***Todd’s Wholesale Produce***

***Produce Newsflash***

***April 12th thru 18th, 2015***

**Across the western U.S., down into Mexico and in the southeastern U.S., growing/harvesting ongoing. All areas are experiencing their own unique growing conditions. Western areas are moving into spring weather patterns with warm temperatures, some scattered wet weather and wind. Overall water accumulation from rain and snow is way down this year for the region. Quality will suffer and supply gaps will occur. The southeastern region remains wet and warm. An occasional cold front interrupts the pattern. Quality range is wide, volume is down and prices are higher. This will affect harvesting and growing operations through the spring and summer.**

**Fruit**

**Apples/Pears: Domestic Apple market high but steady on all reds as supplies tighten on smaller sizes. Demand steady. Supply limited. Reds, Granny Smith and Golden varieties still trending to middle/ larger sizes, supply gaps may occur with smaller sized fruit. Fresh harvest ended. Crop in storage. Prices firm. Domestic Pear market steady to higher. Washington State packing Bosc a few Anjous and finishing fast. Mostly larger sizes available. Supplies light overall east or west. Red pears market steady. Demand higher. Watch for case weight changes and pack size changes. Imported pears are on the market.**

**Avocadoes: Mexico harvest light in volume. Demand is stronger on a rising market. Domestic supply from California starting to harvest, but still in light volume.**

**Bananas: Market variable unless locked into contracts. Supplies are limited from Central and South America due to ongoing economic factors, weather, insect, and quality issues. Shelf life fair. Shortages may occur based on reports from around the country.**

**Strawberries: Market steady. Fruit sizing better with increased western supplies. Quality expected to improve with drier, cooler weather when/if we ever see any. Another cold front occurred causing quality and volume issues. Florida and Texas finished. Blueberry market higher. 6oz and pint containers of imports on market. Domestic crop started in a light way. Blackberry market higher. Volume falling with quality issues starting to show. Domestic supply finished for the season.**

**Citrus: Small sizes limited. Domestic Navels in volume with a firm market. California Valencias coming soon. Lemon quality is fairly good. Demand and supply stabilizing. Smaller sizes limited. Market is steady. Limes quality fairly good. Demand fall due to Market. Supply improves on smaller sizes.**

**Grapes: Chilean storage imports arriving in U.S. Market steady to higher. Demand stronger. Be mindful of origin and pack sizes, weight. Volume and quality variable.**

**Melons: Imported Cantaloupe volume increasing with smaller sizes more readily available. Market and demand steady. Honeydews running mostly to 5-6ct. Quality and volume lower with market firming. Demand steady. Watermelon market steady on lighter supply and demand. Mexican crossings higher. Carton packs increase. Quality is fair. Demand adequate. Mexican yields lower than expected.**

**Stone Fruit: Imported Chilean peaches, plums and nectarines mostly finished. Volume decreasing. Quality fair. Domestic crop will start soon.**

**Vegetables**

**Asparagus: Market higher on moderate volume of imported Mexican supplies. Quality good. Peruvian supply of good quality, improved supply. Demand strong. Sizing is variable. Domestic crop available on a high market.**

**Bell Peppers: Western/crossings green bell supply in a gap. Market higher. Colored bells market higher on open-field/green-house supply. Volume tightens up. Quality fairly good. Market stronger in the east. Volume decreases. South Florida harvesting. Central Florida weeks out.**

**Broccoli: Mexican and domestic market steady on fair quality and volume.**

**Cabbage: Market steady on improved weight quality, and demand.**

**Carrots: Market firm on tight supply of J-bo / medium sizes. Demand steady. Quality remains good.**

**Cauliflower: Market higher. Demand rises. Quality improving.**

**Celery: Domestic product of fairly good quality. Market and volume steady. Demand eases. Large sizes in better availability.**

**Cucumbers: Western crossings/imports volume improving with variable grades and steady market. Quality improves. Off-shore imports finished. Florida is the main supply for the east coast. Quality and volume good. Market steady to lower.**

**Green Onions: Market higher. Demand lower on increased supply from Mexican imports. Quality is mostly fair. Domestic volume very light.**

**Leaf Lettuce/ Iceberg: Leaf lettuce market steady. Demand down due to quality issues/insect damage. Quality fair. Romaine market steady to higher on variable supplies and quality. Supply is better. Iceberg market steady on good volume, demand. Quality fair due to lighter weights, insect damage, misshapen heads and epidermal peel.**

**Onions: Domestic Yellow and Red Onion market is steady to higher. Quality good. Sizing variable. White Onion crop volume decreasing and winding down for the season. Market Stronger. Mexican fresh yellow sweets and white onion are crossing in a light way. Texas, Southern Cal, New Mexico starting fresh crop in the April to May time frame.**

**Potatoes: Russet market and demand on 80ct and smaller steady. 60ct and larger market is higher as supply has tightened up. Quality ranges from fair to good dependent upon shipping point. Crop is from storage for all areas.**

**Squash: California finished. Mexican crossings market lower on Yellow and Green. Eastern suppliers; Markets for yellow, green squash variable. Florida product of variable quality and supply as growing area transitions up the state.**

**Tomatoes: Southern California done. Mexican import volume improves. Markets and demand steady with variable sizing and fairly good quality. Eastern quality good. Market steady. Quality and demand is steady. Seasonal decline in harvesting is expected with Mexican imports being the main supply.**