

Market News

There was a 15.5% sales decline in orange juice sales in the four weeks through Feb. 18 despite a 6.7% increase in the average retail price, according to a sales report from the Citrus Department. The additional 8.8% decline not attributable to price could only be explained by carbendazim, claimed officials, reported *The Lakeland Ledger*.

Carrots are moving into a peak production period. Volume and quality are very good right now with excellent yields, reported *The Produce News*.

Shippers of California strawberries and asparagus expect markets to strengthen in the runup to Easter, but promotable volumes of both items should be readily available, reported *The Packer Online*.