

CONFIDENCE
IN EVERY CASE.



Highlights

- Markon First Crop® (MFC) Premium Romaine weights are higher on average than the rest of the industry (36 to 39 pounds compared with 34 to 37 pounds).
- California's Salinas Valley experienced late-season rain and above-normal temperatures in mid- to late May. Quality issues such as internal burn and mildew pressure in lettuce items have gone from intermittent to widespread throughout the industry.
- Prices for 40- to 70-count potatoes are rising as the crop is dominated by smaller sizes. New crop Norkotahs will be available in late July/early August, depending on weather.

Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2020

Ask a Markon Chef

Markon has gathered a group of our member- and grower-affiliated chefs to answer your questions about produce.

Ask us your most challenging cooking inquiries online >

FEATURED QUESTION

Q: What veg-centric dishes do you offer to counter traditionally meat-focused Father's Day menus?

A: Veg-centric doesn't always mean no protein, so I always try to offer a great vegetarian center of the plate accompanied by a smaller portion of protein.

- Try serving chimichurri cauliflower over fried Brussels sprouts with beef medallions and cognac sauce on the side.
- Another dish I offer is glazed colored carrots served on top of stir-fried kale with a slow-cooked, thinly sliced beef brisket.
- Mushrooms mimic the umami flavors of meat. Use them with toothsome gnocchi and the bright contrast of bitter arugula and sweet tomatoes.

*Chef Stephane Renaud,
Markon member chef*



Menu Feature

Every chef needs a few solid recipes in his or her repertoire. That's why Markon has put together a catalog of fresh produce-based recipes that cover it all: day- and menu-parts, the range of seasons, a variety of cuisines, and a diverse list of ingredients.



Charred Eggplant with Shredded Salad

These sweet, yet smoky eggplant wedges are topped with tangy goat cheese, crunchy lettuces, and pine nuts.

Get the full recipe >

Tips for Serving Sweet Baby Broccoli

- Use raw and cooked, as a stand-alone side dish and an ingredient in any number of recipes including salads, soups, pizza, pasta, and stir-fries.
- Perfect as an ingredient in almost any dish or serve blanched as a unique crudite.
- Brush with olive oil and salt/pepper before cooking to add flavor to any side dish or roasted vegetable medley.
- Offer a veg-centric appetizer of raw jicama sticks, sliced mango, and steamed MFC Sweet Baby Broccoli tossed in spicy Thai peanut sauce.



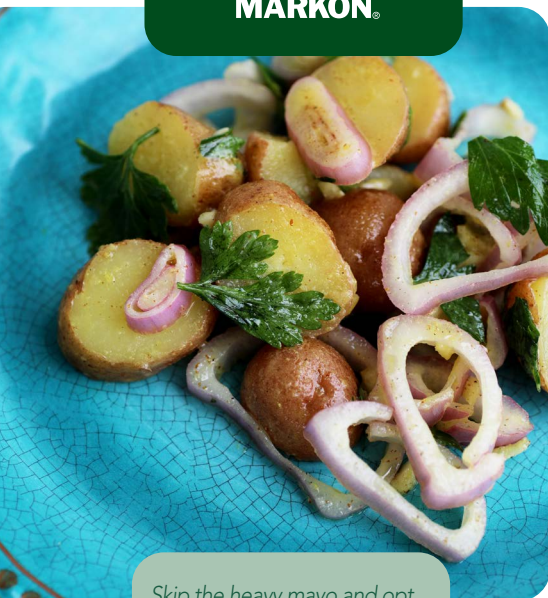
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Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2020



Skip the heavy mayo and opt for a light, citrus-y salad made with tender potatoes and zesty shallots. Ideal for both dine-in and delivery.

Produce Highlights

Bell Peppers

- Green bell prices are rising; supplies are tightening as the crop transitions to new regions.
- Red bell markets expected to hold steady.

Onions

- The South Texas season ends this week; packer label onions will be available in Uvalde, Texas through June 13.
- Limited quantities of MFC Onions are on the market from New Mexico; supplies are increasing.

Tomatoes

- Growers are transitioning to new growing regions; vine-ripe supplies are tightening.
- Expect higher prices for the next two weeks.

Apples



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MI	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
WA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The majority of markets are stable, but prices for 56- through 72-count packs are slightly higher than for smaller sizes. The Michigan season has officially ended, but limited quantities of 72- to 125-count sizes remain available. Washington MFC Braeburn, Gala, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious Apples are available; Fuji and Golden Delicious are scarce. Specialty varieties like Autumn Glory, Braeburn, and Honeycrisp are also on the market. Sugar levels range from 14 to 18 Brix.

Asparagus



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MI	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
PERU	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
WA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is inching down; stocks are increasing on the West Coast. Limited Peruvian supplies are also on the market. Quality is very good: spears are straight and firm with grassy flavor. MFC Asparagus is available.

Avocados



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are level; 48-count and larger sizes are ample. Quality is very good. Ready-Set-Serve® (RSS) Avocado Chunks, Halves, Pico de Gallo Guacamole, and Pure Pulp available.

Bells: Green



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
GA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is rising; supplies are tightening as the crop transition to new growing regions. Quality is very good: skins are smooth and flavor is zesty. MFC and Markon Essentials® (ESS) Green Bell Peppers are available.

Bells: Red and Yellow



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
GA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are easing; California stocks are increasing. Overall quality is very good: skins are smooth, color is vibrant, and flavor is mildly sweet. MFC and ESS Red Bell Peppers are available.

Blackberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is unchanged; volume is average. Quality is very good: color is deep indigo and flavor is mildly floral and sweet. Sugar levels range from 12 to 13 Brix.

Blueberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
GA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are steady; supplies are sufficient. Quality is very good: berries are plump and flavorful. Sugar levels range from 12 to 16 Brix.

Broccoli



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is climbing. California stocks are tight due to abnormal temperature swings and fewer plantings back in March. Mexican supplies (into McAllen, Texas) are also on the market, but inconsistent due to rain in the central part of the country. Quality is average: issues include hollow core, pin rot, and oversize crowns. MFC Broccoli Crowns are available.



Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2020

Cantaloupe



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are inching down; 12- and 15-count supplies are tightening, while 6- and 9-count stocks are increasing. Quality is very good: sugar levels range from 12 to 13 Brix. Domestic MFC Cantaloupe Melons are available.

Cauliflower



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is up. California stocks are limited due to abnormal temperatures swings and fewer plantings in March. Mexican volume is low due to rain. ESS Cauliflower is available.

Celery



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are easing; expect high California volume through June. The Salinas Valley season has started; supplies are being harvested in Oxnard and Santa Maria as well. MFC Celery is available.

Cucumbers



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/AZ	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is unchanged; stocks are sufficient on both coasts. Quality is very good: skins are smooth and flavor is refreshing. MFC Cucumbers are available.

Grapes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are stable; Mexican stocks are being shipped. Quality is very good. MFC Lunch Bunch Grapes and Grape Escape stemless supplies are available.

Green Leaf/Variety Lettuce



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is low; supplies are plentiful. Quality is very good: weights are high. MFC Premium Green Leaf Lettuce is available.

Honeydew



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are steady to slightly lower than last week. California stocks are slowly ramping up, while the Mexican season is in full swing. Quality is very good: sugar levels range from 11 to 13 Brix. Domestic MFC Honeydew Melons are available.

Iceberg Lettuce



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is gradually rising. The California heat spike and an upcoming cooling trend are affecting quality. Issues include growth cracks, internal burn, mildew, seeder, and tip burn. MFC Premium Iceberg Lettuce is available.

Lemons



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are level; California fruit is ample. Quality is very good: flavor is pleasantly sour. MFC and ESS Lemons are available.

Limes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX/TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is weak; Mexican supplies are abundant. Quality is very good: fruit is juicy with complex, sour flavor and smooth skins. MFC and ESS Limes are on the market.

Onions



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
ID	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
NM	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
OR	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
UT	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
WA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Limited quantities of MFC Onions are on the market from New Mexico; supplies are increasing. California's Central Valley growers will begin shipping this week. The South Texas season ends next week; packer label onions will be available in Uvalde, Texas through June 13. New crop quality is excellent: fresh-run onions have feathery skins and light color. MFC Red and Yellow Onions are on the market.

Oranges



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is starting to inch down. The new crop Valencia supplies are dominated by 88-count and larger sizes. Quality is very good: sugar levels range from 12 to 14 Brix. MFC and ESS Valencia Oranges are on the market.

Pears



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
WA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Washington MFC D'Anjou Pears are available. California Bartletts will hit the market in mid-July. The Washington Bartlett season will begin in August, with D'Anjou production following in mid-September.

Pineapple



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CR	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are level. Quality is excellent: sugar levels are, on average, above 13 Brix.



Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF JUNE 7, 2020

Potatoes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CO	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
ID	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
OR	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
WA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
WI	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Markets for 40- to 70-count potatoes are rising as the crop is dominated by smaller sizes. New crop Norkotahs will be available in late July/early August, depending on weather. MFC Burbank Potatoes are the main variety being shipped, although a limited number of Norkotahs remain available.

Raspberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are low; supplies are ample. Quality is very good: berries are plump and sweet. Sugar levels range from 13 to 14 Brix.

Romaine



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is low; stocks are abundant. Quality is very good: weights are high. MFC Premium Romaine Lettuce is available.

Salads & Blends



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are level. The California heat spike and an upcoming cooling trend are affecting iceberg quality. Issues include growth cracks, internal burn, mildew, seeder, and tip burn. Markon inspectors are closely monitoring finished cartons to achieve the best packs.

Spring Mix



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is unchanged; California supplies are plentiful. Quality is very good. RSS Conventional and Organic Spring Mixes are available.

Squash



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are steady; volume is average on both coasts. Quality is very good: scarring and softness are minor issues. MFC Yellow Squash and Zucchini are available.

Strawberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is weak; Santa Maria production is past its peak, but Salinas/Watsonville stocks are ample. Quality is very good: growers are culling any heat-damaged berries. MFC Strawberries are available.

Tomatoes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

Expect higher prices for the next two weeks. Growers are transitioning to new growing regions; vine-ripe supplies are tightening. Mexico's Sinaloa and Sonora seasons will wind down over the next few weeks; Baja, Central Mexico, Jalisco, and Michoacan will not see significant round tomato volume until mid-June. Baja is the primary growing region for the Roma variety; supplies are average, but demand has increased. Overall quality is very good.

Tree Fruit



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

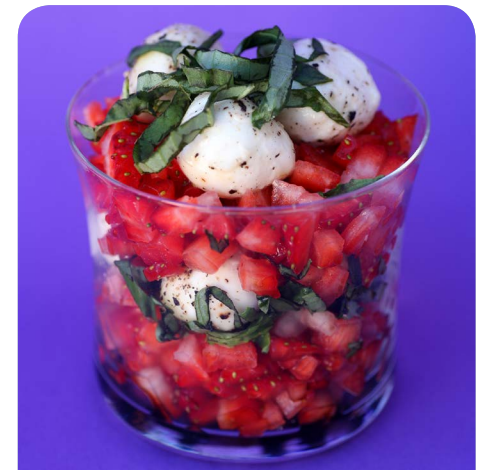
Peaches and nectarines are on the market. Quality is very good: sugar levels range from 10 to 12 Brix. California-grown plums will become available next week; sugar levels are expected to range from 12 to 14 Brix.

Watermelon



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
FL	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/AZ	^^^	*****	\$\$\$
TX	^^^	*****	\$\$\$

The market is stable despite tight domestic and Mexican supplies. Quality is very good: color is deep red, texture is firm, and flavor is sweet.



READY-SET-SERVE
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