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

**Pork**
Harvest numbers continue to be reduced with the rising feed cost, putting upward pressure on boxed pork prices. Butts are still seeing strong demand from retail and foodservice alike. Markets continue to rise. Ribs, Light Back Ribs, and Bone in center loins are seeing much tighter supplies. Do not look for this market to let up anytime soon as demand continues to remain strong.

**Grains / Oil**
Soybean oil cash values have risen dramatically this past week, driven by tight supply and an increase in both foodservice and biofuel demand. Canola is moving higher along with soy as seed values continue to increase. Palm had a slight decrease, but quickly turned back to trend higher with poor production numbers.

**Dairy**
Both of the cheese markets increased week over week. The butter market increased by $0.02/lb week over week. All shell egg sizes have increased by $0.01/dz over the past week.

**Seafood**
Domestic brown and white U/12 headless shrimp are very limited in supply. Please consider U/15 as the viable alternative. Domestic PUDs 110-130ct are very scarce; consider one size larger or smaller. Cold water and warm water lobster are in limited supply. Domestic Catfish production remains tight in supply.

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**Beef**
Overall the market tone continues to soften as retail and foodservice buyers appear to focus more on immediate needs. Middle meats, ends, and grinds all continue to trend water. Select and No Roll graded products are very difficult to procure, while Prime, CAB and Choice are more readily available.

**Hot News**

**Poultry**
Wing demand continues to be high while availability is scarce and prices continue to rise. Demand is expected to continue through March as wings continue to be a hot commodity in both food service and retail.

**Seafood**
Portico Pride HPP Oysters (SUPC 7115828) have launched and are available through Prestige Oysters.

**Grains / Oil**
Commodity soybean oil, mayonnaise, margarine, and Canola to all move higher again. With the tightness regarding soybean availability and increased demand from consumers and biofuels, don’t expect these markets to come down soon.

To learn more contact your local marketing associate. Market Corner Produce information reflects both US and Canadian markets. All other commodity information is based on US market data only.
Asparagus-
The market supply from Mexico is starting to decline and pricing will start to inch up a bit in the coming weeks. Quality reported as good. 

Avocados-Alert
Mexico: Monday, March 15th was a no pack holiday in Mexico. Size curve remains on 48’s, 60’s and 70’s. Field prices and market prices continue to be active and are expected to continue on the same path through spring. Tighter supplies on all sizes as we get closer to April through the Easter Holiday. Strong demand for #2 fruit as foodservice business increases and Mexico demand stays strong due to the Lenten season. California: Limited quantities and sizes available for the next couple weeks as it is still early in the season. Recent rains will aid in size improvement. Expect size curve to be heavy 48’s, 60’s, and smaller

Green Beans-
Florida bean supply lighter, demand good, quality good and market is trending higher. Mexico supplies moderating this week due to transition and demand is improving.

### Top Produce Items

**Below Items on Alerts**

Green Grapes
Due to rain in Chile last month Green grapes suffered a 70% loss. They were already light in supply and this rain has done extensive damage. Prices have increased on green grapes and will remain elevated thru April.

Watermelon
Demand is very strong. Supplies are very light from Mexico. Imports thru Florida are lighter as some growers have finished for the season and others will continue thru March. Quality is fair to good.

Corn
Supplies in the Southeast are getting tight once again. Homestead supply is set to finish very soon, and Belle Glade spring crop may not be ready until the first week of April. There could be a 2-week GAP in supply for regional southeast corn supply. Mexico had a flush of product this past weekend, but supplies have moderated, and demand has improved.

Cauliflower-Alert
Market remains very active as yields have decreased on the remaining supply out of the desert growing regions and the crop gets ready to transition back to the Salinas Valley. Quality is mostly fair to good with occasional dirt spots, clean jacket with occasional yellowing to the cream color.

Broccoli-
Supplies remain unsettled on commodity and value-added packs. Market continues to strengthen each week as we finish out the Yuma Season and move back to the Salinas Valley. Quality and condition is mostly fair to good with dehydration and brown bead observed in desert origin product.

Celery-
The market is steady with supplies coming out of CA, MX and FL. Mostly good quality, probably because of mild weather. Under sizing may creep up in the near future.

Lemons / Limes/Oranges
- **Lemons** - Demand is improving due to the Lenten season. Supplies are good.
- **Oranges** - Demand is steady. Supplies are good. Quality is good with good color and sugar.
- **Limes** - With rain chances picking up towards the end of this week, supplies are expected to be tight going into next week. Utilization is also a factor due to rains and high humidity. Peaking on 150/110ct, combo grade with old crop and 230/250s from new crop. Medium sizes will continue to be tight and higher priced.

Mushrooms-
Supplies have been impacted by the lack of labor available to harvest all needed product. Demand, along with weather events in some regions, is slowing down production due to sourcing challenges on composting components. Expect possible disruptions as suppliers work through the current labor and supply challenges.

Mixed Berries-Alert
Raspberries and Blackberries: The market remains challenged with less than needed overall supplies on mixed berries. Blueberries are more active this week as supplies have started to be reduced.

Strawberries-Alert
Due to rain and hail event in the Oxnard CA growing region, harvest forecast was reduced by a range of 10% - 20% for some growers and as high as 60% for others due to damage on the plant, flower and green fruit. Demand is expected to increase for the Easter Holiday and supplies are expected to be tight for the next 2 weeks. Supplies from Florida and Mexico continue to decline as their seasons start to come to an end. Salinas and Watsonville CA production is targeted to start the first week of April.

Leaf and Lettuce-
Decent supplies of all leaf and lettuces are available. Stronger markets are being seen on iceberg and romaine for this week. Expect markets to start to be more unsettled as we move towards the transition from the desert growing region back to the Salinas Valley. Iceberg: currently fair to good with occasional discoloration, remnant outer leaf ice damage, some misshapen, dust, light green color. Leaf: remains mostly good, insects (aphids) creeping up in certain microclimates, discoloration, and excessive dust. Romaine: fair, epidermal peeling, mildew, and excessive cupping have ramped up, while excessive dust remains a main concern.

Peppers-
Florida green bell shorter supply, demand strong, quality good and market higher. Red and Yellow bells shorter supply and market higher. Mexico good supplies on green, red, and yellow bells with moderate demand.

Tomato-
Grape and cherry markets continue to strengthen due to low availability both east and west. Roma and round markets remain unchanged. Markets are expected to remain escalated for the coming weeks.