**Poultry**
Whole birds are up. Jumbo breasts were down. Medium and small breasts were steady. Wings are up with a very strong demand. Jumbo tenders were up. The back half of the bird was up based on increased export demand.

**Pork**
Harvest numbers have been disrupted by weather in the Midwest. We may see delays on products being produced along with labor issues for plants in the Midwest and Northeast regions. Butts are still holding steady pushed by steady demand. Loins could weaken slightly as demand has decreased slightly. Ribs will continue to see markets increase as supply is still tight.

**Grains / Oil**
Volatility this past week, and the market moved higher for soybean oil. This was due in large part to the communications surrounding renewable biodiesel demand increase. Also, we are expecting soybeans to be very tight as we move into spring, which may cause the U.S. to have to import beans to crush for oil.

**Dairy**
Both cheese markets decreased week over week with increasing supply. The butter market continued to decrease week over week, also with supply increases. All shell egg sizes increased .10/per dozen earlier in the week but have tapered off for now, as egg stocks are being built.

**Seafood**
Alaska suffered from Covid-19 outbreaks in several processing plants forcing delays with fishing. In China and other parts of Asia, most seafood plants have shut down in observance of the Lunar Holiday. Catfish suppliers see increases in their labor force to produce more fillets for distribution.

**Beef**
The market tone continues to be one of tight supply and higher pricing. Demand is growing for foodservice, as some COVID related closed regions are opening, and retail continues to make sure they have product secured for upcoming Super Bowl & Valentine’s Day. Middle meats continue to lead the gains. Chucks, rounds, and thin meats continue to hold value as does grinds.

**Hot News**

**Strawberries**
Strawberries remain in a demand exceeds supply situation. Harvest estimates are low in FL, MX and CA with all regions not able to keep up with demand. Last weeks rainfall further impacted supplies in CA. Supply for the Valentines Day pull will be very challenged as a result.

**Seafood**
Covid-19 outbreaks in Alaska slow the harvest of Cod and Pollock. The Chinese New Year starts February 12th this year and the Lenten period starts on February 17th.
Asparagus
The market is softer. Better weather in Mexico has improved volume. Quality is reported as good to very good.

Avocados
Record breaking harvest in Mexico for the month of January. Strong volume particularly on the smaller sizes. The crop is peaking 48’s, 40’s, 60’s and 70’s. Good supplies of #2’s. Field and market prices are steady and looking to get stronger as weeks progress.

Green Beans
Florida supplies are hit and miss, as rain and cooler weather has curtailed some harvesting. Quality is good with the market looking to stay steady. Mexico supplies consistent and should remain for the next 7-10 days.

Carrots-Alert
Suppliers on the West Coast are once again challenged with capacity issues and limited labor to produce all the needed snack pack carrots. Alternative sizes and pack out options may need to be sourced for over the next 2-3 weeks.

Mixed Berries-Alert
Raspberries and Blackberries and Blueberries: The market continues to increase as the supplies remain down as we start February. Stronger supplies are not expected until mid to late February, so the market will continue to be strong for the next 2-3 weeks. Blueberries for now, continue to be in good supply with good quality being reported from the growing regions; however the concern now is due to rains out of Chile. Supplies in the coming weeks could become more challenging.

Strawberries-Alert
All pack outs on strawberries remain in a demand exceeds supply situation. Harvest estimates are low in FL, MX, and CA with all regions not able to keep up with demand. Last weeks heavy rainfall has further impacted CA harvest coupled with strong winds doing damage to the plants and existing blooms. Supply for the Valentines Day pull will be very challenged as a result.

Celery-Alert
Quality is good, and no major concerns this week. Supplies continue to improve as well as slower demand being seen. Processed celery remains challenged as the sizing needed for processing (long stalk) is still a challenge to be found.

Lemons / Limes/Oranges
Lemons – Demand is steady. Supplies are good. Quality is good. Oranges- Supplies are getting back too normal with clear weather. The size is increasing making smaller sizes less abundant. Quality is good with color and sugar improving weekly. Limes- ALERT- Market weather has cleared out, but rain chances increase again for the weekend and next week, limiting availability for mid-next week onward. Expect lower utilization due to oil spots, skin breakdown and stylar caused by the rain. . Crop peaking on 110s and 150s, combo grade. With 175s-250’s supplies limited market increasing rapidly.

Mushrooms-Alert
Supplies have been impacted by the lack of labor available to harvest all needed product to keep up with demand. Expect possible disruptions as suppliers work through the current labor challenges.

Leaf and Lettuce
Markets are now steady on green leaf and iceberg, romaine and romaine hearts. Markets could change quickly as inconsistent weather conditions could cause a sudden change in availability. Quality issues following last weeks rain and the colder weather will continue to be seen. Heavy rainfall in CA may also cause delay to the Salinas CA start. These planning will be delayed due to the wet weather; as the spring transition is 6-9- weeks away at this time

Peppers – Alert- Yellow Bells
Florida green bells are available on smaller sizes. Quality is good and the market is steady. Red bells are now available and the market is adjusting. Yellow bells are in short supply and the market active.

Melons-Alert
Demand is very strong on light supplies from the October hurricanes in Central America as well as a few cold snaps. Supplies are cut back by 50% thru much of February. Prices are generally steady at current levels. Quality is fair to good.

Tomato
The market is adjusting on all varieties in both MX and FL due to an overall increase in available volume. Quality continues to improve on all varieties.

Top Produce Items

Below Items all on Alerts

Artichokes
Limited supplies being seen due to colder weather patterns in the growing regions

Corn
Market remains strong relative to supply and demand. Cold weather approaching this week could hamper supply source outlook for the next 10-20 days. Mexico supplies remain limited in volume.

Bananas
Demand is very good on lighter supplies due to the hurricanes in Central America. Quality remains good as product is being sourced from other countries that were not impacted by the storms.

Grapes-
Heavy rain in Chile over the weekend has done significant damage to their grape crop which will limit supplies thru March. The market has not reacted yet, but we are expecting higher prices by next week. Peru was not affected by the rain and will ship into March.

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