

JERSEY FRESH AVAILABILITY FOR OCTOBER 9, 2006

Apples – Fresh product is a week to ten days earlier than normal this season and is available now through the New Year. Red Delicious, Empire, Jonagold, Macoun are winding down. Golden Delicious, Rome, and Stayman Winesap are being picked. Braeburn, Fuji, and Granny Smith will start mid to late October.

Apple Cider – Available until Christmas in wholesale volume, through late Spring for retail sales.

Arugula & Cilantro – Harvesting good quality and quantity with the cooler temperatures.

Baby Arugula & Baby Spinach – Harvesting good quality and quantity.

Basil – Harvesting a light quantity of fair to good quality product with the cooler temperatures. Available until frost.

Beets – A good volume of good quality product is available.

Broccoli – Starting to harvest in Central Jersey.

Cabbage – Harvesting good quantities of very good quality product.

Cranberries – The main harvest of fresh market dry harvested berries has begun.

Dill & Parsley – Harvesting good quality and quantity.

Cucumbers/Pickles – Harvesting a light quantity of good quality Cukes and Pickles (Kirby cucumbers).

Eggplant – Harvesting excellent quality Italian and Asian varieties in fair to decreasing quantity. The Fall brings out the best in this vegetable.

Escarole/Endive – Harvesting good quality product in good volume.

Green Beans – Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

Greens - Good quantities of fair to good quality Collards, Kale, Mustard, Dandelions, and Swiss Chard.

Leeks & Green Onions – Harvesting in good quality and quantity.

Lettuces – The harvest is two weeks later this Fall. Harvesting good quality Boston and Romaine in fair volume. Just starting to harvest good quality Red & Green Leaf in light to increasing volume.

Peppers – Harvesting a very light volume of good quality product. We also have an excellent assortment of good quality hot peppers available.

Pumpkins – Downy mildew set in early this year in some fields due to another cool and wet Spring. Then a dry August was followed by incessant rains. Growers that haven't been spraying all season will have problems. Know your grower! These will be hard to source in Jersey this year.

Radishes & Turnips – These temperature sensitive vegetables have begun harvesting again in good quality and fair to increasing quantity, with volume expected by the end of the week for Turnips.

Squash – Harvesting a good quantity of great quality zucchini. Most of our butternut and acorn were harvested before the recent wet weather and stored for curing and better prices.

Tomatoes – A very light quantity of fair to good quality rounds still available as some late plantings are harvested. Can only be found in farm markets now. Winding down.

Spinach – Weather related issues caused later planting and slower growth than normal. Harvesting a fair to increasing quantity of good quality product.

Sweet Corn – Harvesting a light to decreasing volume of fair to good quality corn. Can only be found in farm markets now.

Sweet Potatoes – Harvesting good quality potatoes in good volume.

White Potatoes – Harvesting the Reba variety in good quantity and quality.

JERSEY FRESH FORECAST

Brussel Sprouts & Cauliflower – Should begin harvesting next week in Central Jersey.