

GreenGate Fresh Crop Report



Report Date	6/8/2023
Growing Location	Salinas, CA

Overview

- We had some rain over more than a handful of days last week in the Salinas Valley. While the rain is always appreciated here in California, we are anticipating this to put a strain on some of our crops which are more susceptible to defects in the cooler, wetter climate. We do not foresee rain in the coming days.
- Many of the increased challenges that came along with our extended time in Yuma are not present so far in Salinas. Insect pressures are almost non-existent, we are no longer dealing with the unusually high growing temperatures, and bolting/flowering tenderleaf has not occurred.
- Yesterday, June 7th, was World Food Safety Day!! If you're interested in learning more, the World Health Organization has released a 2-minute video:
<https://www.who.int/multi-media/details/world-food-safety-day-2023-dr-maria-neira-assistant-director-general-who#>
 - An average of 1,600,000 people get sick from unsafe food *every day*
 - Approximately 340 children <5 years old die from preventable foodborne diseases *every day*
 - There are roughly 200 different diseases which are caused by unsafe food

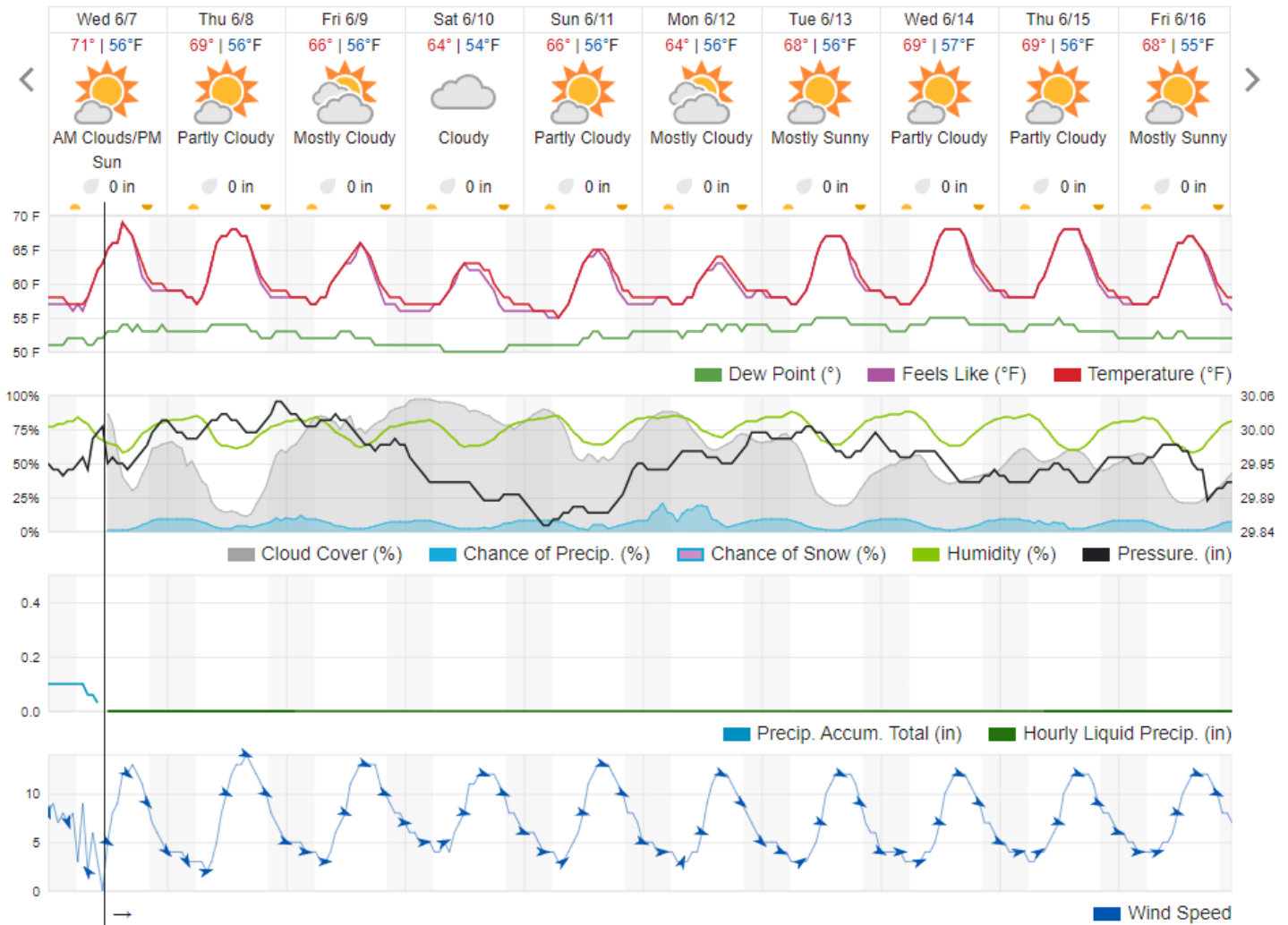


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Future Weather Outlook (Salinas, CA)

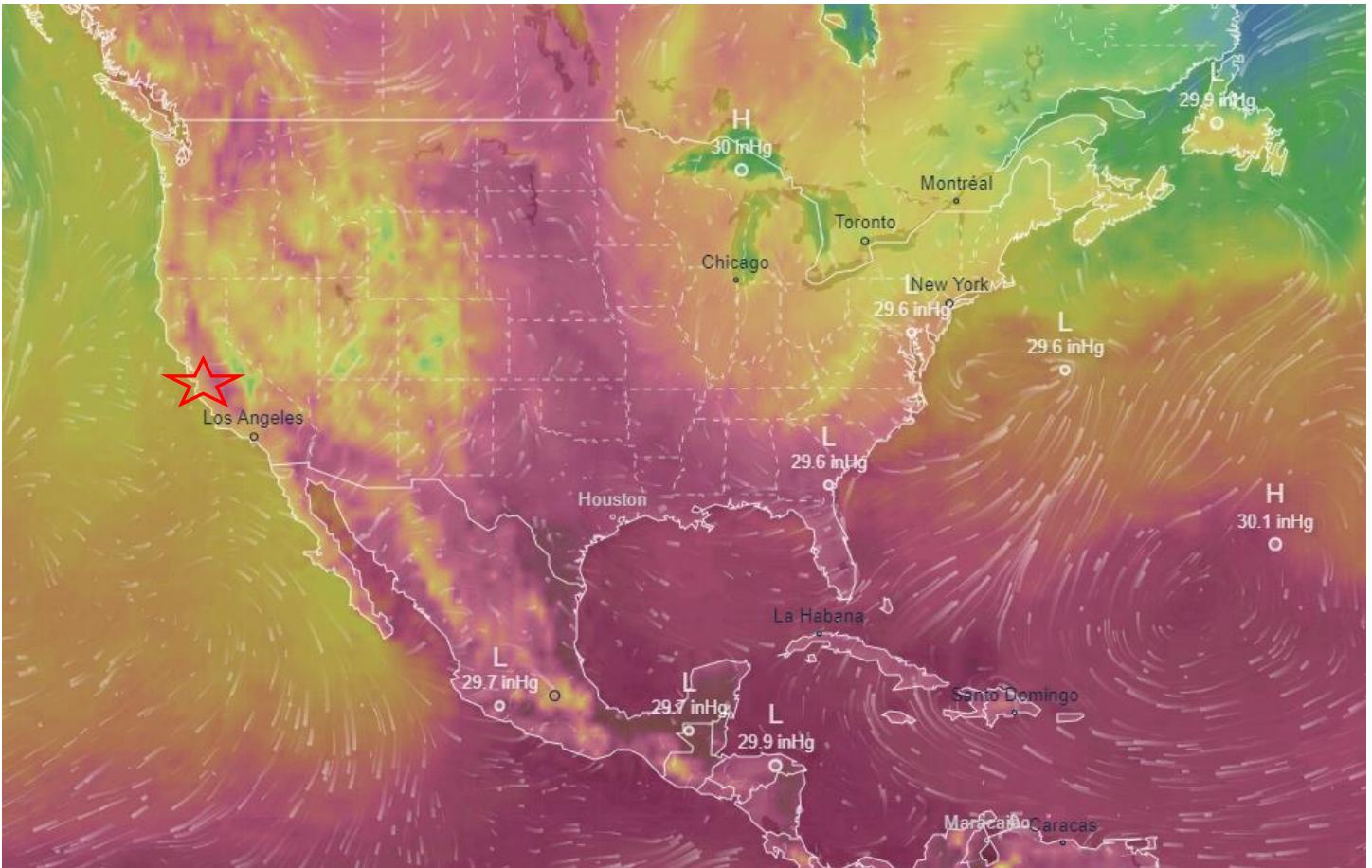


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North America Temperatures – Thursday 6/8/2023



Crops Covered This Month

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

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Iceberg

We have not encountered many issues in the iceberg over the first month of the Salinas season. The weather has been cool (consistently in the low 60s), which is a climate that iceberg greatly prefers. We do not anticipate any quality related issues in this commodity for the near future but will communicate any changes if/when they arise.



Iceberg field in Hollister, CA

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Heads are fairly normal sized

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Heads have short cores, but the heads are more fluffy

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Internal quality looks very good

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Romaine

The colder, wetter climate may negatively affect the quality in the romaine in the coming weeks. The quality we have seen thus far has been as expected, however we will be keeping a close eye on the fields in the coming weeks to observe any changes that may occur. No other quality related issues have been noted.



Romaine field in Watsonville, CA

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Heads are fluffy the beginning of the season

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Split and cored romaine heads

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Spinach

Our spinach has been doing quite well so far and is expected to continue that way in the coming weeks. Our main concern in this commodity is insect pressures and discoloration; both of which tend to happen with warm weather, which has not been an issue in the Salinas Valley as of late. We will communicate any changes with this as they arise.



Spinach beds in Soledad, CA

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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

Product quality for arugula has been wonderful. There has been some sporadic bolting/flowering as product matures in the field, so we are harvesting a little ahead of schedule to ensure we can both meet demands with product availability, as well as ensuring we limit any of those defects from arriving with the product. As the weather in the Salinas Valley is cooler than Yuma, bolting/flowering is not as extensive, however we will continue to observe for any changes. No other quality related defects or diseases have been noted.



Arugula field in Soledad, CA

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Arugula has great coloring

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Leaf length continues to be consistent

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Cabbage

Despite cabbage almost always being our most tried and true commodity with the least number of concerns, the end of the Yuma growing season faced transitional difficulties due to weather. We did not originally plan to stay in Yuma for so long; however, some crops needed to be planted in Yuma halfway through the season, as we suspected Salinas crops may not be ready in a timely manner due to heavy rains. While we didn't necessarily see anything out of the ordinary from the late Yuma crop, the heads were visibly whiter and not as green as usual. As of June 1st, all our cabbage is being sourced from Salinas.



Cabbage field in Greenfield, CA

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Cabbage heads in the field have good sizing



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Heads are very large and have good green coloring

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Heads are very dense, and cores are very long

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Mature Kale

We observed some slight discoloration in the middle of May, shortly after the transition, in a few of the kale fields, which were the leaves toward the bottom of the beds. These discolored leaves were easily removed on the inspection line, and we have not come across any discoloration since. Product availability for this commodity will remain unaffected for the coming future. No other defects or diseases were observed.



Kale beds in Soledad, CA

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Kale beds in Soledad, CA

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Leaves are very curly

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Broccoli

Broccoli quality has been good so far. We have not observed any discoloration/purpling or insects, which are usually the two main culprits that affect this commodity. We don't anticipate broccoli availability to be negatively affected in the near future. No other defects or diseases have been noted at this time.



Broccoli field in Soledad, CA

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Broccoli crowns have great green coloring

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Split head showing a thicker than usual stalk