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**Retail vet joins Stater Bros. as VP of fresh sales and merchandising**

**June 29, 2026**



Bruce Robinson has joined Stater Bros. Markets as its new vice president of fresh sales and merchandising.

Robinson will work cross-functionally with store operations, marketing and supply chain to elevate the company's brand and deliver a market-leading merchandising strategy across meat, seafood, produce, floral, service deli and bakery. He will also oversee assortment planning, space allocation, department flow, pricing and promotions to optimize sales and profitability.

[Read more](#)

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## **Market Minute: Portobello mushrooms, the other steak on the grill**

**By**

**Ron Pelger**

**June 29, 2026**

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Portobello mushrooms are the fully mature Cremini mushrooms that can grow up to six inches in diameter. This mushroom is known for its dense, meaty steak-like texture. During summer, outdoor grilling is a prime time for the Portobello veggie burger.

Today's shoppers are spending more each year on premium brown mushrooms. The Portobello is a perfect produce item for grilling by brushing the caps with olive oil, balsamic vinegar and garlic. They will turn up nicely charred and juicy by grilling them on a medium-high heat for just five to seven minutes per side.

[Read more](#)

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**Melon 1 celebrates America's 250th with retail program**

**June 29, 2026**



As consumers prepare for Fourth of July celebrations, [Melon 1](#) is helping retailers showcase one of summer's most iconic fruits through an expanded U.S.-themed merchandising program designed to drive excitement in the produce department and celebrate the American family farmer.

[Read more](#)

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**Balchem introduces digital nutrition platform for specialty crop advisors**

**June 29, 2026**



Balchem Plant Nutrition has launched Metalosate T.E.A.M., a new digital plant tissue analysis platform designed to help crop advisors and agronomists make more precise nutrient management decisions for specialty crops.

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The free platform, available to pest control advisors and agronomists throughout the United States, analyzes plant tissue results and converts them into crop-specific nutrient recommendations intended to improve yield potential, fruit quality and return on investment while reducing unnecessary fertilizer applications.

[Read more](#)

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**TK Fresh values strong relationships with suppliers and customers**

**By**

**Chris Koger**

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**June 29, 2026**



Over its 40-year history, TK Fresh has built supplier relationships based on trust, transparency, consistency and mutual growth.

The company views its suppliers as long-term partners rather than vendors, said Lorenzo Scala, co-founder of the Toronto-based fresh produce distributor.

“Our goal is not only to purchase produce but also to help suppliers establish and expand their presence in the Canadian market through our sales expertise, retail relationships and distribution network,” Scala said.

[Read more](#)

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**Vanderpump Blooms x Bloom Haus floral collection by Lisa  
Vanderpump expands line**

**June 29, 2026**



The Kroger Co. announced the expansion of Vanderpump Blooms x Bloom Haus, a floral collection curated by businesswoman, TV personality, author and philanthropist Lisa Vanderpump, to include Vanderpump Home featuring several new products available in stores now with more to be released throughout the year.

[Read more](#)

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