

OLIVER KAY

Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 20/03/2023

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Fruit Of The Week



Heritage Tomato

Spanish in Origin. Great flavour and colour. Ideal roasted or in salads

Veg Of The Week



Asparagus

Peruvian origin. Beautiful sautéed or roasted

Quality Update

Key: ● = Alert ● = Warning ● = Resolved / For Info

CODE	PRODUCT	MARKET SITUATION	PHYSICAL CONDITION	COMMENTS/ACTION
75185 75389	Aubergine	Cool conditions affecting size and shelf-life.	Size towards the lower end of specification. Reduced shelf-life.	Use stock quickly and avoid storing.
All Codes	Round Salad & Beef Tomato	Reduced supply out of Morocco.	Colour much improved but still tender. Beef at lower end of size spec.	Use stock quickly and avoid storing.
All Codes	Green Kale, Spring Greens, Cavolo Nero	Limited availability due to earlier frosts.	Quality of available stock is good.	Information only.
09509	Imported Cauliflower	Limited supply. Mixed sizes and counts in boxes.	Quality is good.	Sold as full case only - not able to guarantee individual head size.
All Codes	Capsicum Peppers	Short availability, lack of mid range sizes.	Reduced life and increased skin defects. Two colours in pre-packs.	Colour flash present in all codes.
74919 74897	Little Gem Lettuce	Limited availability. Using both red and green varieties to ensure supply.	Quality good.	Information only.
75183 08927	Loose Limes	Mexican and Brazilian origins.	Struggling with import quality. Pale skins or breakdown.	Use stock quickly and avoid storing.
75272 75554	Butternut Squash	New season.	Size towards the lower end of specification.	Reduced yield for singles.

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Additional Information

Supply Problems.

Morocco currently has a 50% export restriction in place for foodstuffs to protect domestic supply. This has led to shortages on the market as other main suppliers such as Spain are also seeing reduced volumes due to poor weather this year. Further industrial action in France is hampering the movement of both French goods such as cauliflower as well as other imported goods passing through their ports.

Salad Quality.

Although general quality has now improved; we are still experiencing odd shelf-life problems with tomatoes. Other hard salads such as cucumbers and capsicum peppers are now approaching their seasonal shoulder were we expect to see another dip in quality before this improves again.