



EARL'S ORGANIC PRODUCE

BUYER'S NOTES MAY 16, 2021

NEW!

- Bi-Color Corn
- Tomatillos (Comanche Creek-Chico)
- Basil (Comanche Creek)
- Pickling Cuke (Comanche Creek)
- Mix Squash (Comanche Creek)

COMING SOON

- Local Beans from Dwelley
- Tomatero Basil

BACK IN STOCK

- Green Onions
- Tomatillos (Comanche Creek)
- Burdock

TIGHT INVENTORY

- Peas (English, Snow, and Snap)
- Open Pint Cherry Tomatoes
- Honeycrisp Apples
- Zucchini

GAPPING

- Hot Peppers
- Meyer Lemons
- Aloe Vera
- Gold C Potatoes
- Shallots

WINDING DOWN

- Tangos
- Domestic Bosc Pears
- Covilli Brussels Sprouts
- Forbidden Blueberries

FINISHED

- Covilli Green Beans
- Domestic Granny Smith
- California Kiwi
- Graffiti and Neon Eggplant
- Cara Caras
- Cuties

— VEGETABLE MARKET UPDATE —

May brings the end of **Covilli Warm Veg** as most local areas are on the verge of harvest. There will be some tightening and small gaps but overall we expect a smooth transition with the likes of **Beans** and **Summer Squash**. Most row crops like **Broccoli and Cauliflower** are stable but prices are strong. **CVP Asparagus** will be solid until the end of June. Remember, **Storage Onions and Potatoes** are yielding to new crop this month. Keep supplies tight until the transition has passed. **Lettuce and Greens** are all strong but we are seeing some aphid pressure from time to time. Something to keep an eye on and educate your staff and customers.

Peppers, Cukes, Corn, and Tomatoes are all transitioning out of Mexico. Keep an eye out on the shifts.

We plan to have good summer showings from **Dwelley, Sun Valley, Tomatero, Sun Rise, Tutti, and Wilgenburg** ... rounding out with **Lakeside, Josie's and Cal-O**. There will also be some special appearances from **Terra Firma, River Dog, Comanche Creek, and Coke Farms** to name a few. A great way to start the Summer!

See page three for more.



www.earlsorganic.com Office 415.824.7419 Fax 415.824.7819

— FRUIT —

Market Update: **California Stone Fruit and Strawberries** are the stars this week! Expect **Citrus** season to fully yield to our spring fruit options with wonderful appearances from **Melons and Mangos**. **Don't forget the Rhubarb!** **Avocados** are now all California. The market is strong and relief in price, most likely, will not come this season. Keep an eye on the storage fruit transition to imports in the **Apple and Pear** commodities. Notice the dance in growers, regions and labels as we enter into another bountiful Summer ahead. **Grapes** are on the horizon!

Apples

Some **Apples** are transitioning out of domestic storage and into imports. Keep an eye on the daily price lists for changes. There are still some good values!

Avocados

We are now fully into California season! Fruit quality is good but prices will remain strong all season.

Bananas

Equal Exchange and Coliman. Fried Ripe Plantains are easy to cook and make a wonderful side dish or dessert!

<https://www.thespruceeats.com/fried-ripe-plantains-recipe-2138201>

Berries

- **Strawberries:** Local season is here! Sun Valley has strong supply. Fog and cooler coastal temps has slowed production at Tomatero.
- **Blueberries:** Homegrown hit a few bumps from the heat last week. The season for Forbidden Blues is ending.
- **Raspberries and Blackberries:** The fruit is still coming out of MX with good supply.

Citrus

Navels, Limes, and Grapefruit are all solid but expect **Mandarins** to fade away over the next few weeks. **Cuties** and **Cara Caras** are done for the season.

Melons

Try the **Fair Trade Orange Honeydew** from Rico this week! Early lands of **Cantaloupe** have been surprisingly sweet and the volume good. **Mini-Watermelons** and **Bins of Watermelon** are available as the season starts to emerge. **Expect supplies to tighten as we get closer to Memorial Day. Pre-orders on Bins are a good idea!**

Pears

Try the **Durondeaus!** Beautifully sweet, russeted pears, similar to the Bosc.

Stone Fruit

• Apricots

Early varieties such as Kylese are looking nice and ripen up with good flavor. Supply should be steady through the month. We will have product from Homegrown, Valliwide, and Burkart.

• Cherries

Season is starting strong! Royal Lynn, Royal Hazels have been fantastic. Supply should be steady through the month.

• Peaches

We will have the last of the desert fruit coming in at the beginning of the week, and then transitioning to valley fruit. Valley product will start small. Still at the very early stages of stone fruit season! We will peak in size, price, and flavor in July.



— VEG —

Asparagus: Warmer weather has another flush of these delectable spears in good supply!

Artichokes: Load them up! Good supply and quality.

Bok Choy & Baby Bok Choy: There may be some gaps and challenges during the next few weeks. Very seasonal.

Beets: Sun Valley (Watsonville) bunched Red Beets have vibrant tops and good sizing.

Green Beans: Covilli Beans are done. Rico will fill in as we await Dwelley. Expect some bumps until local crops can catch up. Dwelley (Brentwood) to start at the end of May/beginning of June. Dwelley will offer more varieties: Romano, French, and Yellow wax throughout their season. Stay tuned.

Broccoli: Sweet Baby Broccoli is a great item to promote. Good price, quality, and supply. Josie's and Lakeside predominantly. Some from Tomatero. Bunched Broccoli and Crowns are steady.

Brussels Sprouts: The last land from Covilli this week.

Cabbages: All local growers are hitting on all cylinders! Napa and Savoy back in stock.

****Carrots:** ALERT:** Supplies out of the desert came up short. Prices and supply will be affected on Cello, Clips, Juice, Jumbo, and Table Carrots. Red Carrots are done until the fall. Nantes from Sunrise (Santa Barbara County) and Tomatero (Watsonville) are just starting.

Cauliflower: Steady supply of both 12's and 16's. Some aphid pressure.

Celery: Prices are high and transition has been slow into California. MX quality has been good and we are moving labels and geography to cover demand and to ensure the quality. Tomatero (Watsonville) has some limited supply.

Corn: Cal-O Bi-Color and Divine out of MX. Good quality and sweet!

Cucumbers: Slicer, Persian, and Euros all coming on with supply.

Eggplant: California will begin this week. Graffiti and Neon are done until California starts.

Fennel: Plenty!

Garlic: We are moving through the last of Christopher Ranch storage crop. Concurrently, we are bringing in colossal from Argentina. Quality is beautiful and should offer a nice option while we wait for new crop California in August.

Ginger & Turmeric: Steady as she goes ...

Greens: Tomatero and Sun Valley with strong supplies.

Lettuce: All local and looking nice. Little Gems (Red & Green) and Salanovas from Sunrise are vibrant and tasty. Check the list daily for this plentiful bounty.

Organic Girl: Tight supply due to pest pressure on Butter, Butter Plus, and Romaine Leaves.

Onions: Moving into higher quality fresh crop out of the Valley from Peri and Cal-O. Product is looking top notch for this time of year. Yellow Sweets are still coming in from MX under the Hope label. Gapping on Shallots until August. Green Onions: Cal-O is BACK! Spring Onions from Terra Firma (Winters) and Sunrise (Santa Barbara).

Peas: Tightening supplies as the heat ramps up. Comanche Creek will have some Snaps this week.

Peppers: Transition to California has begun. Good supply. Check your lists to follow the market daily. Hot Peppers are tailing off from Covilli and California is just starting. Expect some gaps.

Potatoes: Cal-O new crop is in house and Top Brass will start with their Russets mid-May. We might see some gaps on C potatoes and Choice grade. New crop is looking solid.

Sweet Potatoes: Keep them tight. Scraping the bottom of the storage crop.

Radishes: Red, Easter Egg, Watermelon, and Fresh Breakfast (Coke) steady.

Other Roots: Parsnips (Tutti), Rutabaga (Coke), Celery (Lakeside), Sun Chokes (Coke), and Jicama, are still in good supply. Burdock back in stock!

Summer Squash: Very little Zucchini available as MX is done and local supplies are not quite there. Tomatero and Sunrise are struggling to fill the gap before Dwelley comes on (EO-May/June). The weather is in our favor! Limited Sunburst and Straight Neck from Del Cabo.

Tomatillos: A small shot from Comanche Creek (Chico).

Tomatoes: Clusters, Slicers and Roma are looking good and we have multiple labels and origins.

Mixed Heirlooms: Transitioning from Covilli to Wilgenburg.

Cherry Tomatoes: Tight supply. Still from MX as local growers will not be "volume" ready until June.

Winter Squash: Currently transitioning from Covilli ... to Rico and Del Cabo. Butternut, Delicate, Kobocho and Spaghetti.

