Beef Grading is still strong on PRIME, CAB, and CHOICE, while Select and No-Roll grade product is very difficult to procure.

Seafood Domestic shrimp production is now in the off-season until the new season kicks off in May. Certain sizes and product forms may not be available due to poor catches.

Vegetable Oil Vegetable oil tightness will continue to cause increases for most vegetable oil varieties.
Asparagus
The market is slightly stronger and is expected to inch up as we see stronger demand for the Easter holiday. Quality is reported as good.

Avocados-Alert
Mexico: Harvest increased due to the high field prices which heightened field activity. Demand has slowed as retail prices have finally caught up. Market should stabilize but with the short week, we could see market strengthen if there is a strong increase in demand. Mexico will not harvest Thursday - Sunday. California - Rain has helped size up the crop but strong increase in demand. Mexico will not harvest Thursday - Sunday. California - Rain has helped size up the crop but will still be smaller-sized this year due to the overall lack of rain as well as recent winds. Expect size curve to be heavy 48’s, 60’s, and smaller.

Green Beans
Supplies out of Florida are strong. Quality continues to be fair to good. Mexico supplies steady with moderate demand.

Broccoli
Market continues to ebb and flow each week as the season starts to finish out of the desert growing regions of Arizona and transition back to the central coast of California. Quality is being reported as fair to good.

Cauliflower-Alert
Quality to start is fair to good with light volume left out of the desert growing regions in AZ. Salinas, CA is slow to start as quality has been impacted due to very cold growing conditions. Mexico has been very short and limited in supply. As a result, we are seeing the markets adjust accordingly to the changing conditions.

Celery
The market is steady with no major issues to report at this time. Quality remains good with no major concerns.

Lemons / Limes/Oranges
Lemons- Good supplies to meet all demand. Market looks to remain steady from the previous weeks. Demand has started to calm with the Lenten season starting to come to an end.

Oranges- Demand is steady. Supplies are good. Quality is good with good color and sugar. The market is unchanged. This is the best time of year for orange eating quality.

Limes- Alert- The market is active due to overall yields in Mexico remaining low. There is a greater proportion of small fruit circulating the market as the new crop is harvested. Large fruit will become increasingly scarce over the next month or so. Come the first week of April, we will see an approximate 15% increase in overall yields. As crossings improve, we can expect the market to adjust. Mid-May through June & July will present high volume.

Mushrooms
Supplies are starting to improve, and better production is coming into the farms. Labor issues coupled with transportation concerns will continue over the next few months and will be monitored closely.

Mixed Berries-Alert
Mixed berries are challenged from both a quality and availability standpoint. Blueberries from Chile have been challenged with their quality upon receiving. Blackberries and raspberries are very short as their seasons wind down out of Mexico as well and CA is behind on their production due to cooler weather patterns.

Strawberries-Alert
The overall market continues to recover from last week’s rain/hail events in CA and the slowing down of the seasons out of Mexico and Florida. Product is trying to recover and is still 7-10 days out from making a full recovery as it relates to quality and yields. Demand is up from the retail segments.

Leaf and Lettuce
Markets overall remain steady. There are multiple growing regions now in play with Huron CA starting to harvest next week. There are continued talks of markets adjusting and possible gaps looming on iceberg and romaine over the next 2-3 weeks. Transition will be a very lengthy one this year with the move back from the desert growing regions of AZ to the coastal growing regions of Salinas Valley. Quality on iceberg and leaf remains mostly good, noting excessive dust, dehydration and occasional insects. Romaine: slight improvement, fair overall, seeing epidermal peeling, excessive dust, and light insect activity.

Peppers
Florida green bell supply is good on big sizes, smaller sizes are shorter in supply. Red peppers are more available, price is trending down; quality is good, and the market is lower. Yellow bells in short supply. Mexico green bells are very active with larger sizing shortening up. The market to be robust through the week. Colored bells out of Mexico in good supplies with moderate demand.

Tomato
Markets continue to improve on rounds with increased availability both east and west. Roma, cherry, & grape markets remain stable.