

# Availability of Fruit and Vegetable Imports From Mexico into U.S.

The major fruit and vegetable crops imported from Mexico are listed with the approximate volume for the 1979 marketing season. The key located at the top of the chart indicates the various stages of shipping or marketing season for a particular commodity. For example, the new crop for onions begins in January. The peak of the marketing season is April through May but shipping continues through December.

The term "availability" is used to indicate the months when the particular commodity is shipped into the United States. It is not indicative of the actual months of production, as in some cases it is possible to buy those items from foreign countries in other months. "Peak" refers to the peak month(s) the commodity is available within the United States. It does not necessarily refer to the nation's peak growing month.

This availability chart should be useful to producers, brokers, shippers and retail chain buyers in determining when these commodities are available.

# AVAILABILITY OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTS FROM MEXICO INTO U.S.

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Key:  Commodity available       Shipping peak       No shipping

Commodity	Volume <sup>1</sup> 1979	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Bananas	21,172	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Cantaloupes	192,920,916	No shipping	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	No shipping	Available	Available	Available
Cucumbers	301,710,653	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Eggplant	397.2 <sup>3</sup>	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	No shipping	No shipping	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak
Garlic		Available	Available	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	No shipping	No shipping
Grapes	18,759,843	Available	Available	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	No shipping	No shipping	No shipping	No shipping
Limes	297.2 <sup>2</sup>	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	No shipping	No shipping	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak
Onions	145,298,610	Available	Available	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Oranges	52,511,692	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Shipping peak	Available	Available
Peppers	137,492,797	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Pineapples	74,296,147	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Strawberries	29,896,417	Available	Shipping peak	Available	Available	No shipping	Available	Available	Available	No shipping	Available	Available	Available
Tomatoes	721,659,937	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
Watermelons	222,382,356	Available	Available	Available	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Shipping peak	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available

<sup>1</sup> pounds unless otherwise indicated    <sup>2</sup> 1,000 boxes    <sup>3</sup> 1,000 cwt.

\* Volume taken from: *The Packer's Produce Availability and Merchandising Guide, 1980.*

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