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In the Trenches: Put muscle into merchandising California strawberries

By

Ron Pelger

June 5, 2026



The logo features the text "In the Trenches" in a large, green, textured font. Below it, "with Ron Pelger" is written in a smaller, grey font. The text is surrounded by various vegetable illustrations: two red cherries, a green pea pod, and a carrot.

Spring is here and summer is just ahead. That means California strawberries are on tap. California's ideal climate produces 90 percent of the nation's strawberries, yielding 1.8 billion pounds annually, and more organic strawberries are grown in California than anywhere in the world.

[Read more](#)

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U.S. supply chain education important for Peruvian avocados

By

Tim Linden

June 5, 2026



As the Peruvian avocado industry enters another season of significant shipments to the U.S. market, a major effort needs to be on supply chain education.

[Read more](#)

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**Ocean Mist Farms delivers convenience without compromising on
freshness or flavor**

June 5, 2026



Today's consumers continue to express strong interest in cooking with fresh vegetables, but increasingly busy schedules often make that goal difficult to achieve. Between work demands, school activities, commutes and packed family calendars, many consumers are seeking meal solutions that deliver freshness, flavor and nutrition — without requiring time-consuming prep.

[Read more](#)

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USDA restricts seven PACA violators

June 5, 2026



The U.S. Department of Agriculture has imposed sanctions on seven produce businesses for failing to meet contractual obligations to the sellers of produce they purchased and for failing to pay reparation awards issued under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act. These sanctions include suspending the businesses' PACA licenses and barring the principal operators from engaging in PACA-licensed business or other activities without USDA approval.

The following businesses and individuals are currently restricted from operating in the produce industry:

[Read more](#)

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Brewster Heights files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection

June 5, 2026

Brewster Heights Packing & Orchards, one of Washington state's largest vertically integrated apple and cherry growing, packing and distribution enterprises, has commenced a voluntary Chapter 11 restructuring process by filing petitions in the United States Bankruptcy Court for Eastern District of Washington.

[Read more](#)

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Wegmans' kicks off campaign to support summer feeding programs

June 5, 2026



Wegmans Food Markets kicked off its company-wide Fill the Bus/Fill the Backpack scan campaign to raise money for the company's 53 Feeding America food bank partners.

[Read more](#)

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