



Important Notice

WEATHER IMPACT ON QUALITY & SUPPLY

Dear Valued Customer,

We want to make you aware of unusually challenging growing conditions that are currently affecting the quality, availability and shelf life of a number of fresh produce items. Key California growing regions have experienced periods of extreme heat combined with elevated humidity this season. These conditions are particularly difficult for cool-season row crops and more delicate produce items, increasing plant stress as well as insect and disease pressure. Broader El Niño weather patterns are also contributing to unusual growing conditions in portions of the produce supply chain.

Compounding these challenges, some crops are beginning to transition between growing areas earlier than would typically be expected. In some cases, established fields are declining before production from newer fields or growing regions has fully developed, creating quality and supply challenges across a broader range of products than we would normally expect at this point in the season.

Current conditions are affecting items including:

- Lettuce and leafy greens
- Broccoli and broccolini
- Cauliflower and cabbage
- Tender greens and salad mixes
- Green onions
- Fresh herbs
- Berries
- Delicate specialty items, including edible flowers

Depending on the item, customers may experience tighter availability, variation in size or appearance, increased insect or weather-related defects, shorter shelf life, substitutions, prorates or occasional shorts. Our Purchasing, Category, Quality Assurance and Operations teams are monitoring field and market conditions daily and working across our supplier network to identify the strongest available product and alternate sources when appropriate.

We also encourage customers who are not already receiving or reviewing our Weekly Market Report to do so. The report provides regular updates on developing crop conditions, availability, quality and market trends and can help your team anticipate potential supply challenges before they affect your operation. Please contact your Vesta representative if you would like to be added to the distribution.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

THE VESTA FOODSERVICE TEAM

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