



GreenGate Fresh Crop Report	
Report Date	2/2/2023
Growing Location	Yuma, AZ

## **Overview**

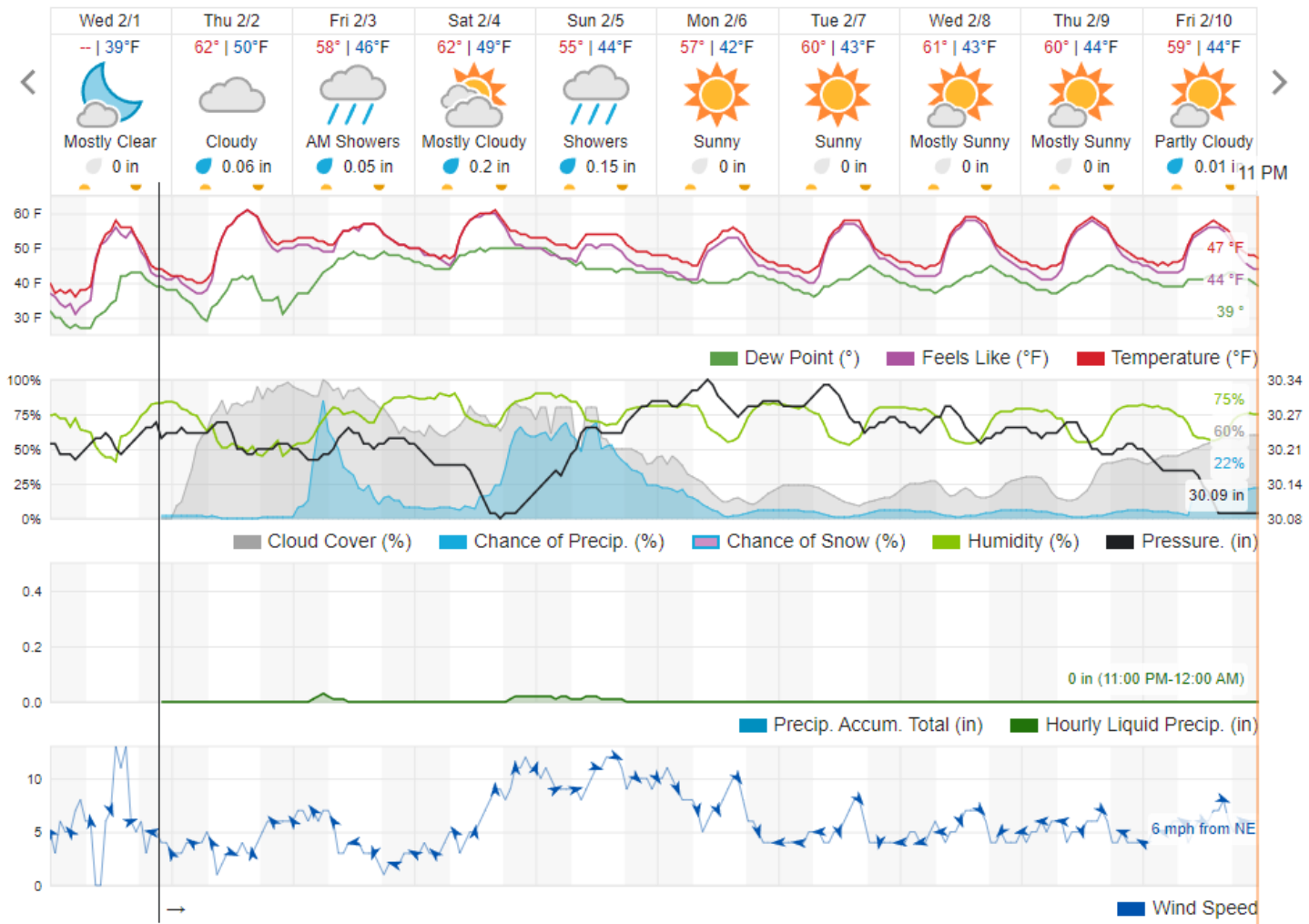
- We are halfway through the Yuma season!
- The lettuce ice that we were all dealing with almost daily in December has calmed down a little but is still present and our harvest team is working around the weather. The weather is not so damaging that we are seeing mass quality issues, but we are keeping eyes on to ensure we are addressing anything that presents itself.
- There have been some days with some slight precipitation, coupled with the cold nights has given way for a few defects we are on the lookout for and will address below.

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## Future Weather Outlook (Yuma, AZ)

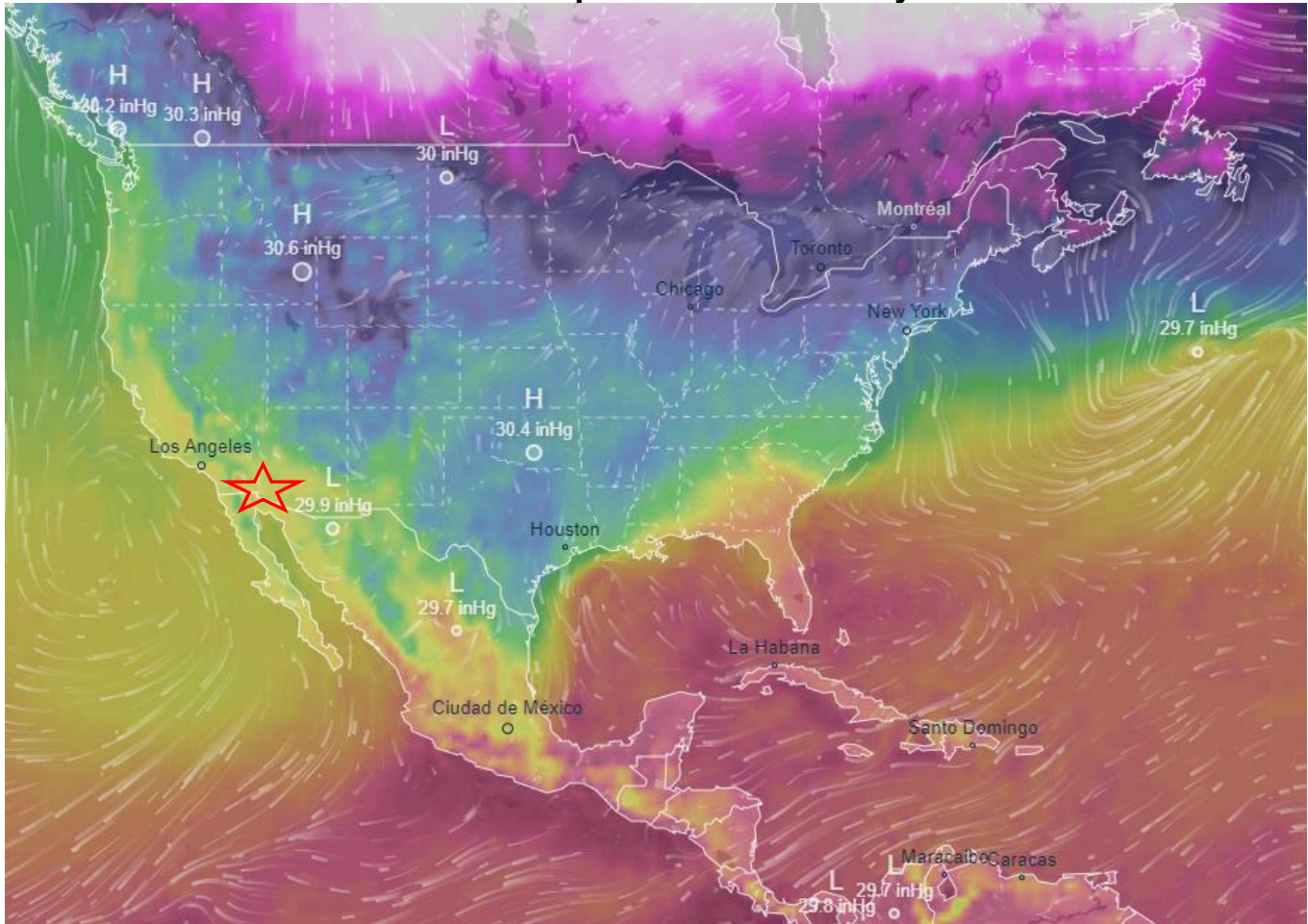


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## North America Temperatures – Wednesday 12/28/2022



### Crops Covered This Month

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



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## **Iceberg**

While Iceberg tends to be very sensitive to weather swings, after the consistent lettuce ice in December, the iceberg quality has bounced back. There is some slight epidermal peel on the outermost wrapper leaves, but those are removed by the harvest crew. We have not observed any other quality defects in the iceberg the past few weeks.



**Iceberg field in Yuma, AZ**



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**Heads are on the slightly smaller side**



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**Heads have short cores, and compact heads**



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**Internal quality looks very good**



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## Romaine

Following some colder nights here in the desert, there has been times where epidermal peel has presented itself, however most of that remains on the outermost portions of the heads that are closest to the colder air. These leaves are removed during hand harvesting and have not become an issue to mitigate at the plant level. We have had some minor insect issues that our field team is working with our PCA on but has not been a widespread issue at this point.



**Romaine field in Dome Valley, AZ**



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**Heads are on the younger side, with a little less green**

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**Split and cored romaine heads**





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## **Spinach**

The quality of the spinach has not given us any issues over the past month. The coloring and sizing of the leaves has remained consistent. We have not encountered any insect damage or any other quality defects in the spinach fields.



**Spinach beds in Somerton, AZ**





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**Healthy looking spinach beds with great color**



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**Spinach continues to have consistent leaf sizing**



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## **Arugula**

Our arugula has been the most consistent crop in terms of quality. We have not encountered any quality defects for the past few months, and do not anticipate any in the near future. Towards the end of the Yuma season before we make the transition back to Salinas, we may have some flowering that accompanies the large swing in weather temperatures as the desert begins to warm. We will keep our eyes on this and update if there are any changes.



**Arugula field in Somerton, AZ**





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Arugula has great coloring

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**Leaf length continues to be consistent**



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## **Cabbage**

Cabbage continues to provide good quality. The colder winter climate coupled with a few days with some precipitation has given way for some mildew to emerge. The mildew only remains on the outermost leaf layers (much like other defects in the romaine and iceberg), which will be removed in the field during harvest. We have not observed any other defects or diseases with cabbage.



**Cabbage field in Somerton, AZ**





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**Cabbage heads in the field are becoming larger**





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**Heads are larger and have lighter green coloring**



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**Heads are very dense with variable core length**



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## **Mature Kale**

We have not encountered many defects with our mature kale recently. We have had some minor discoloration and yellowing with some of the older leaves of the plant. Given that this commodity is machine harvested, we are adding some additional inspectors on the line to cull out any defects that present themselves at the facility level. As the weather continues to warm up, we will be on the lookout for insect damage, as aphids emerge with the increasing temperatures. At this time, no other defects or diseases have been noted.



**Kale beds in Somerton, AZ**





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**Leaves are more curly than last month**





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**Great quality kale**



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## **Broccoli**

Just as many of our other commodities, the broccoli has been giving us very good quality. We had a few days we worked around some pin rot, but it was minor and left as quickly as it arrived. The sizing of the heads has been consistent, with only some minor variation, which can lead to some irregular floret sizing. We have not observed any insect damage or other defects at this time.



**Broccoli field in Somerton, AZ**



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**Broccoli heads have variable sizing**



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**Broccoli heads have good quality**





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**Broccoli crowns have great green coloring**



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**Split head showing good internal quality**