

OLIVER KAY

Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 08/01/2023

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Fruit Of The Week



Blueberry

High in anti-oxidants. Use in both sweet & savoury dishes.

Veg Of The Week



Cauliflower

French origin. Versatile ingredient with a great texture for vegan dishes. Steam, roast or rice.

Quality Update

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

CODE	PRODUCT	MARKET SITUATION	PHYSICAL CONDITION	COMMENTS/ ACTION
98462 98403	Peruvian Asparagus	Gall midge found in odd spears preventing UK import entry	Trying to arrange supply from alternative countries of origin	Tenderstem Broccoli 55356 is a good alternative
75079 75009	Red/Black Seedless Grapes	Gap in supply due to late harvest & port delays	Green Grapes to be substituted for next 2-3 weeks	Information only
82828 75128	Spring Greens	Gap in normal supply due to weather damage	Trying to arrange alternative supply	Hispi 98513 makes a good alternative
75564 74963	Pre-packed Tricolour Peppers	Quality issues in prepacks for yellow colour Temporary move bi-colour for 2 weeks	Large size and maturity leading to premature break down. Replaced with red fruit	Information only
49774 75305 75665	Red Chillies	Gap between Dutch and Spanish long chilli harvests. Alternative red variety supplied for 1-2 weeks	Finger chillies used. Shape and scoville range equivalent to the long but slightly smaller in size	Information only
98828 75604	Beef Tomato	Very limited availability in market	Size band to include slightly smaller fruit	Some fruit slightly under colour
All Codes	Round Tomato sizes 3M - G	Cooler temps in the Med. & N. Africa slowing ripening	Some fruit may be tender or slightly under colour	Information only

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Additional Information

Spain & North Africa

Growers are still reporting problems with the colour and/or quality of Tomatoes, Cucumbers and Peppers and due to low night temperatures in both Spain and North Africa as well as a higher than normal level of different viruses in some crops which is leading to high wastage during harvest/grading. Although our supply of these products currently remains secure, availability is very tight so we are closely monitoring harvests. Starting a new crop of courgettes which should help to resolve past issues with virus and shelf-life in that product.

Shipping

Suppliers are warning of disruption to shipments due to both storms and diversions to avoid Houthi attacks in the red sea. As you can see above this is impacting availability to some products due to late arrivals or the bypassing of UK ports.