

### New Year Delivery Schedule

West Central will be **closed Friday 01/01** in observance of the New Year holiday. Customer Service will be available starting in the afternoon of the 1<sup>st</sup> to take orders for Saturday 01/02.

Orders for Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> can also be placed ahead of time on Thursday the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please order any specialty holiday items as far in advance as possible. If you have questions or need special arrangements, please reach out to your account executive.

### Bad News

- **Watermelons** – Price and quality are way off. Avoid if possible. Relief expected mid-January.
- **Squash Blossoms** – Currently unavailable. All local growing regions are too cold and wet. Waiting for MX to begin sometime in January.
- **Tomatoes** – Market has become more active due to plague in FL wiping out a lot of crops. Relief expected mid-January when Nogales starts.
- **Leaf Items** – Frost and freezing temperatures are affecting quality and harvesting as crews are delayed. Relief is still expected mid-January. **(Photos at end of report)**

### Amenity List

Item# 541 Bing Cherries (Chile)  
**Item# 545 Rainier Cherries (Chile)**  
 Item# 23885 Satsuma Tangerines (Stem & Leaf)  
**Item# 2846 Clementine Tangerines**  
 Item# 23828 Tree Ripe Tangerines (Farmers Market)  
**Item# 1874 Blood Oranges**  
 Item# 5240 & 6021 (FM) Cara Cara Oranges  
**Item# 6620 Green Dragon Apples (125 ct)**  
 Item# 19 Baby Gala Apples  
**Item# 3284 Baby Granny Smith Apples**  
 Item# 26561 Sunset Apples (Farmers Market)  
**Item# 2219 Forelle Pears**  
 Item# 2228 Seckle Pears  
**Item# 305 Cape Gooseberries (Limited)**  
 Item# 5797 Red Cactus Pears  
**Item# 3468 Baby Pineapples South African**  
 Item# 6376 Dragon Fruit (Pitihaya)

### Featured Product

#### County Line Harvest, Endive Chicory Mix Item# 5976, 5# Case

Mix consists of:

Treviso  
 Castel Franco  
 Chioggia Variegata  
 Escarole  
 Pan di Zucchero  
 Rossa di Verona



## Market Overview

### Avocadoes

Seeing improvement now as the market and supply has stabilized. Best deals are on 48 ct. #2 fruit is limited.

### Artichokes

Supply is tight overall with 18 count product being extremely scarce. Prices continue to be high.

### Sunchokes

Supply is currently very steady.

### Asparagus

**Conventional** – Supplies are limited from MX and Peru. All sizes are available but prices are firm.

**White (Peru)** – Product available. Item# 117.

### Brussel Sprouts

*Prices are at extreme levels, especially on X-Fancy. Prices will hold at higher levels due to Holiday demand.*

### Cauliflower, Celery, Broccolini

*Extreme market! Quality is low and prices are very high. Some relief expected mid-December.*

### Citrus

**Lemons** – Prices have eased to more normal levels.

**Limes** – Prices are back to normal levels.

**Blood Oranges** – CA product available, excellent quality!

**Cara Cara Oranges** – CA product available, excellent quality!

**Kumquats** – Product on hand. Color is light and flavor is fair.

**Grapefruit** – CA Ruby Red product is now being shipped. Color may be lighter but quality is good.

**Local Oro Blanco** – Conventional and Farmers Market product available from Bernard Ranch and Polito.

**Melogold** – Cross between Pummelo and Grapefruit; soft rind with sweet flesh. Item# 26577, 23 ct case.

**Local Valencia's** – JJ Lone Daughter product is in house and is fantastic for juicing. Item# 5710, 40# case.

**Navels** – Texas product on hand.

**Pumelo** – Conventional product on hand.

**Tree Ripe Tangerines** – Rieger Farms product on hand. Easy to peel and very tangy/sweet. Item# 23828.

**Satsuma & Clementine** – CA product on hand.

### Leaf Items

**Napa Cabbage** – Prices are holding at higher levels though supply has improved.

**Arugula** – Limited as weather is affecting quality.

**Spinach** – Supply and quality improving as weather cools.

**Bloomsdale/Savoy** – *Currently N/A due to freezing temps. Will sub item# 5352 Savoy Baby Spinach if possible.*

**Spring Mix/Mesclun** – Supply has somewhat improved.

**Iceberg** – Prices have eased but quality may be off due to freezing at night.

**Green/Red Leaf** – Quality may be off with freezing temps in growing regions.

**Butter** – Supply is slightly better but the market is still very high.

**Romaine/Hearts** – Romaine Hearts from all labels will be short. We will sub accordingly. Prices are very high.

**Kale** – Supply is improving with cooler temperatures.

### Figs

Black Mission and Brown Turkey available. Tiger Stripe are N/A. Quality is off.

## Peas & Beans

**Sugar Snap & Snow** – Prices are holding at higher levels.

**Garbanzo Beans** – Fresh product is on hand.

**English Peas** – Gapping right now. Shelled product is available at a premium, item# 7603.

**Cranberry Beans** – Fresh product is currently N/A.

**Pea Tendrils** – Conventional product available.

**Fava Beans** – Currently N/A.

**Blue Lake** – Prices are holding at lower levels and quality is good.

## Melons

**Hon/Cant** – Off shore fruit will be starting up. Small sizes will be N/A, only Larger (9 ct). Price and Quality are off.

**Heirloom Melons** – Summer/Sugar are done for the season. Tuscan melons start around January.

**Watermelon** – **Prices and quality are way off. Very poor product over the next couple of weeks.**

**Yellow Watermelon** – Done for the season.

**Pineapple** – Supply is still on the slower side though quality has been good on Dole label.

## Cucumbers

**Standard** – Quality is good and prices are holding at lower levels.

**English/Hot House** – Prices are holding at lower levels.

## Garlic

*Prices have normalized somewhat but supply is still tight.*

## Ginger

Prices and supply have returned to normal levels.

## Peppers

**Bells** – Red and Yellow are way up in price. **Green are a better option for the time being.**

**Red Fresno** – Supply is steady but the market has firmed. Prices are up.

**Habanero** – Same as Fresno; prices are up and supply is limited.

**Red Thai** – N/A for this week.

**Padron** – Currently N/A.

## Tomatoes

**Slicing/Romas** – Very high market on both with large sizes (4x4/4x5) very scarce. FL crop loss is strengthening the market out West.

**Local Beefsteaks** – Plenty of product on hand from Valdivia. Large size. Item# 5414, 10# case.

**Grape & Cherry** – Price is comparable on both for this week. Overall poor market this time of year.

**Large and Small Heirlooms** – Some large Valdivia product under the CALIF sku. Quality is hit or miss.

**Teardrop** – Supply is still very short and prices are up. **Grape/Cherry are better buys right now.**

## Mushrooms

**Gold Chanterelles** – Currently unavailable.

**Black Trumpets** – Unavailable right now.

**Hedgehogs** – Available out of Oregon this week. Best option for specialty. Item# 1615.

**Porcini** – Currently unavailable.

**Matsutake** – Currently unavailable.

**Blue Chanterelles** – N/A this week. Item# 6199 (pre-order).

**White Chanterelles** – N/A this week. Special order only.

**Lobsters** – N/A at this time. Item# 1618.

## Berries

**Straws** – Major quality issues; subbing for best quality. Prices will remain at higher levels through December.

**Black** – Demand is exceeding supply on all CA growing regions. Better option than Blues/Straws.

**Blues** – Prices are at extreme levels. Offshore and Domestic supply is very limited.

**Ras** – Prices have eased somewhat but market is still strong as folks are avoiding Blues/Straws.

## Squash

**Delicata Squash** – Tamai Farms product on hand; excellent quality. Item# 23072, per/lb.

**Baby Summer Squash** – Product is very limited. What's available is only fair quality.

**Yellow Squash & Zucchini** – CA and Baja supply is tight right now.

**Acorn, Butternut, Spaghetti** – Good supply on CA product.

**Blossoms** – Cold weather has halted local production. Waiting to see when MX will have product ready.

## Romanesco

Product available and quality is good.

## Herbs

Prices have eased considerably, though still high, on chervil, tarragon, lemon thyme, chives. Will continue to ease as weather cools.

## Field photos from So Cal desert and AZ

