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Ciruli Brothers seeing good quality on early veg deal

By

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RIO RICO, AZ – Ciruli Brothers, a long-time shipper of Mexican produce, was seeing outstanding quality on its vegetable crops early in early November.

“We had good summer rains, so there is plenty of water in the reservoirs, and the phenomenal weather we have experienced is bringing good early volume and great quality for our vegetable crops,” said Chris Ciruli, who is a partner in the business with brother Chuck.

Among the early vegetable crops that Ciruli Brothers markets are eggplants, cucumbers, peppers, green beans and squash. Tomatoes, both rounds and Romas, were due to start in December. Ciruli’s mango season is set to start in February, kicking off with Champagne (Ataulfo).

“Everything is shaping up nicely, but the real challenge we’re seeing this year so far is on the freight,” said Ciruli.

He explained that Ciruli was seeing holiday-level pricing for freight in early November, “even though we are weeks away from Thanksgiving. I can’t imagine what rates will be like when the holidays do arrive.”

On a more positive note, Ciruli said he and virtually everyone in the area were excited about the southern border reopening for recreational purposes in early November.

“When the moratorium expires on Nov. 8, it will be the first time in 21 months that people will be allowed to cross the border for non-business purposes,” he said Nov. 5. “We’re all excited about that, hopefully it will breathe some new life into the area.”

Photo: Chris Ciruli, chief operating officer and a partner in Ciruli Brothers, with Ivan Aguirre, a sales assistant who has been with Ciruli Brothers for one year.

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