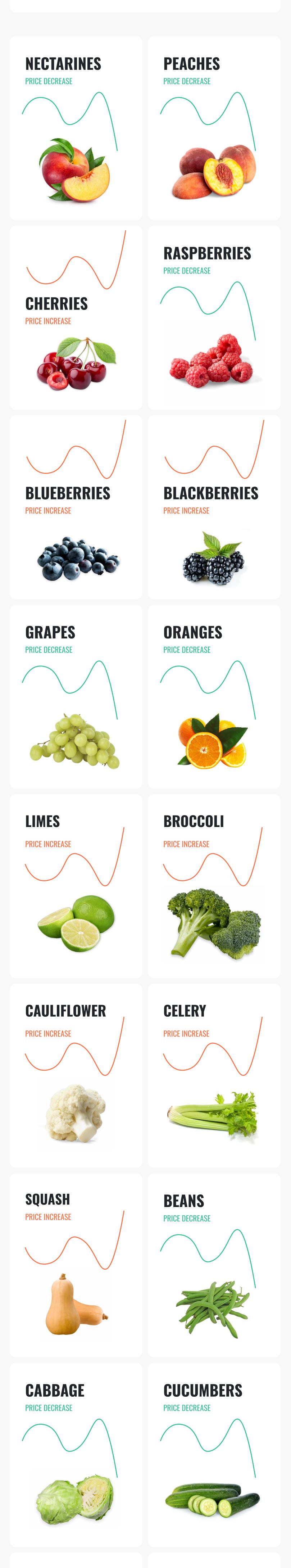
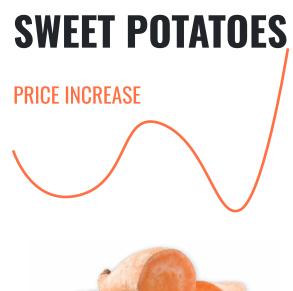


March MARKET UPDATES

pring has arrived, and with it comes fresh produce and menu inspiration. Although some regions are still affected by icy temperatures, new season's produce is starting to become available.







Special ALERTS



EGGPLANT

The market is very strong along with a strong demand. This trend is set to continue until new fields start. Eastern supply is very limited on fancy grade, but ample choice grade is available with scarring noted.

CUCUMBERS

Market prices will decrease over the next two weeks as Mexico and Florida experience favorable growing conditions, leading to increased supply and light demand.



BLACKBERRIES AND BLUEBERRIES

Blackberry volume from Mexico is decreasing, causing markets to slowly increase. Central American blueberry imports have dried up, leading to a decline in blueberry volume and leaving Mexico to pick up the slack. Florida supplies are expected to hit the markets in two weeks.



SQUASH

Spring squash harvesting will transition to new crop growing regions during the month of March. Yellow squash markets are climbing due to extremely limited supplies with average quality. Expect elevated yellow squash prices to persist over the next two weeks.

STRAWBERRIES



Supplies remain extremely limited in California as harvesting has been impacted by rain and cold overnight temperatures. Prices remain high as supply far exceeds demand. Expect continued strong demand and elevated markets through the month of March.





CANTALOUPE

Supplies have stabilized to better meet the demand, but larger sizes are still inconsistent. Overall, the quality is good.

GRAPES

Green and red supplies are very good as arrivals from Chile increase. Peruvian volume is still below normal. Demand is steady and quality remains good.

CELERY

Expect continued rising prices over the next month, unless warmer weather increases growth. Persistently cold and windy weather is slowing growth and limiting harvestable supplies in the Arizona and California growing regions. Florida supplies remain available, and markets are expected to inch up as demand increases in all growing regions.



ZUCCHINI

Mexican zucchini volume will fall over the next week as growers begin transitioning from Sinaloa to Sonora. Zucchini quality has improved and markets are expected to increase slightly.



SWEET BABY BROCCOLI

Sweet baby broccoli is scarce due to low yields from the Salinas Valley caused by rain and cooler temperatures. Suppliers have reduced harvesting to allow for plant maturity, exacerbating the shortage.