Information courtesy of 4Earth Farms, Markon’s exclusive partner for specialty produce.

**Specialty PRODUCE REPORT**

**LATE DECEMBER 2017**

**Featured Items**

**Buddha’s Hands** – Buddha’s Hands are ornamental fingered citron prized for their thick, lemon-scented skins. About twice the size of large lemons, the zest of Buddha’s Hands can be substituted for lemon zest in salad dressings, marmalades, and cheesecakes. Use to balance the richness of bone marrow, foie gras, and short ribs, or to garnish buffets and dessert platters. In season most of the year, they’re packed in one- and five-pound boxes.

**Gai Lan** – Also known as Chinese broccoli, gai lan has flat, blue-green leaves, thick stems, and broccoli-like flowery tops that are edible. Its flavor is sweet, with a hint of bitterness. Popular in stir-fries and broth-based soups, gai lan is compatible with ginger, garlic, and soy sauce. It pairs well with beef, pork, and tofu and can be substituted for spinach, cabbage, or broccoli. Available year-round, gai lan is typically shipped in 10-pound cartons.

**Oro Blancos** – Hybrids of white grapefruits and pummelos, oro blancos have light green skins, thick white pith, and pale flesh with sweet and citrus-y sour flavor. Easy-to-peel, with very few (if any) seeds, oro blancos are ideal in green, fruit, and mayonnaise-based salads. They pair well with avocados, ceviche, crab, jicama, and leafy greens. In season through April, oro blancos are typically packed in 18- to 23-count cartons.

**Updates**

**In Season** – Cara Cara oranges (20-lb. pack), blood oranges (10- and 20-lb. flats), baby beets (24-ct. box), cooked beets (10/1-lb. packs), Romanescos (9- and 24-ct. cartons), Kohlrabi (12-ct. box), Brussels sprouts (3/2- and 25-lb. packs), Meyer lemons (10-, 20-, and 40-lb. boxes), peeled black garlic (1-lb. flat), yuzu (10-lb. pack), gold kiwifruits (27- to 33-ct. cartons), Hachiya persimmons (1-layer flat), finger limes (8-oz. clamshells), melo golds (18- to 23-ct. flats), sunchokes (10- and 20-lb. packs), mango steens (15-lb. carton), imported cherries (11-lb. pack), and kumquats (5- and 10-lb. packs).

**Tight Stocks** – Castelfranco (6- and 8-ct. flats), pomegranates (2-layer pack), Kumato and yellow tomatoes (10-lb. box), Fava beans (10- and 25-lb. packs), figs (12-pint cartons), cherimoyas (10-lb. pack), purple/white asparagus (11-lb. carton), sea beans (5-lb. flat), French/yellow wax beans (10-lb. carton), pluots (2-layer pack), baby squashess (5- and 10-lb. boxes), Habanero chile peppers (10-lb. flat), Thai coconuts (9-ct. pack), baby bok choy (10- and 30-lb. boxes), rambutans (5-lb. carton), feijoas (30- to 39-ct. flats), jack fruits (40-lb. carton), artichokes (all sizes), domestic black truffles (by the lb.), Satsuma tangerines (28-lb. box), black radishes (10- and 25-lb. packs), quinces (2-layer box), mini sweet peppers (12/1-lb. cartons), Fuyu persimmons (1-layer pack), English peas (10- and 25-lb. cartons), Porcini mushrooms (1- and 5-lb. boxes), purple wax beans (10-lb. flat), rapini (20-lb. box), sweet limes (40-lb. pack), sapotes (10-lb. box), imported rhubarb (13-lb. pack), chestnuts (5- and 25-lb. cartons), passion fruits (1-layer flats), dragon fruits (9- and 10-lb. cartons), heirloom tomatoes (10-lb. box), heirloom cherry tomatoes (8/1- and 12-ct pints), and Romano beans (10-lb. pack).

**Season Ended** – Cocktail grapefruits (1-layer box), green olives (16-lb. pack), and Ghost chiles (8/5-gram flats).

**Coming Soon** – Mandarinquats (10-lb. pack) and Chilean stone fruit (various sizes).

* Please check with your sales representative for lead times.

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Who needs meat when you can stack these savory grilled tofu squares with sauteed gai lan, bok choy, and bell peppers?