



# MARKET UPDATES

Week of May 4, 2026



## Seafood

### SEASONAL SPOTLIGHT

- This week's seasonal spotlight items are:
- Oyster Shucked Select, 1-Gallon, (#WB660)  
Source: Chesapeake Bay.
- Cod Fillet Refresh 12-16oz. 10 Lb case. (#WB686)  
Source: Alaska
- Both items are available for deliveries all week long.
- Advance notice is appreciated to ensure we pull enough inventory to meet demand.

View the full Seasonal, Fresh, Specialty Seafood list, including our Oyster List, here: <https://blackriverproduce.com/resources/updates/#regional-seafood>

### OYSTERS

- Reminder: PEI oysters (Beau Soleil, Savage Blonde, French Kiss) expected to be very limited for the next week.

### SOFTSHELL CRABS

- Season has started; product available by pre-order only.
- Jumbo 18ct per box (#WC032) – sold by the box only.
- Prime 24ct per box (#WC034) – sold by the box only.

### DRY SCALLOPS

- Price decrease.

### SWORDFISH

- Holding steady.

### HALIBUT FILLET

- Price increase expected.

### SALMON

- Price increase on Faroe Island Salmon.

## Meat

### BLACK RIVER MEATS – VERMONT RAISED BEEF

- Regional supply of high-quality New England cattle continues to decline due to increased buying pressure from larger producers.
- Beef markets in the region are rising rapidly resulting in a need for us to pass through a small portion of the cost increase.
- Price adjustment will take effect this week to support family farms and maintain supply.
- Increase reflects higher cattle costs along with rising labor, feed, and fertilizer inputs impacting our farmers.

### FARMERS AND COOKS

- Severe nationwide turkey shortage driven by ongoing Avian Influenza (affected 200 million birds since 2022).
- Despite working with diverse farmer co-ops that prioritize quality, humane practices and bio security, Farmers and Cooks still expects significant supply disruptions throughout May with gaps for approximately 2–3 weeks due to lack of raw material from all sourcing partners.
- Affected items:
- Turkey Breast Holiday Roast 4/3.5lb (#EV908).
- Turkey Roast Fireside 4/3.5lb (#WB244).
- Turkey Breast Oven Roasted Simple 4/3.5lb (#WB252).
- Alternate sourcing options are currently being explored.

## Specialty Grocery

### LA ROSE NOIRE TART SHELLS

- New item, perfect for event season.
- Tart shells from La Rose Noire landing this week.
- Large Round Vanilla Tart Shell 45ct (#BFA14)
- Small Round Vanilla Tart Shell 125ct (#BFB78)

### CIPRIANI FOODS VIRGIN BELLINI

- Virgin Bellini 6/4x6.09oz, (#BFB88) arriving this week. Great for Mother's/Father's Day brunches, graduations and weddings.

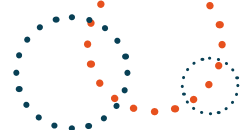
## This Week's Seafood Spotlight!

### Cod Refresh



Exclusively long line caught in the Bering Sea, off the coast of Alaska, this product of the USA is bled, headed, gutted, and frozen on the boat within hours of being caught.

Each fish is frozen at the peak of freshness.



## Cheese & Dairy

### JASPER HILL FARM, VERMONT

- Culinary Grade Alpha Tolman (#BEW78) has landed.

### MAPLEBROOK FARM, VERMONT

- Maplebrook's Caprese Season Kick Off sale is in effect for deliveries May 1- 31. Perfect timing for setting summer salad menus.
- Go beyond traditional tomato caprese salads with some of the thought-starters below.



Tomatoes can't have  
**all the fun!**



**15% off +Kicker**

When you want something familiar yet unexpected, spread the love across the entire garden with fun twists that replace tomatoes in the classic Caprese. Season generously: Tomatoes bring natural acidity—replace that with lemon, vinegar, or sumac to bring out a bold, fresh flavor.

### Modified Caprese > Sweet

*Cherries (halved or sliced)*

- Pair well with arugula or mint instead of basil.

*Strawberries*

- Sweet, juicy, sliced strawberries blend well with aged balsamic or Dark Cherry Vinegar Balsamic from Villa Manodori (#ARM50/#ARM51) and black pepper.

*Peaches or Nectarines*

- Grill lightly for a savory edge, or serve raw for freshness.

*Watermelon*

- Ultra-refreshing and clean.

*Figs*

- Honeyed sweetness and soft texture makes an excellent compliment to the creamy fresh mozzarella with a drizzle of balsamic glaze.

**Salt matters:** Especially with sweet fruit, flaky salt is essential to balance the sweet factor.

### Modified Caprese > Savory

*Thick Cucumber Slices*

- Crisp, cool, and neutral English or Persian cucumbers.

*Zucchini or Summer Squash*

- Thinly sliced or lightly grilled. Absorbs olive oil and salt nicely

*Avocado*

- Creamy and mild. Increase acidity with lemon zest or white balsamic.

*Roasted Red Peppers*

- Sweet-savory with umami depth. Brings richness closer to roasted tomato flavors.

*Radishes*

- Peppery crunch. Sliced thinly to keep them delicate.

**Season generously:** Tomatoes bring natural acidity—replace that with lemon, vinegar, or sumac if needed.

# Produce

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## ARTICHOKES – REMAINS ESCALATED

- Supplies extremely limited; quality fair.
- Heavy mildew pressure is keeping all sizes limited.
- Expect limited supplies for the next 2–3 weeks.

## ASPARAGUS

- New Jersey crop now in stock.
- 28lb (#78448) available; also shipping under standard code (#NH238).

## BLACKBERRIES CV/OG

- Quality impacted by ongoing heat; some regression present.
- Organic availability currently in a gap. Light volumes expected to return over the next 1–2 weeks.
- Supplemental sourcing in place to manage gaps.

## BLUEBERRIES CV/OG

- Mexico in peak production with strong quality and sizing.
- Peak production expected to continue into early May.

## BROCCOLI CV/OG

- Quality fair; supplies extremely limited.
- Ongoing issues with browning and pin rot.
- Market continues to rise.

## BROCCOLINI

- Quality good.
- Supplies improving but remain light with some growers.

## BRUSSELS SPROUTS

- Supplies and quality good.
- Insect pressure and internal browning still present challenges, but overall quality good.
- Continued improvement expected as growing regions transition.

## CAULIFLOWER CV/OG

- Quality good; supplies extremely limited.
- Market continues to rise.

## CARROTS

- Supplies tight on baby, cello, and jumbo carrots.
- Availability will remain limited until conditions improve in early May.

## CELERY CV/OG

- Quality fair; supplies tightening.
- Market trending higher.

## CORN

- Market starting to ease as Florida begins new production.
- Desert transition underway in the West. Quality good.
- Expect improved supply and continued improvement on quality over coming weeks.
- South Georgia expected to start around Memorial Day.

## CUCUMBERS

- Supplies improving out of Nogales and McAllen as new Mexican blocks come online.
- Florida supply limited to salvage crop.
- More meaningful relief expected when South Georgia season begins in the next week.

## FRESH CUT FRUIT PROGRAM

- Fresh Valley program discontinued.
- Transition to Del Monte as exclusive supplier.
- Order Monday by 9am – arrives Wednesday.
- Order Wednesday by 9am – arrives Friday.
- Order Friday by 9am – arrives Monday.

## GREEN BEANS

- Florida transitioned to new crop; supply and quality improved.
- Mexico continues harvesting; quality mixed.
- Additional relief expected as California ramps up.

## LETTUCE

- Iceberg: quality fair; supplies extremely limited; light weights;
- Market is active with weather impacting both harvest and quality.
- Growers expect yields to be low due to insect pressure, mildew damage and cap leaves.
- Romaine/Romaine Hearts: quality good; supplies tightening; reports of bruising, fringe burn, light weights, and mildew on outer leaves.

## LIMES – EXTREME!

- Conditions are extreme.  
Rain is impacting harvest and sizing across Mexico and Central America. .

## MELONS

- Honeydew market stabilizing (both volume and sizing) with increased Mexican production.
- Organic and conventional mini watermelons (6ct) back in stock (#PL268, #D3316).

## ONIONS

- Market stable; all product shipping from Pacific Northwest storage.
- Supply plentiful; quality strong.
- Minimal market movement expected.

## ORANGES

- California Valencias expected to begin now/into early May.

## PEPPERS (BELL)

- Increased supply from Florida, Georgia, and Coachella driving prices down.
- Hot house peppers steady out of Canada and Mexico.
- Overall quality is good across the board.

## PEPPERS (CHILI)

- Shortened supply expected on jalapeño, serrano, Anaheim, Caribe, habanero, fresno, poblano, and shishito.

## PINEAPPLES

- Market expected to remain tight at least through this week.

# Produce continued

## POTATOES

- Supply through the end of the year will be fully supported by storage shipments; no major disruptions expected.
- Strong sizing and availability across categories.
- Long term market outlook mirrors last season when market remained relatively soft until late spring at which point tighter supply led to higher FOB pricing.

## RASPBERRIES

- Hot weather in Mexico ongoing. Raspberries have shown greater heat resilience than blackberries.
- Quality stable with no major operational concerns.
- Peak volumes expected late April through May.

## STRAWBERRIES

- Supplies declining due to recent rainfall and lower overall quality.
- While minor defects and smaller size persist, pack quality remains fairly good as crews continue disciplined sorting.
- Production has settled into a post-peak pattern with steady but flat volumes expected in near future.

## SUGAR SNAP & SNOW PEAS

- Snow pea supply from Guatemala steady.
- Sugar snap availability improving.
- Mexican production limited during field transitions.

## TOMATOES

- Florida entering tightest and most critical week in production with very little volume to harvest.
- Demand will exceed supply with heavy prorates and shorts expected.
- Quality fair at best.

## ZUCCHINI/YELLOW SQUASH

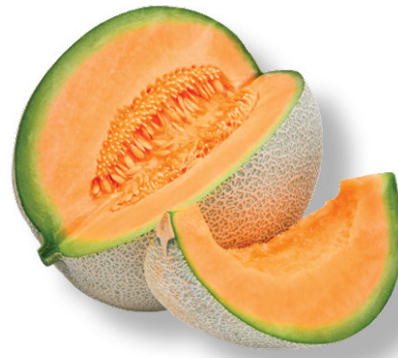
- Green supply tightening; yellow lighter.
- Upward pressure on pricing.
- Quality good on both colors.
- Georgia and California expected to start within 10–14 days.



They're Back . . .

# Cantaloupes

In stock this week!



## New / Reactivated Codes

#BFB88	Virgin Bellini	6/4x6.09oz	Cipriani Foods	Landing week of May 4.
#BFC38	Bite-size Original bars		Garuka Bars	Now available (sampling/events)
#PL268	Mini Watermelons Organic	6 Ct		In stock. In season.
#D3316	Mini Watermelons Conventional	6 Ct		In stock. In season.
<b>La Rose Noire Tart Shells</b>				
#BFB78	Small Round Vanilla Tart Shell	125ct	La Rose Noire	Landing week of May 4.
#BFA14	Large Round Vanilla Tart Shell	45ct	La Rose Noire	Landing week of May 4.



4th Annual

# Spice Sale

**Black River Produce spices have some of the best EDLP pricing in the market. Save even more with our annual spice shelf refresh sale.**

WC582	All Spice Grind	1/15 OZ	WC614	Cumin Whole	1/14 OZ	WC638	Paprika 85 Asta	1/16 OZ
WC518	All Spice Whole	1/12 OZ	EL036	Curry Pwdr	1/14 OZ	EH820	Parsley Flakes	1/10 OZ
WB576	Anise Star	1/7.5 OZ	GR788	Dill Seed	1/14 OZ	WC640	Pepper Blk Crse 18 Mesh	1/16 OZ
WC584	Arrowroot Ground	1/16 OZ	EJ372	Dill Weed	1/4 OZ	WC642	Pepper Black Fine 28 Mesh	1/16 OZ
EH754	Basil Leaves	1/6 OZ	WC612	Fennel Seed	1/14 OZ	EH828	Pepper Black Grind	1/5 LB
EH744	Basil Leaves	1/1.75LB	WC620	Fenugreek Whole	1/16 OZ	WC646	Pepper Black Whole	1/16 OZ
EL026	Bay Leaves	1/1.5 OZ	ACP46	Five Spice	11oz	EH836	Pepper Black Whole	1/5 LB
WC586	Bay Leaves	1/8 OZ	WC618	Garam Masala	1/16 OZ	WC648	Pepper Cayenne	1/16 OZ
EL850	Cajun Seasoning	1/23 OZ	WC522	Garlic Granulated	1/20 OZ	EJ788	Pepper Cayenne	1/5 LB
EL030	Cajun Seasoning	1/7.5 LB	EH724	Garlic Granulated	1/6.5 LB	WC650	Pepper Red Crushed	1/12 OZ
WC588	Caraway Seed Whole	1/16 OZ	EH812	Garlic Powder	1/5 LB	WC528	Pepper Red Crushed	1/4 LB
WC610	Cardamom Ground	1/16 OZ	WC616	Garlic Powder Premium	1/16 OZ	WC652	Pepper White Ground	1/16 OZ
WC526	Cardamom Pod	1/11 OZ	WC622	Ginger Ground	1/14 OZ	WC654	Peppercorn Medley	1/16 OZ
WC520	Celery Seed	1/16 OZ	EL044	Juniper Berries Whole	1/12 OZ	WC656	Pickling	1/13 OZ
WC592	Chili Powder	1/18 OZ	EL362	Lavender Leaf	1/4 OZ	WC946	Poppyseed Seed	1/8 OZ
EH794	Chili Powder	1/5 LB	WC664	Marjoram	1/3.25OZ	WC530	Poultry Seasoning	1/14.5OZ
EH804	Chives Chopped	1/1.5 OZ	EL032	Montreal Steak	1/26 OZ	WC658	Rosemary Leaves	1/6.5 OZ
WC598	Cinnamon Ground	1/16 OZ	WC626	Mustard Ground	1/13 OZ	ET424	Sage Ground	1/8 OZ
EH808	Cinnamon Ground	1/5 LB	WC628	Mustard Seed	1/16 OZ	WC590	Salt Celery	1/35 OZ
WC600	Cinnamon Whole Stick	1/8 OZ	WC524	Nutmeg Ground	1/16 OZ	EP548	Salt Kosher Flake	1/32 OZ
WD070	Cinnamon Whole Stick	1/2.2 LB	WC634	Nutmeg Whole	1/16 OZ	WC624	Seasoning Italian	1/6 OZ
WC602	Cloves Ground	1/1 LB	WC630	Onion Granulated	1/16 OZ	EL046	Spice Sage Rubbed	1/5 OZ
WC604	Cloves Whole	1/10 OZ	WC632	Onion Powder	1/16 OZ	EJ790	Sumac Ground 5	1/12 OZ
WC606	Coriander Ground	1/13 OZ	EH726	Onion Pwdr	1/5 LB	WC660	Tarragon Whole	1/2.5 OZ
EL034	Coriander Whole	1/7 OZ	WC636	Oregano Leaves Whole	1/6.2 OZ	EH840	Thyme Leaves	1/7 OZ
WC608	Cumin Ground	1/16 OZ	EH816	Oregano Whole	1/2 LB	EJ378	Thyme Leaves	1/2.25LB
EH722	Cumin Ground Bulk	1/4.5 LB	WC644	Paprika	1/5 LB	WC662	Turmeric	1/14 OZ



## Buy More

- 5 - 7 units
- 8 -12 units
- 13+ units

## Save More

- \$1 per unit
- \$3 per unit
- \$5 per unit



Valid on deliveries 05.01.26 - 05.31.26. Discount will be applied as an account credit for units purchased on the same invoice/billing date. Credit will appear on or around 06.15.26. | [BlackRiverProduce.com](http://BlackRiverProduce.com) | 800.228.5481

