



GreenGate Fresh Crop Report	
Report Date	8/3/2023
Growing Location	Salinas, CA

Overview

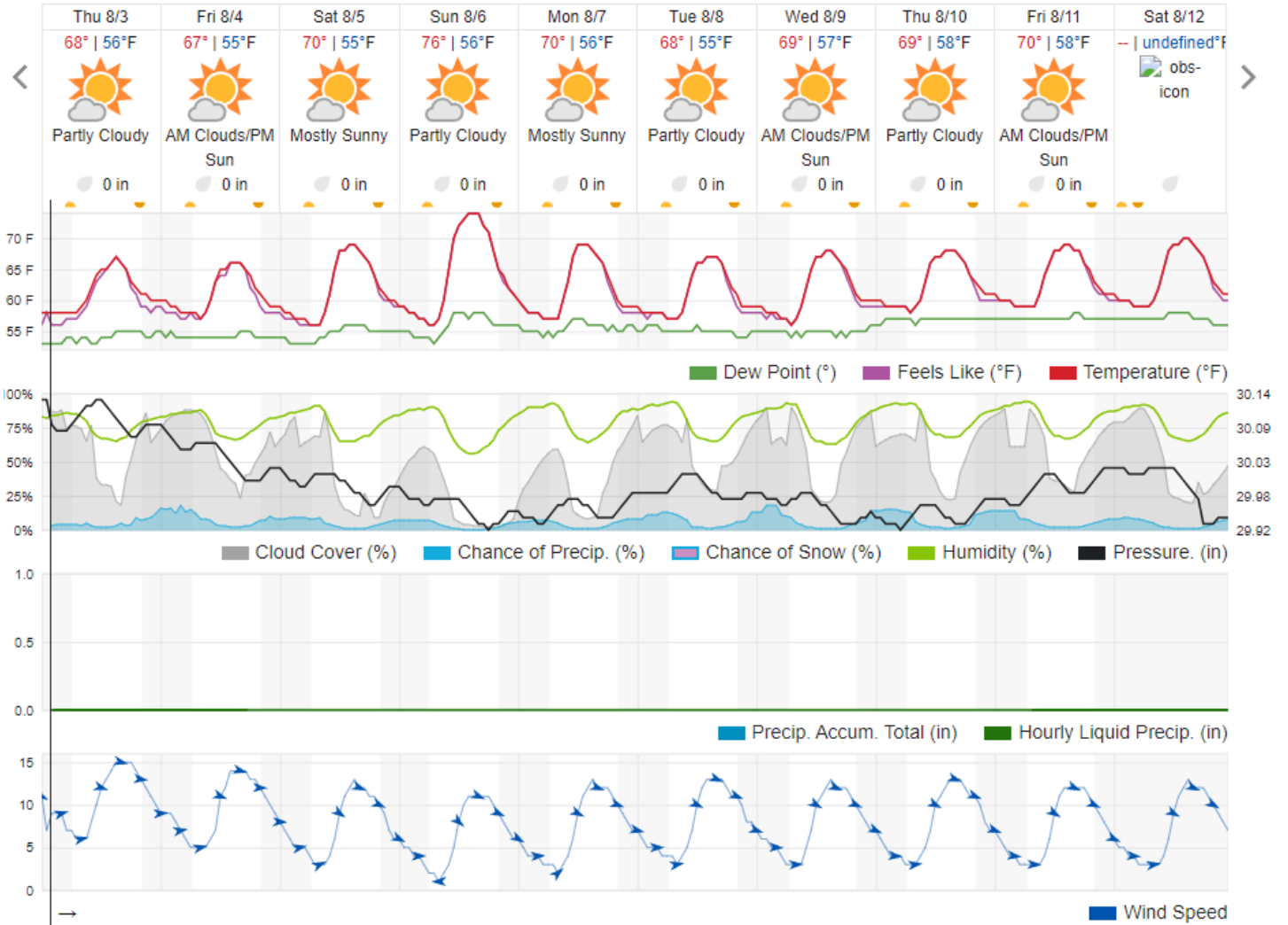
- We are **HALFWAY** through the Salinas season! Compared to last summer, we have yet to see the field diseases emerge in a variety of crops (although we are all keeping our fingers crossed, as it's not 'if' they'll happen, but 'when'...) so overall quality is much better comparatively!
- This past month we have observed an increase in insect pressures in the valley. As the summer months are in full swing, so are insect habitats and the increased insect population brought along with that. We are continuing to mitigate as best as possible between the field and in the facility through various means of foreign material removal. While insect pressures are elevated, they are still under control.

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Future Weather Outlook (Salinas, CA)

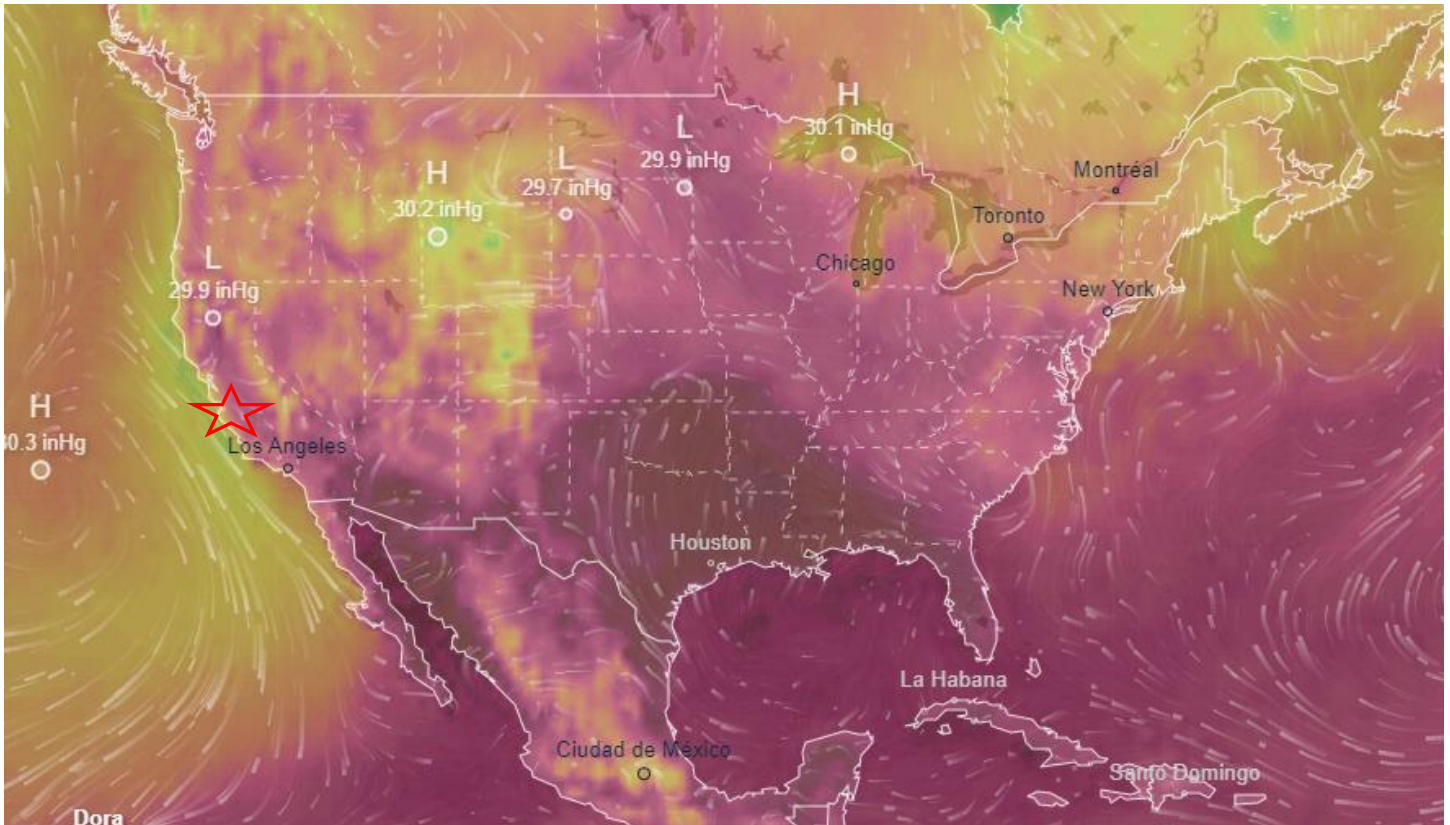


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North America Temperatures – Wednesday 8/3/2023



Crops Covered This Month

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

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Iceberg

Over the past few weeks, we have been observing minor amounts of what the USDA has termed 'rusty brown discoloration' in random areas in a few fields. The discoloration has been affecting the internal portion of some lettuce heads, which aren't visibly seen during harvesting. We have added some additional inspection in the facility to help cull those defects out prior to bagging, but as it is a physiological defect, it may show in the bag post-production on its way to consumers. While this isn't a widespread issue presently, it is becoming a little more prevalent, so we wanted to make you all aware of some slight swings in lettuce quality in the coming weeks. No other defects or diseases have been noted.



Iceberg field in Chualar, CA

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Heads have great sizing

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Heads have short to medium cores with slightly dense heads

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Internal quality looks good



Rusty brown discoloration in some heads – outer leaves easy to remove; internal is more difficult

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Romaine

The romaine quality is doing very well so far. We did not observe any large quality defects last month, and do not anticipate any in the coming weeks. While weather usually plays a large factor in the quality of romaine (due to the finicky nature of the product itself), the few temperature swings have not played a factor thus far. We will continue to monitor for any changes in quality and diseases that may emerge.



Romaine field in Salinas, CA

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Romaine field in Salinas, CA

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Heads are denser than previously observed

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Split and cored romaine heads – cores are very short, and heads have more blonde coloring



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Spinach

In the beginning of the month, the Salinas area saw a large increase in wind speed traveling down the valley. In turn, this was causing a jump in windburn and torn leaves. Recently, the increased winds have subsided, however the spinach is very brittle, meaning it is more susceptible to tearing. We have not observed any further quality related defects in the spinach beds but will continue to monitor and send out communication with any changes.



Spinach beds in Soledad, CA

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Decent looking spinach beds with great color

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Spinach continues to have consistent leaf sizing

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Arugula

The past few weeks during some warmer periods in the Valley, flowering and some slight yellowing/discoloration was occurring in some of the arugula fields, which is common when temperatures increase unexpectedly. The field cleaning crews did a wonderful job of cleaning those beds up before arriving to the facility, as those defects were easier to manage. We do not anticipate any quality concerns in the coming weeks.



Arugula field in Greenfield, CA

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Arugula has great coloring

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Leaf length continues to be consistent

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Cabbage

Cabbage quality continues to remain high. The temperature fluctuations have brought about very minor mildew on the outer cap leaves of the heads; however, those are easily removed in the field, and those that are missed are caught by our in-house inspection. We do not anticipate any quality defects to emerge in the coming weeks, however we will continue to monitor and reach out with any changes.



Cabbage field in Greenfield, CA

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Cabbage heads in the field have good sizing

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Heads are great sizing and have lighter coloring than last month

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Heads are very dense, and cores are much longer than last month

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Cabbage has good internal quality

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Mature Kale

The two main quality factors that present in mature kale are discoloration and insects (primarily ladybugs and aphids). Yellowing is usually either a byproduct of warmer weather or come from the leaves on the underside of the plant that have not received enough sunlight; however, discoloration has not been apparent in the fields as of late. While insect pressures have increased in the valley, only a few kale fields were observed to have aphids. This lot was bypassed and unused. We will continue to monitor, however there have not been further incidents. No other defects or diseases have been observed.

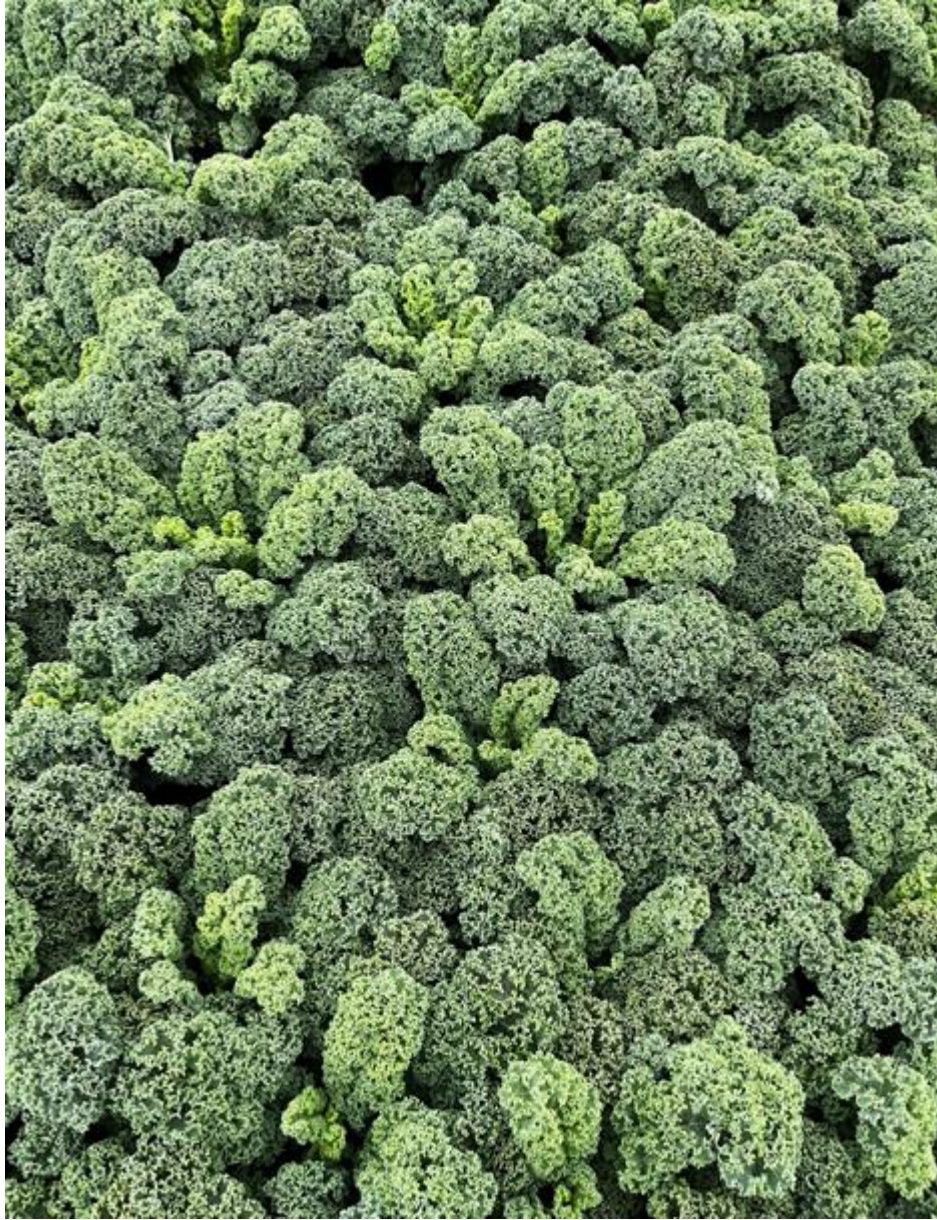


Kale beds in Soledad, CA

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Kale beds in Soledad, CA

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Very curly and full leaves, stalks are thinner than previous months

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Broccoli

Broccoli quality as of late has been wonderful. We are just beginning to see a slight purplish hue scattered in a few fields. We just recently had a handful of days that were cooler, which tends to bring about the purplish coloring in broccoli as its means of temperature resistance. Temperatures are set to cool down a bit next week, so we may continue to see this a bit longer. No other defects or diseases have been noted.



Broccoli field in Gonzales, CA

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Broccoli is beginning to show a slight purplish hue

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Broccoli crowns are good sizing

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Split head showing a thicker than usual stalk