

GreenGate Fresh Crop Report

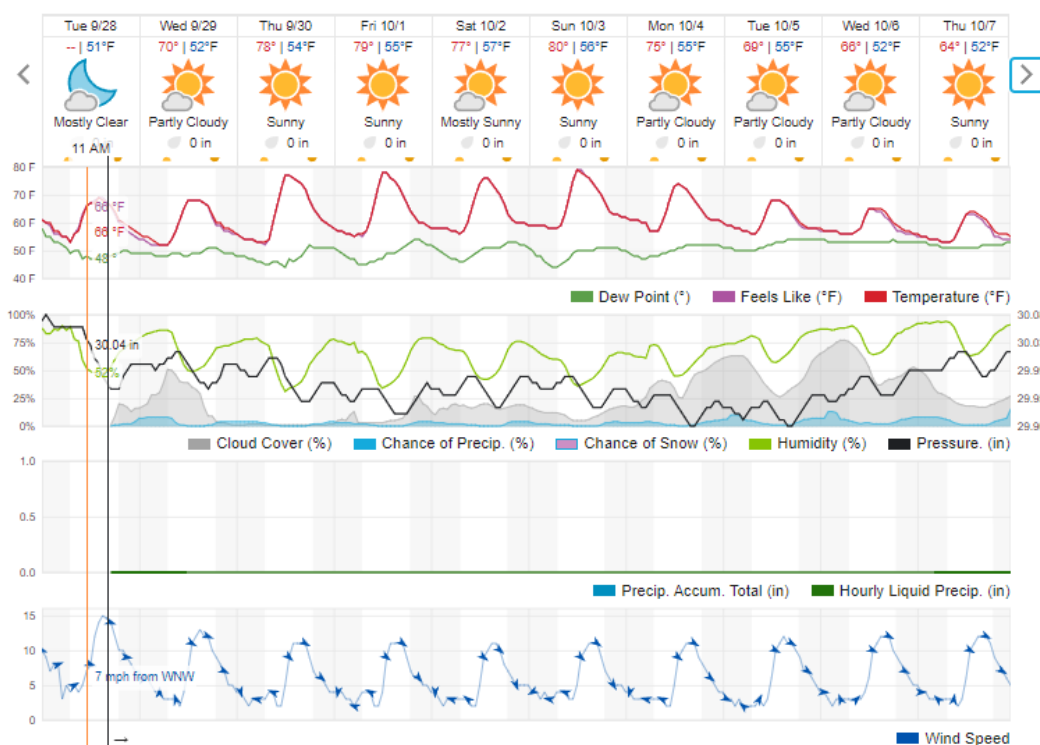


Report Date	9/28/2021
Growing Location	Salinas, CA

Overview

- As the Salinas season is nearing the end, we have begun to observe numerous defects pop up. Insect pressures have greatly increased the past month. Moths have emerged as a major issue throughout the Salinas growing region, leaving GGF and other processing facilities at their mercy.
- Coastal fog lingering later into the day has also played a part in other defects noticed in a few other commodities. Pin rot in broccoli has become an issue we are working through due to the lingering overcast. Additionally, fringe burn on our lettuce has given our production facility a bit more work with inspection due to the late fog and cold mornings, followed by increased warm afternoon temperatures.
- Given the information above, we have not had an issue with a "heat wave" this past month, so to say. Rather only a handful of days here and there have been exceptionally warm.
- Cold-chain management will **always** remain key. However, we have noticed we have not had as many issues with warmer product temperatures as we have moved out of the brunt of the hot summer months.

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

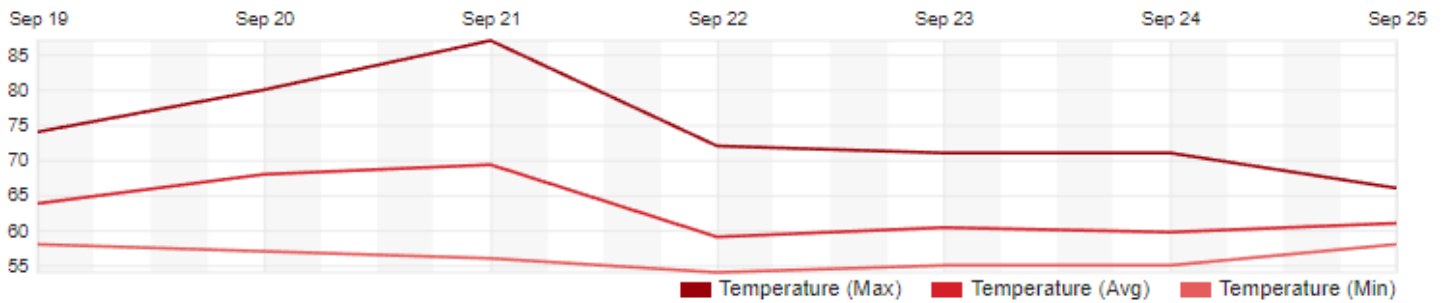


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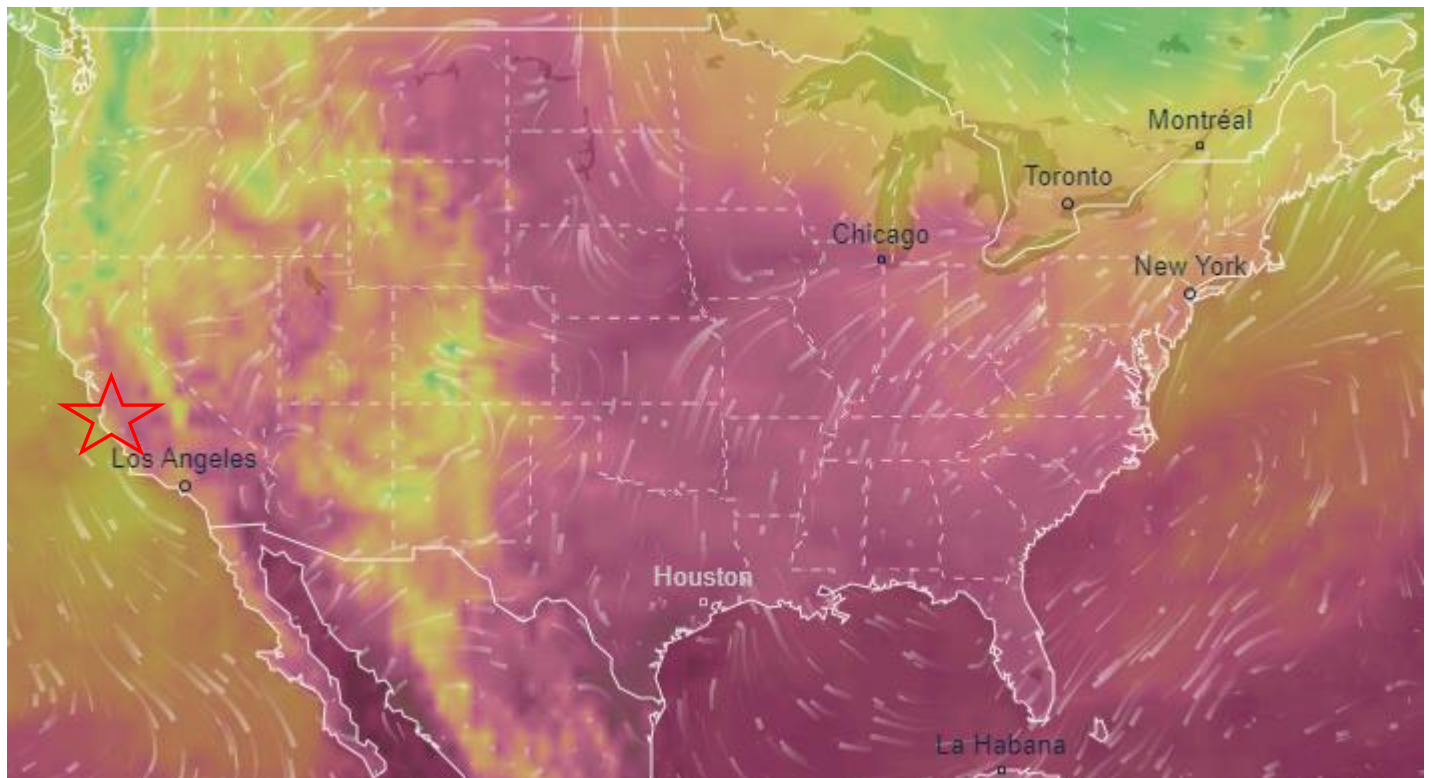


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Historical Weather (Salinas Airport Station):



North America Temperatures – Tuesday 9/28/2021



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Crops Covered This Week:

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

Iceberg

The iceberg quality has diminished the past few weeks. Decay, fringe burn, and mildew have been the biggest defects noticed as the raw material is being harvested. Our harvest crews have been doing a great job at culling out as much of the defects as possible in the field, but our production staff has still needed to increase inspection on this product. The beginning of the Salinas season rewarded us with phenomenal iceberg quality when we were seeing some issues in other products, and now those instances have flipped. This is something we will be working through for the next few weeks.



Iceberg field in Greenfield, CA

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Densities are much looser with medium core length

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Good quality split head in the field



Smaller heads as the Salinas season nears the end

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Romaine

The quality on the romaine has been much better over the past month. The cold-chain management issues we noticed in the past have greatly diminished. A few weeks ago, we were seeing some slight defects in the field, such as decay and mildew on the outer leaves of the romaine head. However, those have seemed to decline.



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Romaine field in Greenfield, CA

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Mature bushy head

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Split heads without internal defects with some longer cores noted



Split heads with core removed.



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Spinach

The spinach has continued to give us wonderful quality. We haven't noticed any main defects emerging in these fields. Nonetheless, foreign material has continued to give us some issues. Roots have still been posing an issue making it into some of the finished product. This can happen if the root is small or light enough to make it up the harvest machine into the raw material bins. While we always have at least one employee to inspect the tenderleaf line, a small root could continue on through the processing stages. We continue to address this at the field level.



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Spinach beds in Soledad, CA



Slightly narrow leaf structure noticed

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Arugula

Arugula has continued to give us a great quality product. We have only had a small amount of sizing differences, with some large leaves being harvested from the fields, otherwise no other defects have been observed. With the temperatures tapering down, our tenderleaf items have done very well in growth and lack of defects.



Arugula sizing is what we hope to see

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Arugula beds have continued to do very well



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Cabbage

Insect damage has slightly impacted our cabbage fields as well. Cabbage moths are emerging as a problem in some of our fields. This issue isn't widespread enough on the cabbage to affect production as of yet. Many of the outer leaves where insect pressures are seen have been widely removed in the field. Those heads that continue into the facility are being removed by our production staff on the inspection line. No soil diseases have been observed.

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Cabbage north of Salinas near Greenfield, CA

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Great dense cabbage heads; slightly longer cores that last month

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Slightly smaller head sizing, still great quality



Split head with great density

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Broccoli

Floret size has been fairly consistent the past month, with few variances. The purple hues have not returned, giving us great green quality in the broccoli heads. Only very mild yellowing in the leaves have been observed with the few hot days we have had. Pin rot is the only defect we have had to overcome with the weather, but that should be fading. No insect or soil damage have been observed with this crop.



Broccoli field near Chular, CA

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Prior to harvest in Soledad, CA



Great green color

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Thicker stems noticed with floret size variance



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Mature Kale

Insect damage has slowly increased in many of the fields. We have been doing our best to mitigate this issue on the production line with additional inspectors being placed. No widespread yellowing has been seen in the fields as we have neared the end of the numerous heat waves. No soil diseases noted.



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Kale field in Soledad, CA

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Hardy leaves

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