimsons and Scarlet Royal

We will start packing Red Globes by the end of July and will have supplies available until the end of November, possibly going into December.

Snack Packs will be harvested from this area by mid July with steady supplies going until January.

We will have Champagne grapes starting by mid July with availability until mid September.

Black Seedless will start mid July with supplies available until the end of November.

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## **Citrus Summary**

### **NAVELS**

November-May/June  
Offshore Navels July – September  
(Need to pre-book supplies on offshore)

### **CARA CARA NAVELS**

December – March

### **VALENCIA**

March-October  
District I March – September/October  
District II March-May

### **LEMONS**

Year Round  
District I December-April  
District II March-August  
District III September- March  
  
Meyer Lemons December – May

### **GRAPEFRUIT**

Year Round

### **BLOOD ORANGES**

January – March

### **CLEMENTINES**

November – March

### **SATSUMAS**

November – January

### **MINNEOLAS**

January – March  
District I January-April  
District III December-February

### **LIMES**

Year Round

### **PUMMELO**

November – February

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## Tree Fruit Summary

### California

#### Arvin

**Normal start dates:**

**Peaches:** April, 15<sup>th</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup>

**Nectarines:** April 25 to May 1

**Apricots:** End of April to May 5

**Plums:** May 15<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>

#### Central Valley

**Peaches:** May 1

**Nectarine:** May 15<sup>th</sup>

**Plums:** May 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>

**Apricots:** May 15<sup>th</sup>, Pattersons: June 5-10<sup>th</sup>

**White Peaches:** May 15<sup>th</sup>

**White Nectarines:** June 1<sup>st</sup>

**Asian Pears:** July 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 5<sup>th</sup>

**Pluots:** June 1, Dapple Dandy: July 25<sup>th</sup>-

**Doughnut Peaches:** June 10-20<sup>th</sup>

**Prunes - Tulare Giant:** July 4, followed by **Sugar and Moyer**

#### Apples

**Gala:** July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Grannysmith:** Aug 25<sup>th</sup>

**Fuji:** Sept 20<sup>th</sup>

**Pink Lady:** Oct 15<sup>th</sup>

**Kiwifruit California:** August 25<sup>th</sup>/Sept

**Kiwifruit Chilean:** End of March /April

#### Cherries

**Brooks:** April 24<sup>th</sup>

**Tulare:** April 28-May 4<sup>th</sup>

**Bings:** May 12-15<sup>th</sup>

#### Blueberries

**California:**

Arvin last week in April first May

Central Valley May-July

#### Pears

**Sunsprites:** June 24

**Bartletts:** July 15<sup>th</sup>

**Bosc Pears:** July 28<sup>th</sup>

**Red Pears:** July 4<sup>th</sup>

**Asian Pears:** Calif July 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Figs

**Black Mission 1<sup>st</sup> crop:** May 20- June 1<sup>st</sup>

**Black Mission 2<sup>nd</sup> crop:** August 1<sup>st</sup>

**Kadota (Green):** July 15<sup>th</sup>

**Calmyrna (White):** July 20<sup>th</sup>

**Brown Turkey:** July 15<sup>th</sup>

#### Misc

**Pomegranate:** Aug 15 Bakersfield

**Pomegranate:** Aug 30 Central Valley

**Quince:** Aug 30<sup>th</sup>/Sept 5<sup>th</sup>

**Persimmons Hachiya:** Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, some shippers could push the pack up earlier.

**Persimmons Fuyu:** Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Pineapple** Year round various countries

**Raniers:** May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Wash Bings:** June 11<sup>th</sup>

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### Vegetable Summary

#### GREEN BELL PEPPER

April	Desert/Nogales
May	Desert
June	Desert/ Central Valley
July – Oct	Central Valley/Central Coast
November	Desert/Baja
December	Desert/Nogales
Jan – March	Nogales

#### RED & YELLOW BELL PEPPER

April	Baja/Nogales
May	Desert/Baja
June	Desert
July	Central Valley/Central Coast
Aug – Oct	Central Coast
November	Desert/Baja
December	Baja/Nogales
Jan – March	Nogales

#### ZUCCHINI & YELLOW SQUASH

April	Baja/Desert/Central Valley
May	Baja/Central Valley
June	Central Valley/Central Coast
July – Aug	Central Coast
September	Central Valley/Central Coast
October	Central Valley/Central Coast/Nog
November	Baja/Nogales
Dec – March	Nogales

#### HARD SQUASH

April	Nogales
May	N/A
June – Nov	Central Valley
Dec – March	Nogales

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#### CUCUMBER

April	Nogales
March – Sept	Baja/Central Valley
Oct - Nov	Baja/Nogales
Dec – March	Nogales

#### CHILI PEPPER

April	Nogales
May – June	Central Valley
July	Central Valley/Central Coast
August	Central Coast
September	Baja/Central Coast
Oct – Nov	Baja
Dec – March	Nogales

#### EGGPLANT

April	Nogales
May	Desert
June	Desert/Central Valley
July – Sept	Central Valley
October	Central Valley/Desert
November	Desert
Dec – March	Nogales

#### GREEN BEANS

April	Nogales/ Desert
May	Desert
June	Central Valley
July – Aug	Central Valley/Central Coast
September	Central Coast
October	Central Coast/Desert
November	Desert
Dec – March	Nogales

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### **Watermelon Summary**

**April:** Honduras, Costa Rica, and Panama will be finishing with offshore fruit. Florida will go into production and Southern Mexico will begin to wrap up. Mid April thru June we will have supplies of fruit from Northern Mexico. It looks as though production from this region should be similar to last year.

**May:** Florida and Texas will be in peak production. Imperial Valley in Southern California will run from May through the end of June. Yuma, AZ will start towards the end of May, finishing the first week in July. While there are several reports of growers reducing acreage, it seems that others are increasing creating a balance. All project finishing around the first week of July.

**June:** Georgia, South Carolina, and Missouri begin this month, supplying the East. Phoenix will kick in around the 10<sup>th</sup>, followed closely by Bakersfield, CA. Mexican supplies will all but disappear until late October.

**July:** Florida will be finishing off their spring run. Indiana and Virginia will come into play while Missouri and North Carolina will be in peak production. Texas, Georgia, Arizona and South Carolina should have good supplies. Central California will have product from Huron to Sacramento with supplies continuing into October. Oregon and Washington will also have product available.

**August:** We will see most of all shippers in the East finishing during this month, leaving Texas as a main supply and making way for New Mexico to come in. Arizona should continue to produce fruit well into November.

**September:** Texas and New Mexico productivity decline around mid to late September. Central California should still be in good supplies.

**October:** Florida will start to produce their fall crop as Texas and New Mexico slow. California will be finishing. We will also start to see some fruit from Northern Mexico begin to show up late in the month.

**November:** Florida will have very limited supplies into December. Texas, New Mexico and Arizona will finish. Northern Mexico will become primary source of supplies.

**December:** Northern Mexico will be the primary source of supplies. We will start to see offshore fruit from Honduras arrive around this time.

**January:** Costa Rica will begin adding to offshore supplies of fruit.

**February:** Southern Mexico will begin to produce as Northern Mexico finishes. Honduras will go into heavy production and Panama will add to offshore supplies.

**March:** Southern Mexico will be in full swing along with Honduras, Costa Rica, and Panama.

#### **Mini Watermelon**

Progress has been made in the last few years on the availability of supplies for the mini watermelon. Several growing regions have been added and acreage has increased with new labels, this increased competition will benefit the end user. The farming season is almost identical to the conventional watermelon in the same region.

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### **Onion Summary**

The Northwest storage deal is finishing strong, with high FOB pricing on all sizes, especially Whites. We are in a “wait and see” situation for the coming year. History has shown that after strong years extra acreage gets planted. However, there is not too much more ground available even if they want to do more. The normal intangible factors will always threaten the market – Crop failure/Typhoon in Asia to increase export demand, and poor weather like we had this year.

Imperial is off around a thousand acres – no help there. This should keep the market strong and high. Poor quality lower pricing last year, but all weather and related factors point to a pretty good quality harvest, unless something unforeseen occurs.

Central California, Bakersfield, and Lancaster are as far as reported look about the same as last year. By the time they get going, we will have a good idea of what to expect from the Northwest. Could go either way at this time, depending on what our neighbors to the north do . . .

For now, Northern Mexico and Texas are reporting to be off as much as 25 to 40% in acreage, and combined with some early harvesting put into carton as sweets, they further depleted the Spanish volume. As of now, Whites are extremely expensive, red prices have more than doubled in the last week and a half, and yellows have moved up considerably.

Early half of New Mexico deal will be off due to rain damage during early planting. Acreage is off somewhat, and the later deal could be better if transplanting and other options take place.

Offshore onions have been sporadic, sweets still commanding good pricing . . . when they arrive. There are some importers and shippers trying to bring in South American and New Zealand onions, but no firm arrival dates yet.

Canada played an interesting role this year, with an extended shipping deal out of storage that even at this late date is affecting pricing on medium yellows. They helped keep the yellow market somewhat more stable, and possibly do the same this year. But this, again, is contingent on what happens in the Northwest and Asia, as I mentioned earlier.

Our famous Fresno Italian Sweet onions will start approximately May 15, and we have secured some extra volume. **BOOK AHEAD!**

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### **Corn Summary**

The California corn season get's underway around the first of April in the California desert. The season will run for approximately two to three months before it gives way to California's Westside district which starts around the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. All three varieties (yellow, white, and bi-color) will be packed and shipped in the desert and Westside. The Westside will come to a close in October with some shippers packing into early November. Weather permitting. During the fall corn heads back to the California desert and finishes in December.

During the winter time corn is brought up from Mexico and is shipped out of Nogales, Az. Most shippers carry both yellow and white with bi-color being in limited supply. This season will go into May as we start the cycle all over again with the California desert beginning their harvest.

California Desert—Spring time April-June

California Westside—Summer time/early Fall June-November

California Desert—Fall/early Winter October-December

Nogales, AZ—Winter/early Spring December-May

### **Mixed Melon Summary**

The mixed melon season will start in mid to late May to early June out of the Yuma/Desert Area.

The French Kiss variety will be only grown out of the Desert Area.

Also in the Desert Area will be Orange Flesh Honeydew, Juan Canary and Crenshaw melons.

As the season moves up to the Central Valley we will see more varieties such as Casaba, Galia, Persian, Santa Claus and Sharlyn.

Even with California's current water problems, mixed melons should be available through mid to late October. We don't see any production decreases and we are looking forward to another successful mixed melon season.

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### **Potatoes Summary**

California potatoes are available beginning in March from southern California, moving to the Bakersfield/Arvin area in late April and May, then finishing in the Stockton area in the summer months of July and August. From late August through April, product is consolidated from other growing regions in the United States.

California Russets are available June 15 through August from Bakersfield.

Kennebec potatoes are available in limited supplies from June through September.

Fingerlings are a year-round item out of California, but supplies can be sporadic as they are susceptible to freeze damage, check on situation during cold weather.

### **Chile Pepper and Tomatillo Summary**

All varieties of Chili Peppers and Tomatillo's are available year round from Custom Produce Sales. For the West Coast, there are two basic regions/time frames from which supplies are acquired. From around May 1 through the first freeze (around October, early November) these items are available from California. Beginning in southern California, there are deals maturing during through spring and summer in the coastal areas of Santa Maria, Salinas, also in Bakersfield and advancing north through the valley up to the Stockton area. The San Joaquin Valley can be subject to extreme heat, which can bring on maturity early or delay it, extend a growing season, or end a region's production in very short notice. We keep a monitor these items closely to ensure supply, accurate pricing and market information.

After the first California freeze in the fall, until April/May, Mexico will be the prime supplier.

Supplies of local and home-grown areas from the Southeast US, i.e. Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas will affect the seasonal supply and demand.

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