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PHONE: 02 8250 4279

# market review



Summer 10/11 Monday December 6

***RAIN:*** *The entire east coast of Australia has experienced a deluge of rain, the likes of which we have not seen since 1991. The impact of this will be far-reaching – Expect prices to be high and quality to be far from good.*

## **Figs**

At present, they are coming from Far North Qld. Due to distance, freight prices are pushing price through the roof. Normally by now, the more southern growers have begun, but their crops have been lost due to wet weather.

## **Herbs & Micro-Herbs**

Rain has damaged most herbs. Usually the effect is short-lived because herbs regrow quickly. The problem is that the rain has not let up, and is predicted to continue through to Christmas.

## **Lettuce / Wild Rocket & Baby Spinach**

If the rain has not already damaged these products, then the shelf life will be greatly shortened. Where you may normally get two to three days, you will only get one. Price has also gone up due to shortages in supply. Worst affected are **Continental Parsley, Coriander, Red Garnet, Rocket and Spinach.**

## **Cherries / Stonefruit**

A lot of poor quality produce due to the rain. Anything good is wanted by everyone, so price is up.

## **Blueberries**

Most of our **Blueberries** were coming from Coffs Harbour. Rain has ruined the entire crop, so the result is that we are now using New Zealand imports.

## **Oranges**

Australian Navels have come to the end. USA imports will be available, but at a large cost. **Australian Valencias** are not yet in full production. Volumes will be low this year due to the rain, so prices will be up.

## **There is Some Good News.....**

***A strong Australian dollar is meaning that produce that is normally exported, might stay in Australia because of the higher price to other countries. Further to this, for those of you who don't mind imported produce, imports will be cheaper.***

***For any of the products that there are problems with, alternatives can always be found. It is just a matter of calling John 0407 402038 or Matt 0414 665 483, to find out what is the best available produce at the time.***

***In summary, every product will be available. However, the issue will be how much you are prepared to spend, and what level of quality you are able to get away with.***



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FRUIT AND VEG PROVIDORES

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Summer 10/11 Monday December 13

## **English Spinach, Baby Spinach & Continental Parsley**

At present, these three products are proving to be most affected by the recent rain – they are extremely short in supply. There is less than 20% of the usual volume in the market, and what is available is of extremely poor quality and extremely expensive. We are not sure how long this situation will last.

## **Zucchini Flowers**

Short in supply and price has increased due to the effects of the recent rain.

## **Heirloom Tomatoes**

Are available but supply still is not keeping up with demand, so we are having trouble filling orders.

## **Ox Heart Tomatoes**

Are excellent at the moment. They are not real cheap, but definitely worth using.

## **Apples & Pears**

Quality is only good, not excellent, and price is very, very expensive.

## **Horseradish**

Virtually not available.

## **Black Garlic**

Is OK – we have some in stock.

## **Broad Beans**

Available but quality is very poor.

## **Borlotti & Roman Beans**

Quite plentiful and quality is excellent.

## **Heirloom Carrots**

No problems.

## **Leaf Products**

**Rocket, Mizuma, Herbs & Lettuces** have all been dramatically affected by the recent rain. In case supply is cut or quality is poor – which will happen at some point, please provide us with alternatives for your needs.

## **Figs**

There are a lot more in the market. Suppliers are trying to hold prices, but with the increased supply, prices will have to drop.

## **Mangoes, Peaches & Cherries**

All plentiful, but to get good produce you have to pay top dollar. There is cheaper produce to be found, provided that you won't need to store them for too long.

## **Berries**

**Raspberries, Blackberries, Red Currants, Strawberries, Blueberries, Karaka Berries (long Blackberries)** are all available.

## **Gherkins**

Fresh **Gherkins** are available. Please order freely.

## **expensive or hard to get**

**Passionfruit, English Spinach, Baby Spinach, Continental Parsley, Ginger (Old Season), Grapes, Avocados, Figs, Zucchini Flowers, Celeriac, Jerusalem Artichokes, Apples, Pears and Leeks**

## **good or cheap**

**Mangoes, Peaches, Nectarines, Lychees, Cherries, Rockmelon, Roman Beans, Borlotti Beans, Walnuts, Apricots, Nashi Pears, Fragrant Pears, Heirloom Carrots, Rainbow Chard, Roma Tomatoes, Ox Heart Tomatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Cherry Truss Tomatoes and Cucumbers**



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Summer 10/11 Tuesday January 4

## **Rain In Queensland**

So far we have had no major problems due to the rain. Please be mindful of the products that will be affected: **Mangoes, Lychees, Long Red Chillies, Paw Paw, Papaya, Star Fruit, Limes, Grapes and Pineapples.**

## **Berries**

All varieties are available: **Strawberries, Blueberries, Blackberries, Youngberries, Boysenberries, Redcurrants and Blackcurrants.**

## **Figs**

Southern growers are sending to the market, so price, quality and supply have all improved.

## **Snake Beans & Baby Eggplant**

Are available.

## **Gherkins & Paradise Pears**

Are available without too much trouble now.

## **Ox Heart Tomatoes**

Supply is very good and quality is excellent.

## **Heirloom Tomatoes**

Available but not in any large quantity.

## **Green Pears & Apples**

Are all out of season, so price is very high and quality is NOT good.

## **Blood Plums, Peaches, Apricots & Cherries**

All excellent.

## **Asparagus**

**Green & White** are both available but are imported from Peru. The Australian season has basically finished.

## **Broad Beans**

All finished for the season.

## **expensive or hard to get**

**Horseradish, Watermelon, Grapes, Fennel, Passionfruit, Long Red Chillies, Green Pears, Apples, Oranges, Celeriac, French / Breakfast Radish, Jerusalem Artichokes, Borlotti Beans, Zucchini Flowers and Pineapples**

## **good or cheap**

**Peaches, Nectarines, Eggplant, Snake Beans, Roma Tomatoes, Paradise Pears, Figs, Sugar Snap Peas, Zucchini, Beetroot, Gherkins, Blood Plums, Apricots, Heirloom Carrots, Yellow Squash and Cherry Tomatoes**



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# market review



Summer 10/11 Monday January 10

## Rain In Queensland

Worst affected products so far are: **Mangoes, Long Red Chillies, Watermelon and Pineapples.**

## Figs

It is difficult to find *figs* that are perfect at the moment. Good looking ones are fairly dry, and those that taste good are split and starting to deteriorate. Supply is OK, quality is average, and price is strong at around \$70 / tray.

## Jerusalem Artichokes

Have begun again, but due to to the rain in QLD, supply is spasmodic.

## Samphire

Now available in 500g packets.

## Local Baby Eggplant, Snake Beans and Ox Heart Tomatoes

All excellent and better priced.

## Pine Mushrooms

Have begun, but the size of the cups is quite large.

## Cherry Truss Tomatoes

No local loose produce available for the next two weeks. We will use the *Cherry Truss punnets* until the loose ones return.

## Paradise Pears

In the market, and are becoming more plentiful.

## Baby Red Capsicum & Baby Mixed Capsicum

Plenty in the market this morning, so please consider ordering.

## Horseradish

NOT AVAILABLE at present.

## Green Beans

Quite plentiful, but quality is only average.

## Yellow, White & Purple Carrots

Excellent and plentiful.

## Baby Turnips, Radishes & French / Breakfast Radishes

All excellent and plentiful at the moment. Please note though, that the grower does not come to the market every day. So, if they are not available one day, they will be the next.

## Green Pears

Supply is very limited and they are super expensive.

## Zucchini Flowers

This week there are loads in the market. The growers are begging me to take more, so please order up! Quality is excellent.

## Snowpea Leaves / Tendrils

Very short in supply this week – it is difficult to fill orders.

## expensive or hard to get

*Pears, Asparagus, Mangoes, Avocadoes, Silverbeet, Broccoli, Lychees, Long Red Chillies, Grapes, Watermelon, Rockmelon, Honeydew, Cherry Truss Tomatoes and Gold Beetroot*

## good or cheap

*Cherries, Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, Plums, Snake Beans, Basil, Eggplant, Corn, Roman Beans, Flat Mushrooms, Pine Mushrooms, No. 2 Red Capsicums, Paradise Pears, Blueberries, Blackberries, Passionfruit and Zucchini Flowers*



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Summer 10/11 Monday February 7

## **Herbs, Wild Rocket, English Spinach & Baby Spinach**

Many farmers have lost substantial proportions of their crops due to the recent heatwave. Consequently, a lot of poor quality produce will be unloaded into the market. Price will be quite high for anything that is of good quality.

## **Coconuts – Brown and Drinking**

These are all imported and because of Chinese New Year last week, all stocks were sold out. The next shipment we are told, is to arrive next week.

## **Horseradish**

NOT AVAILABLE at present, and there is no word as to when it will be available again.

## **Borlotti Beans, Salsify, Celeriac & Green Mangoes**

Are available, but not every day. If you miss out one day, you should be able to get some in a day or two.

## **Baby Herbs**

Supply and quality are all over the place. There are big problems ahead.

## **Tomatoes**

Excellent this week. There seems to be plenty of all varieties this week, except for loose **Local Cherry Truss** in trays.

## **Oranges**

**Navel**s are imported from USA. There are cheaper **Valencias** which are locally grown.

## **Mangoes**

Cyclone Yasi caused no major damage to mango orchards, so price should slide slightly this week.

## **Royal Blue Potatoes**

Still not available. Hopefully they will return in two weeks.

## **Grapes**

All quite good at the moment, but we have concerns about supply and price due to the extreme weather in Victoria.

## **Apricots**

Season is virtually over. We are now receiving imports from New Zealand.

## **Cherries**

Excellent and are coming from Tasmania. Just remember that we only have 2-3 weeks left.

## **Berries**

OK today, but who knows what effect the recent deluge of rain in the major growing regions will have..

## **Zucchini Flowers**

Quality seems really good at present, but females are more difficult to find.

## **expensive or hard to get**

**Apples, Bananas, Mangoes, Snowpeas, Horseradish, Passionfruit, Herbs, English Spinach, Spring Onions, Yellow Peaches, Pine Mushrooms, Kipfler Potatoes, Royal Blue Potatoes, Roman Beans, Large Beetroot, Capsicums, Yellow Squash and Lettuces.**

## **good or cheap**

**Figs, Roma Tomatoes, Ox Heart Tomatoes, Grapes, Nectarines, Plums, Gold Beetroot, Basil, Eggplant, Pineapples, Rockmelon, Honeydew, Green Beans, Male Zucchini Flowers, Leeks and Sweet Potato.**

**We will keep you up to date on a daily basis of any serious changes to supply of the various produce lines that have been affected by the recent extreme weather around the nation - Continue to visit our website's News page [www.vellutis.com.au](http://www.vellutis.com.au).**



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Summer 10/11 Monday February 14

## **Pomegranates**

Are not available at present. There is some very old USA fruit available but it is not good enough to send out. The Australian season is not far away.

## **Raspberries**

Have gone through the roof and supply is very short. We are having troubles filling orders. All other berries are up in price, with the exception of **Blueberries** - these are cheap and very plentiful, due to the help from NZ imports.

## **Celeriac**

Available, but quite expensive. The very best is from Victoria and priced around \$10 each.

## **Daikon**

The **Japanese variety (long)** is very hard to get, and what is around is not very big. If you are able to use the **Korean variety (short & fat)**, the quality is much better.

## **Coconuts – Young & Brown**

Still quite scarce. This should improve when the next major shipment arrives in Australia.

## **Chervil**

Almost impossible at the moment – I don't know how we are filling orders. Please give us an alternative, as supply will disappear soon.

## **Peaches & Nectarines**

The best fruit is from Forbes. They are tasty, juicy and don't go bad whilst you are looking at them. Everybody wants this fruit, so they are hard to get and quite expensive.

## **Apples**

**Royal Galas** are everywhere but price is still high, although better than a couple of weeks ago.

## **Royal Blue Potatoes**

Still not available. Should be here soon.

## **Figs**

Excellent. There are plenty in the market, so there are lots of options.

## **Zucchini Flowers**

The **Male** variety are very plentiful and cost \$18 / tray. **Females** are a little less plentiful and cost \$39 / tray.

## **Baby Herbs**

Are available, but quality is very inconsistent.

## **Jerusalem Artichokes**

No problems – still OK.

## **Oranges**

Very short in supply. We have a lot of **USA Navels** helping out, but cheap **Juicing Oranges** are scarce and cost \$32 / 18kg box.

## **expensive or hard to get**

**Strawberries, Raspberries, Avocados, Australian Garlic, Coconuts, Chervil, Daikon, Celeriac, Pomegranates, Bananas, Apples, Papaya, Wombok, Herbs, Oranges, Lettuces, Cabbages, Spinach, Horseradish, Salsify, Snowpeas and Sugar Snap Peas.**

## **good or cheap**

**Rockmelon, Honeydew, Tomatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Brussels Sprouts, Beans, Blueberries, Corn, Eggplant, Blackberries, Tele Cucumbers, Lemons, Limes, Sweet Potato, Snake Beans, Zucchini, Lebanese Zucchini, Figs, Plums, Apricots, Grapes and Radishes.**



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Summer 10/11 Monday February 21

## Wild Rocket & Baby Spinach

Have improved greatly in supply this week. This does not mean that everything is back to normal, but the chance of us filling orders is much better.

## Cherries

Tasmanian produce has all been picked. The issue is how well the quality will hold up in cold storage. The tip is to not expect them to be available for much longer.

## Frisee / Baby Endive

Supply is good but the hearts are not as white as what we would all like. Hopefully this won't be for too long.

## Roman Beans

Supply has greatly diminished. They are barely available and we don't know when to expect them, if they come at all.

## Tomatoes

**Ox Hearts** are very short in supply. **Romas** are jumping up in price. **Saucing Tomatoes** from Qld are available at a great price, but you need to be tolerant of the quality. **Black Tomatoes (Kumatoes)** are NOT available at present.

## Zucchini Flowers

Price has risen a little this week. **Male** flowers are less available, and the **Females** seem to be more available than in previous weeks.

## Mushrooms

The usual are available, and we are having no problems with **Chestnuts & Namekos**. Hopefully we will see some **Pine** varieties emerging in a couple of weeks.

## Royal Blue Potatoes

We have not been given a date as to their return, but it shouldn't be long now.

## Borlotti Beans

Are available, but we can't say which day the growers will bring them to market.

## Figs

Getting better and cheaper all the time.

## Asparagus

The Australian season is upon us, although the **White Asparagus** is from Peru still.

## French Breakfast Radish

Very little in supply and very inconsistent.

## Fresh Green Olives

There were a few boxes in the market this morning.

## expensive or hard to get

**Sugar Snap Peas, Snow Peas, Ginger, Raspberries, Red Capsicum, Rainbow Chard, Borlotti Beans, Roman Beans, Target Beetroot, Spring Onions, Passionfruit, Roma Tomatoes, Ox Heart Tomatoes, Horseradish, Cherries, Strawberries, Ruby Grapefruit and Apples**

## good or cheap

**Yellow, Purple and Golf Ball Carrots, Baby Red Beetroot, Gold Beetroot, Eggplant, Corn, Lychees, Lebanese Zucchini, Turnips, Baby Turnips, Brussels Sprouts, Rockmelon, Honeydew, Blueberries, Blackberries, Kohl Rabi, Peaches, Apricots, Nectarines, Lemons, Limes, Kipfler Potatoes and Blood Plums**



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Summer 10/11 Monday February 28

## Quinces

New season fruit has just arrived. I would wait a little bit until price falls before buying, so that you can save some money.

## Fresh Green Olives

More available this week, but price is still fairly high.

## Fresh Pistachios

There were a handful in the market this morning, but it will be cheaper to wait a little before buying.

## Figs

There are plenty of No. 2 grade **Figs** in the market. Some are even coming in 10kg boxes. The price is right for making jam etc.

## Silk Eggplant

The genuine **Sicilian / Purple Eggplant** is available, but not every day.

## Chestnut & Nameko Mushrooms

Are scarce this week. Hopefully the situation will improve, but be prepared in case it doesn't.

## Cherries

Still available, but we recommend giving them a miss. Quality is very inconsistent – good one day, ordinary the next.

## Cauliflower & Celery

Very expensive and not much available in the market.

## Horseradish

Still NOT available, and it doesn't look as if any will arrive soon.

## Ox Heart Tomatoes

Not many in the market at all.

## Asparagus

**Green, White** and **Purple** are available. Some are Australian, but they are also coming from Mexico and Peru.

## Spring Onions

Not many in the market. Price is up and we are having difficulty filling orders.

## Yellow, Black and Golf Ball Carrots

Are excellent – nice and small. Quality is beautiful.

## Baby Turnips, Baby Beetroot & Gold Beetroot

The best ones are from Victoria, which is where we are mainly sourcing them at the moment. They are more expensive, but the quality and yield is much better.

## expensive or hard to get

*English Spinach, Chestnut Mushrooms, Male Zucchini Flowers, Zucchini, Spring Onions, Drinking Coconuts, Celeriac, Mangoes, Celery, Leeks, Cauliflowers, Ginger, Strawberries, Roman Beans, Borlotti Beans, Ox Heart Tomatoes, Heirloom Tomatoes, Apples and Pears*

## good or cheap

*Rockmelon, Honeydew, Blueberries, Blackberries, Beetroot, Turnips, Figs, Eggplant, Corn, Carrots, Chillies, Royal Blue Potatoes, Lebanese Cucumbers, Yellow Zucchini, Grey / Lebanese Zucchini and Female Zucchini Flowers*



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