

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 30 to 37 pounds).
- The Chilean tree fruit season has ended. The new crop California harvesting is now underway. Apricots, cherries, nectarines, and peaches are limited but will increase through May.
- The California Navel orange season is ending. The Valencia harvest is underway; volume will rise over the next two weeks and continue through October.

Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF MAY 1, 2022 | CANADIAN EDITION

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: Mother's Day is the biggest foodservice holiday of the year. What do you recommend for lunch/brunch?

A: I am a big fan of a local dish here in Canada, breakfast poutines. It combines traditional breakfast ingredients as a play on French Canadian poutine with fresh produce like baby spinach and arugula in hip and trend-setting ways. The key is to use quality ingredients, prepare them simply, and execute at a very high level to create an elevated brunch experience in a fun, casual environment.

- Be sure to stock up on fresh berries for pancakes, waffles, oatmeal, tarts, mimosas, and cocktails.
- Seasonal spring items are also a draw for this holiday--think asparagus, peas, and fresh greens.

*Chef Darren Lexa,
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.



Lemon New Potatoes with Collards

Crispy on the outside, tender on the inside, these red potatoes are tossed with bright lemon and umami-rich 'nooch!

Get the full recipe >

Tips for Serving Blackberries

- Purée blackberries, buttermilk, sugar, cream, and gelatin; chill until firm; serve panna cotta with macerated blackberries and their juice.
- Stir crumbled bacon and blackberries into waffle batter; cook waffle; top with whole berries.
- Mix blackberries in to banana bread batter; serve muffins on breakfast buffets and with lunch salads.



Browse additional usage tips >



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WEEK OF MAY 1, 2022



On-trend and healthy, cauliflower steaks have a smoky, nutty flavor; top them with umami-rich mushrooms, crispy fried shallots, and the bitter notes of radicchio.

Produce Highlights

Melons

- Cantaloupe and honeydew markets are elevated; supplies are extremely tight.
- Imports will continue to ship for the next three to four weeks.

Onions

- The Northwest storage season will wind down over the next two weeks.
- Fresh-run onions are being shipped from California and Texas.

Strawberries

- Supplies are increasing; demand is strong due to the Mother's Day holiday.
- Expect steady markets for the next seven to ten days.

Apples



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
WA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are level. Washington MFC Fuji, Gala, Golden Delicious, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious Apples are on the market; 88- to 113-count sizes dominate remaining storage stocks. Quality is excellent: sugar levels range from 12 to 14 Brix.

Asparagus



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
PERU/FL	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is high. Production is wrapping up in Caborca, Mexico; new crop harvesting is getting underway in Central Mexico. Baja supplies are available to bridge the transition. Peruvian volume is expected to rise soon. Quality is very good: spear and tips are firm, color is bright, and flavor is grassy. MFC Asparagus is available.

Avocados



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Strong demand is keeping prices elevated. Quality is very good. Ready-Set-Serve® (RSS) Avocado Chunks, Halves, Pico de Gallo Guacamole, and Pure Pulp are available.

Bell Peppers - Green/Red



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
CAN	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
FL, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Green bell markets have dipped slightly despite tight supplies in Florida. The Georgia season will start in mid-May. The season in mainland Mexico is ending. California desert production is consistent. Demand for red bells is increasing; the Mexican season will run until late May. MFC and Markon Essentials® (ESS) Green and Red Bell Peppers are available.

Blackberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are unchanged. Mexican stocks are meeting demand. California volume continues to rise. Quality is very good: berries are plump and juicy with deep purple color.

Blueberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
IMPORTS	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is stable. Mexican new crop supplies are sufficient. Quality is very good.

Broccoli



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices have eased. Salinas Valley stocks are abundant. The Baja, Mexico season has ended. Quality is very good: head size is consistent. MFC Broccoli is available.

Cantaloupe



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
OFFSHORE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is elevated; supplies are extremely tight. Imports will continue to ship for the next three to four weeks. Production will start in the Arizona/California desert in early May. Sugar levels range between 10 and 14 Brix.

Cauliflower



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are low; Salinas Valley supplies are ample. Quality is very good: color is snowy white and curds are firm. ESS Cauliflower is available.



Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF MAY 1, 2022

Celery



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is rising as growers battle seeder problems in Oxnard fields. The Florida season has ended. Salinas production will start in mid-June, lowering prices. Quality is average: seeder problems will persist through the season. MFC Celery is available.

Chile Peppers



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
FL, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Mexican prices are steady. Baja supplies will dominate shipments by mid-May. Supplies remain tight in Florida, but will increase as the Plant City season ramps up. Overall quality is very good: skins are smooth and deeply colored, while flavor is intense.

Cucumbers



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
FL, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is slightly lower than last week. Florida volume remains low due to limited acreage; East Coast supplies will increase once the Georgia season begins in mid-May. Mexican stocks are starting to increase. New crop quality is very good. MFC and ESS Cucumbers are available.

Grapes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
OFFSHORE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are high; the Chilean season is ending. Stocks will be depleted over the next two weeks. The transition to Mexican-grown fruit will start in mid-May. Mexican supplies will ship until California production begins in early to mid-July. MFC and ESS Green and Red Seedless Grapes as well as Lunch Bunch Grapes are available.

Green Leaf/Variety Lettuce



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is inching up; Salinas Valley volume is lower than last week. Quality is very good: fringe burn is a minor issue. MFC Premium Green Leaf Lettuce is available.

Honeydew



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
OFFSHORE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are elevated; supplies are extremely tight. Imports will continue to ship for the next three to four weeks. Quality is good: sugar levels range between 10 and 14 Brix.

Iceberg Lettuce



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is low. Salinas Valley production is increasing. MFC Premium Iceberg Lettuce is sporadic due to low head weights; Markon Best Available® (MBA) is being packed as needed.

Lemons



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices fancy grade stocks are a bit higher; choice grade fruit dominates California coastal crops. Mexican supplies will enter the market in mid-August. MFC and ESS Lemons are available.

Limes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX/TX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
OFFSHORE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are up. Stocks will remain limited through this week (due to Holy Week), but slowly increase. The Texas border problems have ended. MFC and ESS Limes are sporadic; packer label substituted as necessary.

Onions



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CO, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
TX, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
UT, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
WA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are elevated. The Northwest storage season will wrap up over the next few weeks. The Idaho/Oregon season has ended. Washington supplies will be shipped through mid-May. Quality is weak in remaining storage stocks. Fresh-run MFC Red and Yellow Onions are being shipped from California and Texas.

Oranges



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
IMPORTS	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Markets are high. The California Navel orange season is ending. Small sizes (113- and 138-count) are extremely limited. Sugar levels range from 10 to 12 Brix. The Valencia harvest is underway; volume will rise over the next two weeks and continue through October. Sugar levels are forecast to range from 10.5 to 12 Brix. MFC Navel Oranges are available.

Pears



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
WA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are weak; storage supplies are abundant. MFC D'Anjou Pears are available; 80- to 110-count fruit dominate shipments. California Bartletts will enter the market in June.

Pineapple



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CR	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
ECUADOR	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is level; stocks are sufficient in both growing areas. Quality is very good: fruit is sweet and tangy.



Fresh Crop Report

WEEK OF MAY 1, 2022

Potatoes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CO, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
ID, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
OR, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
TX, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
WA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are elevated. Stocks are extremely limited; Norkotahs are nearly depleted. Burbanks will be shipped through the rest of the season. Quality is average: pressure and shoulder bruising, along with hollow heart, are issues. MFC Burbank and Norkotah Potatoes are available.

Raspberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX/CA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is stable; supplies are adequate in both growing regions. Quality is very good: berries are plump, deep red, and tangy sweet.

Romaine



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are low; Salinas Valley stocks are increasing. Quality is very good, although minor fringe burn and seeder are issues in some fields. MFC Premium Romaine Lettuce is available.

Salads & Blends



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Raw product iceberg and romaine markets are steady; Salinas Valley supplies are plentiful. Markon's Quality Assurance team continues to monitor quality and processing for the best packs.

Spring Mix



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are unchanged. Salinas Valley production is fully underway. Quality is very good: yellowing is an occasional problem. RSS Conventional and Organic Spring Mixes are available.

Squash



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
EAST COAST	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market ranges from low to level; demand is weak. Florida stocks are ample. Volume is high in Northern Mexico. Growers will move to Baja in late May. The Santa Maria, California season will begin in mid-May. Quality is very good. MFC Zucchini and Yellow Squash are available.

Strawberries



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
GA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Expect steady prices for the next seven to ten days. Oxnard and Santa Maria volume is increasing. The Salinas/Watsonville season will open in mid-May. Production is underway in Georgia. MFC Strawberries are available.

Tomatoes



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
FL, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Round and Roma markets are slightly higher than last week. Florida supplies are sufficient in the Ruskin/Palmetto region; sizes are running large. The Mexican season is on the decline, although supply is meeting demand at this time. Growers will start limited harvesting in San Diego in mid-May; the bulk of the California summer season will begin in mid-June. MFC Tomatoes are available.

Tree Fruit



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
CA, USA	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
CHILE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

Prices are high. The Chilean season has ended. The new crop California harvesting is now underway. Apricots, cherries, nectarines, and peaches are limited but will increase through May. Quality is very good: sugar levels range from medium to high.

Watermelon



Region	Supplies	Quality	Price
MEX	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$
OFFSHORE	▲▲▲	*****	\$\$\$

The market is elevated. Offshore supplies are tight. Mexican stocks are beginning to increase. Quality is very good: sugar levels vary between 10 and 14 Brix.



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