

# GreenGate Fresh Crop Report

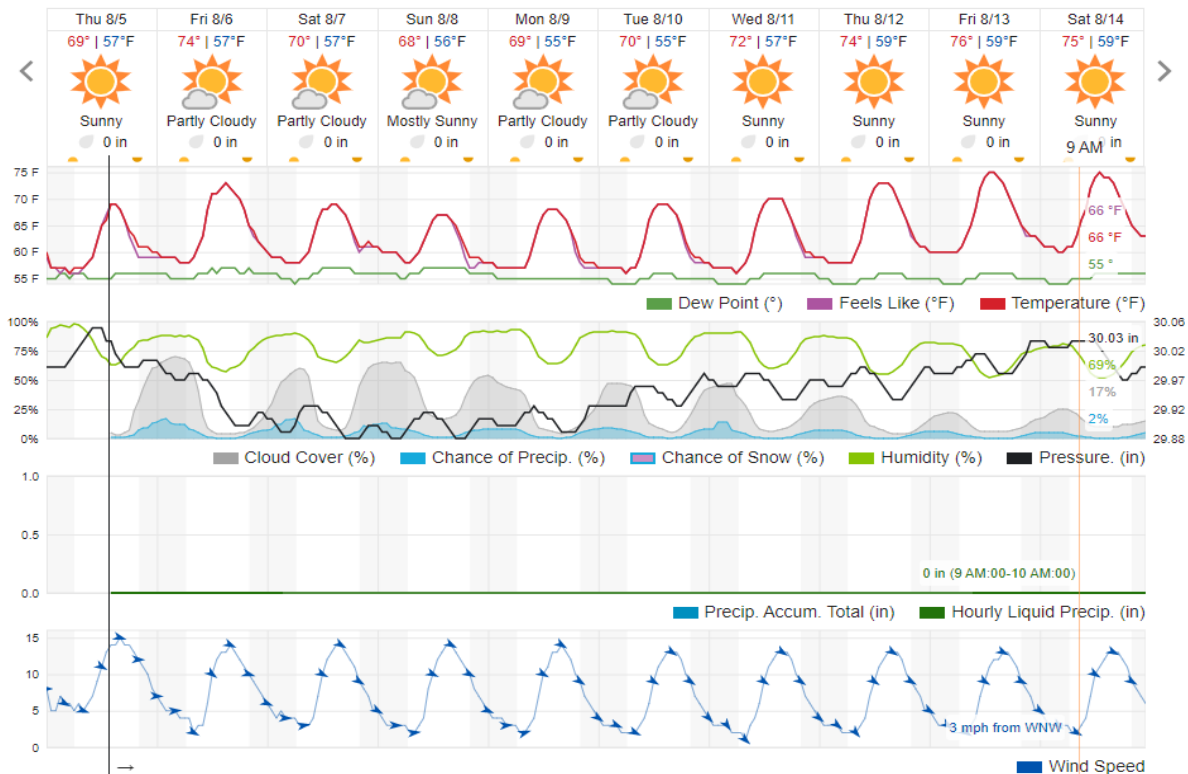


Report Date	8/4/2021
Growing Location	Salinas, CA

## Overview

- The overall quality on all our commodities has been good so far, even considering the temperature rises. After we had a break from the unexpected heat wave, the temperature is once again on the rise. We will continue to have more eyes on the products to ensure the quality is as best as we can produce.
- We have begun to see the effects of the 2<sup>nd</sup> heat wave that hit almost a month ago and has presented some challenges with growth rates. As the crops (mainly tenderleaf items) are continuing with a slightly faster growth rate, we have had to accommodate our harvesting time on these commodities.
- You will notice that the defects we are seeing are very minor but are still present as a byproduct of the increased temperatures. Our most challenging commodity is the romaine with keeping it cold throughout transportation, as well as some of our tenderleaf items. We all know the temperature is only going to continue to increase, so it's *imperative* we continue to have control over our cold-chain management.

## FUTURE WEATHER (Greenfield, CA Station; just south of Salinas, CA):

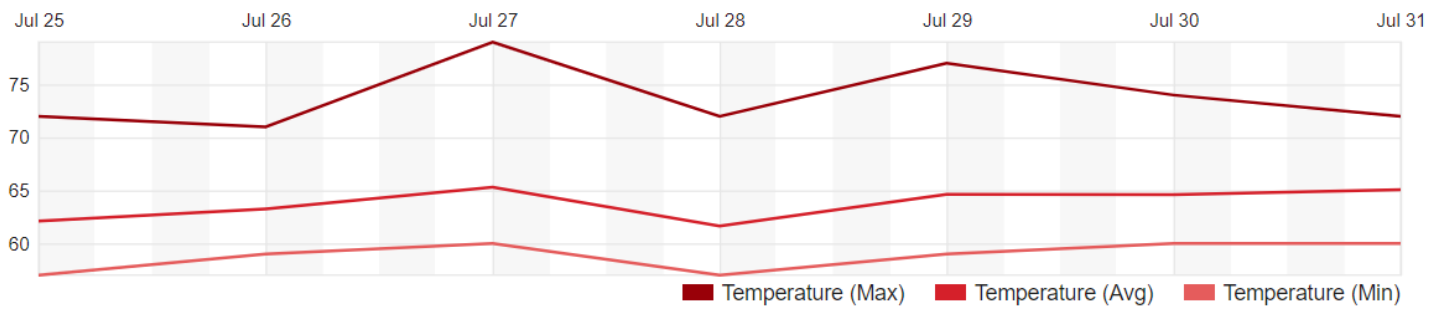


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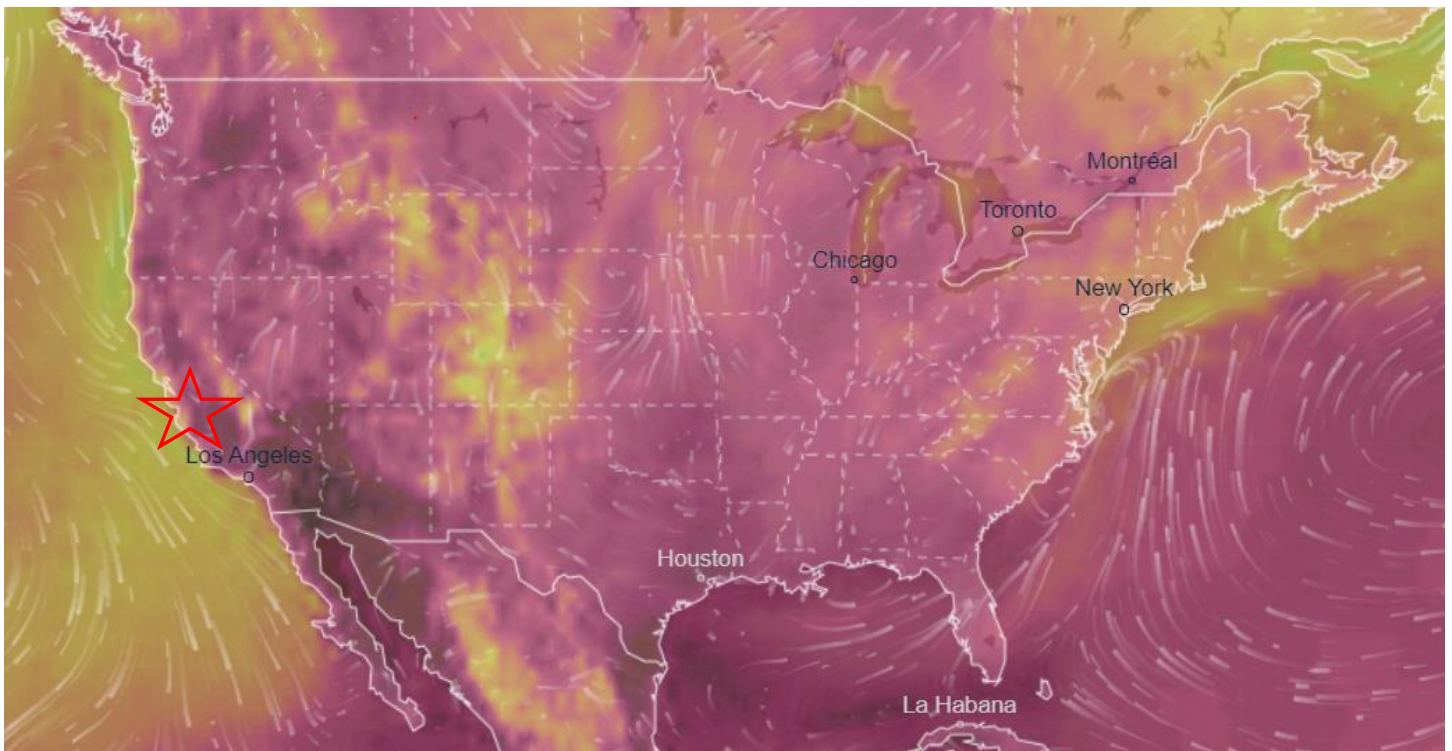


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## Historical Weather (Salinas Airport Station):



## North America Temperatures – Wednesday 8/4/2021



## Crops Covered This Week:

- Iceberg Lettuce



GreenGate Fresh Crop Report	
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- Romaine Lettuce
  - Spinach
  - Arugula
  - Cabbage
  - Broccoli
  - Kale

## **Iceberg**

The iceberg has given us fairly good quality over the past month. Occasional mildew on outer leaves has been noticed, which are easily trimmed off during harvest. Fusarium has just recently been noticeable in a fair number of fields, and facilities throughout the area are trying to combat this same issue. No insect damage/aphids have been seen.



GreenGate Fresh Crop Report	
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**Iceberg field North of Salinas, CA**



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**Densities are loosening a bit with slight variation between parts of the field.  
Short to medium cores.**

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**Split head in the field. Good quality.**



**Examples of Tip Burn in bags of chopped lettuce. Usually buried within the head of lettuce and not easily seen during harvest, tip burn occurs at the growth tips of the leaves.**



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## **Romaine**

The romaine heads have remained a bit on the larger side due to the increase in temperature throughout the area. Some spoilage, such as mildew and decay, has been noticed upon arrival, which is easily removed prior to production. There have been some issues with romaine arriving with elevated temperatures in certain areas of the country, and with the temperature only on the rise, cold-chain management remains crucial.



**Romaine field in Salinas, CA**

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**Mature with bushy head. Fringe burn can be seen on the edges of the outer leaves which are removed during harvest.**



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**Split heads – Clean internally. Notice the medium/large size and short cores.**

## **Spinach**

We are still observing the effects of the previous heat waves from a few weeks ago in the growth of the spinach. We are working on harvesting the fields a bit early to accommodate for this, but it can be challenging. Defects that we witnessed the end of June into July are still present. These would include wind burn, mildew, and large leaves. While these defects are not desirable, they have been manageable so far.

# GreenGate Fresh Crop Report



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**Spinach beds near Soledad, CA**



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**Slight narrow leaf structure with good sizing.**

## **Arugula**

The sizing of the arugula has remained consistent even throughout the warmer temperatures that have come through. Harvesting the tenderleaf early to stay ahead of the growth has assisted in this process. The overall quality has remained satisfactory. We have not noticed any mildew or insect damage. Just as the romaine, there have been a few shipments with elevated temperatures on this product, and as the temperature only increases, cold-chain management is vital.



**Arugula located in Soledad, CA**

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The arugula flowers we observed a month ago are no longer present, instead we have good healthy beds



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**Arugula fields in Soledad, CA**

## **Cabbage**

The slight mildew that was noticed a month ago on the outer leaves has returned, making this the only real issue we are seeing in the cabbage. This defect is manageable, rather it just takes much added effort on our part during production to remove the outer leaves prior to processing the product. We still have not observed any insect damage, and while the core size varies, we are not seeing a large amount of long cores.

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**Cabbage north of Salinas near Greenfield, CA**



**Good density with wonderful green contrast**



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**Fantastic head density and great quality; slight core size variances**





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## **Broccoli**

The florets have become larger as the temperatures increase throughout the season. Other than the sizing of the florets, the rest of the quality has been exceptional on the broccoli. Only a small amount of purplish hues has been observed or insect/soil damage on the fields.



**Broccoli field near Salinas, CA**



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**Great green color with slight purpling**



**Thick stems noticed with floret size variance**





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## **Mature Kale**

Just as we saw some slight insect damage a month ago, we are seeing a few areas with more insect damage. With the inconsistent temperatures we have been experiencing, we have observed some slight yellowing in the leaves. Both the stems and leaves continue to be thick and hearty in response to the added growth spurt with the heat wave.



**Kale field near Soledad, CA**



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**Only a small amount of yellowing noticed on the leaves**



**Thick stems with thick leaves**