

# the Fresh Press ALERT

Produce that's Fresh. Information that's to the Point.

FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2019

## **BROCCOLI ALERT**

Quality is fair, with brown beading, inconsistent bead size, under-sizing, and mechanical damage. Supplies are expected to be short for the next 3-4 weeks. Broccolini and Caulilini are also short in supply due to the cold and rain. Both the commodity and value added supply to be impacted.

## **CAULIFLOWER ALERT**

Demand exceeds supply due to regular, strong winter storms on the West Coast, leading to riciness, mold, and pin rot. Supplies are expected to be short for the next 3-4 weeks. Both the commodity and value added supply to be impacted.

## **CELERY ALERT**

Demand exceeds supply due to regular, strong winter storms on the West Coast and cold temps, leading to inconsistent sizing, cracked stems, and discoloration. Markets are very active with limited supplies. Relief is not expected for 6-8 weeks.

## **GRAPES ALERT**

Demand continues to exceed supply due to lighter yields from this year's Chilean crop, as well as difficulty receiving ships at port. Quality is good and sizing skewed towards Extra-large. Green grape supplies are shorter.

## **KALE ALERT**

The market will remain short through the end of February due to light supplies.



## **LETTUCE—ALL ALERT**

Markets are quickly becoming active on iceberg, green, red, butter and romaine lettuces. Light volumes are expected this week due to the cold, and suppliers are experiencing late harvests due to field ice. **Iceberg:** Quality is poor, with excessive under-sizing, epidermal peeling, puffiness, and mildew. **Leaf:** Quality is fair, with under-sizing, mildew, and fringe burn. **Romaine:** Quality is poor, with excessive epidermal peeling, under-sizing, puffiness, cupping, twisting, and ribbiness.

## **MUSHROOM ALERT**

Snow storms across the continent are continue to impact composting operations. Quality is declining with availability—watch for inconsistent sizing and blotch.

## **ONION—GREEN ALERT**

Inclement weather at the U.S./Mexico border continues to reduce availability and quality. Watch for discoloration and breakdown. Mexican sizing varies from Small/Pencil to Med/Large with fair to good quality. Supply is becoming tight. Expect to see changes on this market over the next 7-10 days.