

GreenGate Fresh Crop Report

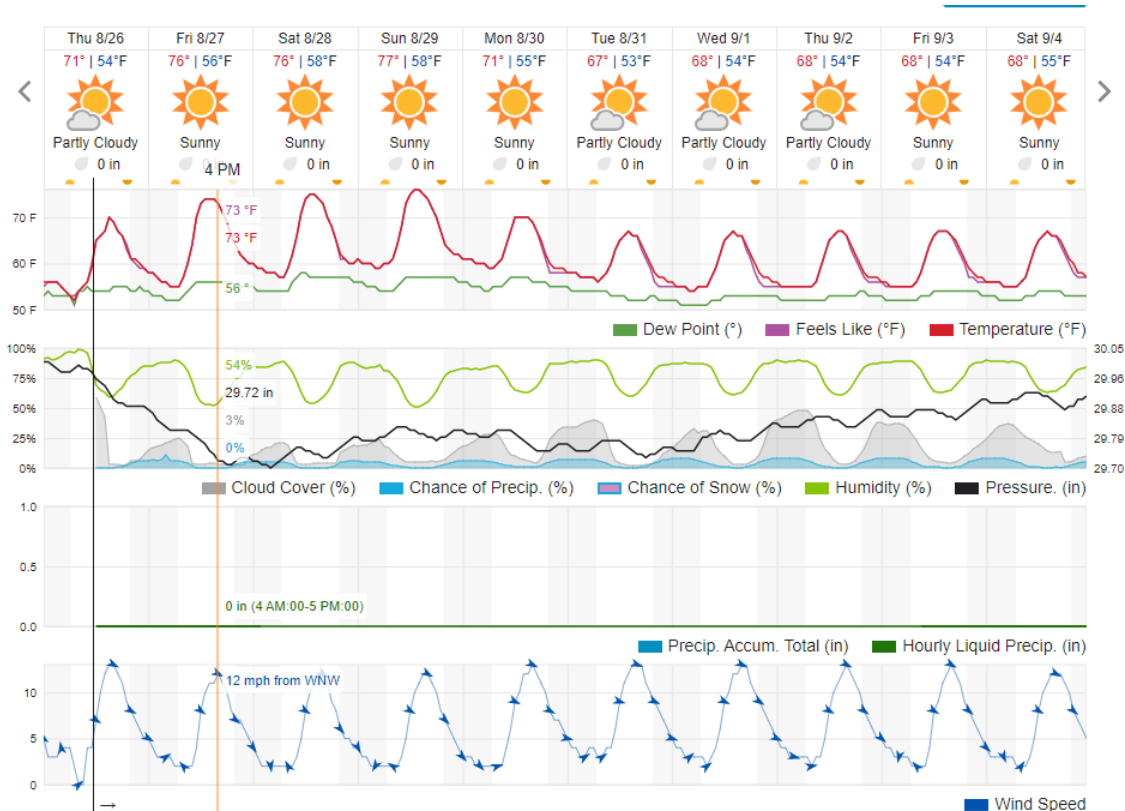


Report Date	8/30/2021
Growing Location	Salinas, CA

Overview

- The quality we have observed the past month has been wonderful on all our products. We have only noticed some slight defects occasionally (such as insect damage or fringe burn), but those have remained manageable. We have noticed an increased number of roots coming in with the spinach harvests, which we have continued to stay on top of during inspection.
- The heat has remained consistent in the area, and while we are expecting to see the temperature decrease as the Salinas season is coming up on winding down, the climate change we are experiencing may play an impact on the growth of our commodities.
- While this is understandably repetitive, cold-chain management will continue to remain vital. All of us must ensure that the product begins and stays cold throughout processing **and** transit during these continued rising temperatures. Only when we work collectively will this process be able to flourish.

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

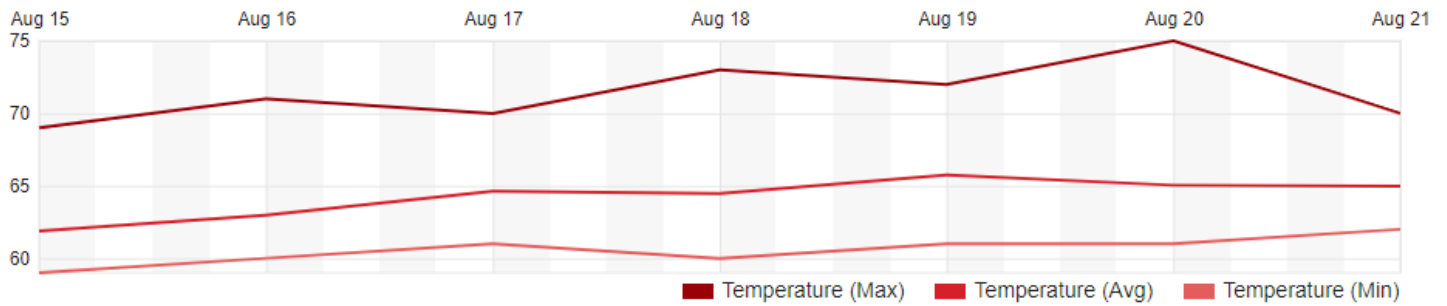


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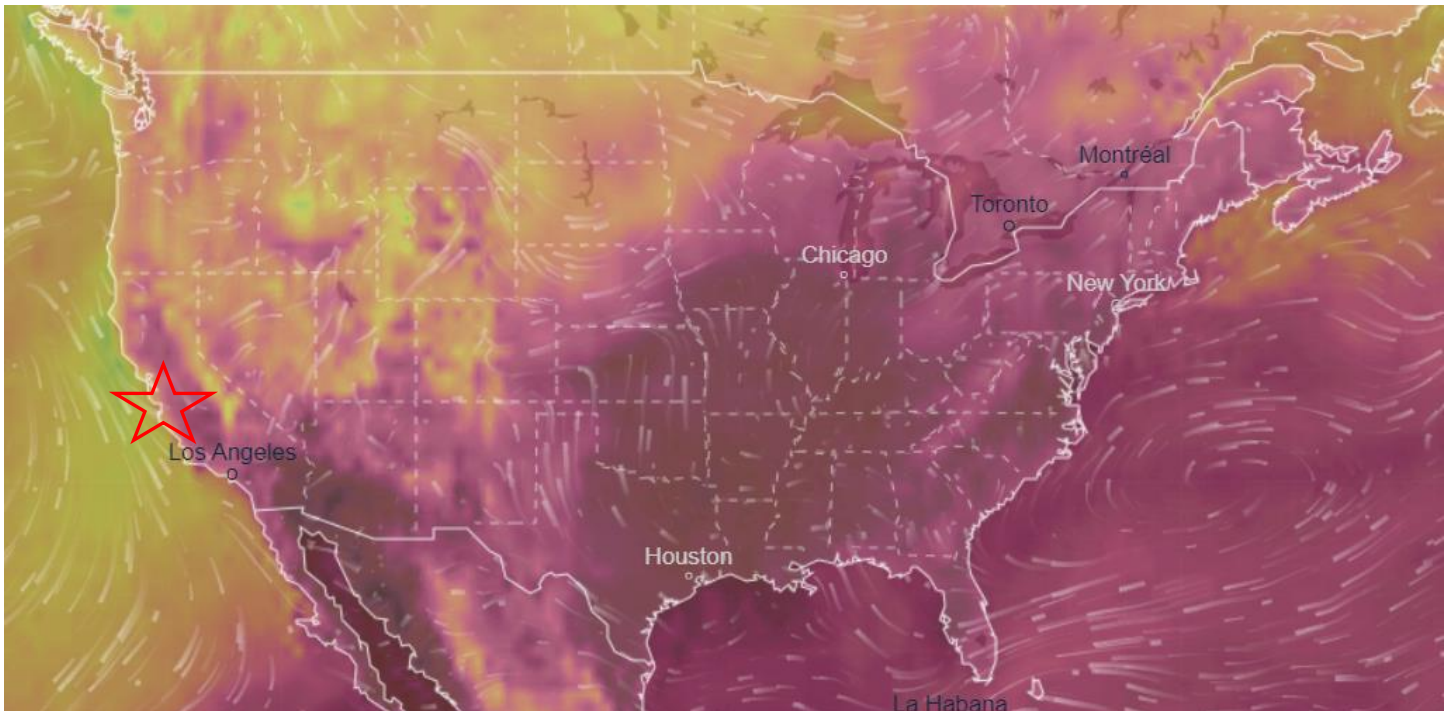


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Historical Weather (Salinas Airport Station):



North America Temperatures – Wednesday 8/25/2021





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Crops Covered This Week:

- Iceberg
- Romaine
- Spinach
- Arugula
- Cabbage
- Broccoli
- Kale

Iceberg

The iceberg has given us pretty good quality over the past month. Occasional fringe burn on outer leaves have been noticed. These leaves are usually taken off during harvest, although some can make it into the production facility during processing. Fusarium has subsided a bit, and there haven't been any insect damage/aphids observed.

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Iceberg field in Salinas, CA

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Densities are loosening a bit with slight variation between parts of the field and core length

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Good quality split head in the field



Slightly smaller heads than we have seen in the beginning of the season

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Romaine

The romaine heads have continued to remain a bit on the larger side due to the increase in temperature throughout the area. As we start to cool down in the season, we should see the heads decrease in size. Some spoilage, mainly mildew, has been noticed upon arrival. These outer leaves with mildew are remedied prior to production on our inspection line where they are removed as best as possible. There have continued to be some issues with romaine arriving with elevated temperatures in certain areas of the country. I know this continues to be repetitive, but cold-chain management remains critical as temperatures throughout the country are steadily warmer than expected.



Romaine field in Salinas, CA

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Mature with bushy head

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Split heads without internal defects. Cores are very similar in length.



Split heads with core removed.

Spinach

We have encountered some problems the past few weeks during spinach production. Roots in the bags have been our biggest concern. These materials have the ability to continue on during the production process from

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tractor movement in the field, bringing them into the harvester. If they are not caught immediately prior to production, since the roots float, they have the ability to continue on through the process. We are doing the best we can to remedy this on our inspection line. Weeds have been our second main concern, which are also removed as best as possible on the inspection line. Adding additional passes with our weed crew is crucial, as these materials emerged in rapid succession during the increase in temperature. Some large leaf and decay have been seen as part of the temperature increase as well.



Spinach beds in Soledad, CA

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Slightly narrow leaf structure

Arugula

We have been having great quality arugula lately. The sizing has not varied much and we have not noticed any great amount of defects, such as mildew, wind damage, or insect damage. The temperatures have leveled off a bit, but with the expected rise again, tenderleaf items will remain on the forefront of our minds with harvest time.



Arugula sizing is great

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Arugula beds are very healthy

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Cabbage

We are still seeing slight amounts of mildew on outer leaves during harvest. We have been alleviating this issue by outer leaf removal either in the field, or on the inspection line during production, which has so far remained manageable. We have just started noticing some longer cores, but the harvest teams are doing a good job at removing those out in the field. A small amount of insect damage has been noticed but has also been manageable. No soil diseases have been observed.

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Cabbage north of Salinas near Greenfield, CA

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Fantastic head density and great quality; medium to large core lengths

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Split head with great density



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Broccoli

The florets have remained a consistent size as of late. The purplish hue that we were slightly noticing last month has receded for now throughout the past few harvests. We have also not seen any significant yellowing due to the increased temperatures we have been experiencing. No field defects, including insect or soil damage have been observed.



Broccoli field near Soledad, CA

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Prior to harvest in Soledad, CA

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Great green color with no purpling noticed

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Thicker stems noticed with floret size variance

Mature Kale

Insect damage is still prevalent in some areas, and we are doing our best to mitigate this issue. The baby kale has given us great sizing in both stem and leaves. We are only seeing some slight yellowing of the leaves in the mature kale, which should subside as we continue further into the Salinas season and dip into some cooler weather.

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Kale field in Soledad, CA