Poultry
Overall production is down due to lower availability of market ready birds and labor challenges. Wings and Tenders are in high demand while supplies are limited from lower production. The breast market is strengthening as out front demand is expected to increase while production is throttled. Boneless dark meat is higher on strong export demand and lower production due to labor shortages. Whole birds and cut up are slightly higher on higher demand and lower supplies. Look for portion breast to move higher as demand increases.

Pork
Hog markets are expected to continue to be quite volatile as demand remains strong and supplies are increasingly limited. Butts took a slight dip last week but have regained strength as foodservice continues to increase. Loins have leveled off after Easter and should trade sideways next week. Rib supplies are virtually nonexistent outside of bookings.

Grains / Oil
The futures market fell a little last week for soybean oil, which in turn put pressure on Canola and palm oil. This did help alleviate some pricing pressure for vegetable oil based products; these markets are still expecting extreme tightness and increases in US imports very likely.

Dairy
Both cheese markets increased week-over-week, reacting to the growing foodservice demand. The butter market increased by $0.10/lb week over week. Large and extra large eggs are all down $0.18/$0.20 dozen this week. Mediums down $0.10/dozen.

Seafood
New season Alaskan Pollock due to arrive in May. Low labor participation in catfish production continues to hamper supply. 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. Imported shrimp are experiencing robust demand.

Beef
Demand was solid for the Easter and Passover holidays. Packers are running with reduced worker attendance & facility maintenance which negatively impacts product availability. With spring and summer months ahead, coupled with strong out-front interest, availability will be limited and prices at record high. Ground beef is a bright spot with availability and pricing relatively low.

Seafood
Plants in Alaska begin to pack IQF pollock fillets after a delayed start to the 2021 A-season. New season products are due to arrive in the lower 48 in mid-May. Cold water and warm water lobster are in limited supply.

Pork
Pork ribs of all sizes are virtually non-existent, due to reduction of harvest numbers and lack of labor.

Beef
Box Beef availability is limited. Foodservice, retail, & export have stepped in hard to fill the pipeline. Demand is very high; “Grilling Season” is pushing middle meats to historic highs.

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
Market are adjusting as Caborca, Mexico continues to wind down. Baja and Washington should come into better volume in the coming weeks. Quality reported as good.

Avocados - Alert
Mexico — Growers limiting harvest to influence market. Inventories are expected to drop and strong demand has escalated pricing. Outlook through April is for somewhat steady price and quality. The size curve is peaking on 48’s, 60’s, and 70’s with good supplies of #2s. California harvest increasing on a weekly basis. Supplies will increase through April with peak volume expected May through July.

Broccoli
Supplies are coming from multiple growing regions. Demand is steady following the Easter holiday. Mexico still is challenged with supply, but CA and AZ can fill in as needed. Quality is fair to good with a nice green cast across the dome.

Cauliflower
Similar to broccoli, supplies are coming from multiple growing regions. Demand is steady following the Easter holiday. Mexico still is challenged with supply, but CA and AZ can provide all that is needed. Quality is fair to mostly good, some inconsistent sizing and riceiness.

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

Green Beans
Florida supplies and quality are good; expect market to increase some by the weekend. Mexico steady supplies with moderate demand.

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 nearing its end.

Oranges—Demand and supplies are steady. 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
Limes continue to struggle as we approach April; this past week crossings were down. We are starting to see a shift in sizing, leaning heavy to smaller sized fruit 200s/230s/250s. Expect to see this through most of April. Anticipate a premium on larger sized fruit 175s. We expect markets on smaller sized fruit to fluctuate throughout the month of April, and then turn around again in May.

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
Blueberries-mixed market being the Central CA production area remains behind due to colder weather. The season has started out of Florida and ended now out of Chile. For blackberries, product remains short as CA production is still behind and lower numbers continue to be seen out of MX. Raspberries are starting to see a slow improvement with better availability of the mixed berries.

Strawberries-Alert
Following the strong demand from the Easter pull, the market continues to be challenged. There is very little left coming out of Florida and Mexico continues to wind down their season. CA is struggling to see good numbers because the weather remains cool; fruit is not coloring up and yields continue to rebound following the previous rain and hail events. Better supplies still 7-10 days out.

Leaf and Lettuce
The transition is in full swing on lettuce and leafy greens. Yuma AZ has about 7-10 days left of production with the majority of all items coming now from Huron and Salians CA. Markets remain steady with ample supplies to meet all demand needs. Lettuce: Huron quality is mostly good with occasional misshapen heads, and insect damage. Salinas is still improving, quite a bit of puffiness, jumbo sizing, with weak tip as well. Leaf: Huron is fair, insect pressure seems to be increasing. Salinas quality is improving, occasional wind damage, under sizing, and light insect damage. Romaine: Huron: Fair quality with mixed sized and ribbiness. Salinas is of mostly good quality with occasional wind damage..

Tomato
Markets continue to adjust on all varieties (round, roma, grape & cherry) due to increasing availability and normal demand.