

# OLIVER KAY

## Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 18/03/2024

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### Fruit Of The Week



#### UK forced Rhubarb

Grown in the 'Rhubarb Triangle'. Great colour. Ideal for tarts & puddings

### Veg Of The Week



#### Breakfast Radish

Heirloom variety with a mild taste. Enjoy raw or roasted

### Quality Update

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

| CODE           | PRODUCT                      | MARKET SITUATION   | PHYSICAL CONDITION   | COMMENTS/ ACTION  |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 75272<br>75554 | Cucumbers                    | End of Spanish crop. Very small amount of New Dutch coming through                   | Quality is still good but shelf-life may be reduced  | Use quickly and avoid holding stock                               |
| All Codes      | Cherry & Round Tomatoes      | End of Winter Crop in Spain. High heat this week in Morocco which may impact quality | Difficult period for quality & shelf-life for next couple of weeks. Reduced life Reselecting via Holland were possible | Avoid holding stock<br>Fruit may be more backwards in colour      |
| All Codes      | UK Jacket & Ware Potatoes    | UK crop shortage this year using some imported crop to maintain supply               | Skins scruffy in appearance. Some bruising so additional peeling may be required                                       | Tubers are delicate – peel at room temperature to reduce bruising |
| All codes      | Spanish Red & Yellow Peppers | Difficult period for next week.  | Increased skin marking and reduced life in larger fruit  | Avoid holding stock   |
| 74883<br>75541 | Green Peppers                | Some new season Dutch starting to come through                                       | Quality is good  | Information only  |
| All Codes      | Brazilian Melons             | End of season fruit  | Odd breakdown and reduced shelf-life   | Use quickly & avoid holding stock                                 |
| 75122<br>74898 | Water Melon                  | New Season Costa Rican Fruit   | Sugar levels and internal colour still developing  | Information only  |

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### Additional Information

#### Shipping / Supply problems

Still difficult via the East Mediterranean but no significant delays at present. Shipping from Morocco currently unaffected by Ramadan – no export bans imposed so far this year

#### Seasonal

UK: Yorkshire forced Rhubarb is in season and all our UK root veg is still looking and tasting great.

Rest of the World: Now seeing some South African seasonal pears. Spanish Strawberries also in stock and looking good.

Main transitional period now starting from Winter (Spain/ North Africa) to Spring (Netherlands) Salads. During this time some reduced life is expected as we see an increase in defects in the tail end of the Winter crop and some delicacy and immaturity in the new Spring crops