



# The Outlook

January 20, 2012

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## Crop Outlook

The West coast braces for a welcome series of winter storm systems set to impact the Southwestern regions late this week into the weekend. These systems will gradually work their way to the desert growing regions bringing much cooler temperatures and chance of rain over the weekend into early next week.

Although morning frosts continue in the coldest desert valleys warm afternoon temperatures have improved growth rates and quality throughout the region. Blister and epidermal peel remains prevalent in leaf and lettuce stands however these fields are getting cleaner everyday. Leaf supplies, especially romaine and hearts, will remain on the light side as yields and quality affect production.

Generally cool growing conditions in Mexico have limited production of (asparagus, peppers, squashes and green onions) crops from the south. Similar conditions in Southern California have created shortages of specialty crops, especially kale from this region. Add to this, recent freezes in the Florida region lessening supplies from the east resulting in the current light supplies.

Long range forecasts expect a brief warming trend for the desert locals following the series of storms this weekend through next week. Forecast then show a strong high pressure ridge forming over the region bringing a much colder air mass and possible freezing temperatures to the area next weekend.

I will continue to travel to the various upcoming growing regions and we will continue to watch these weather events and keep you up to date as we gather more information.