

OLIVER KAY

Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 14/ 07/ 2025

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Fruit Of The Week



Strawberries: UK origin. Full of flavour use in puddings and desserts

Veg Of The Week



Celery: Grown in Lancashire. Great in casseroles or slaws

Quality Update

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

CODE	PRODUCT	MARKET SITUATION	PHYSICAL CONDITION	COMMENTS/ ACTION
75075 09398	UK Broccoli	Limited supply due to slow growth. High heat discolouring heads	Some beads orange/ purple in colour. Minimum head weight reduced to 350g to ensure supply	Colour improved but recommend customers use savoy cabbage as an alternative
75278 75329	Pak Choi	Early season damage now visible as crop matures	Temporary allowance for beetle damage to leaves	Grower picking best of crop. Appearance has improved
All codes	Tomatoes	Hot weather causing fast growth & fruit softness	Shelf-life now improved and fruit is firmer in texture	Issue resolved
75259	Cucumber	Dutch Origin. Unwrapped product	Some problems seen with mould & reduced life due to humid conditions	Order less more frequently if possible
All Codes	Skin on Potatoes	Mixture of stored crop from last year & new UK salad mids	Reduced life. Old crop: slight chitting and odd loss of turgidity. New crop: delicate with unset skins	Use quickly. Store cool around 7-8oC to help reduce chit in old crop & prevent rots in new crop
74919 74897	Little Gem Lettuce	Skipping over mature plantings due to quality issues	Using more immature crop for best quality. Heads will be more leafy and slightly lighter	Quality is good

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UK/ European crops:

The UK will see some rain this week which plants will welcome however a lot more is needed to compensate with droughts and hose pipe bands coming into force in many parts of the UK this week. Please continue to keep vegetables cool especially potatoes given the difficult point in the season. Insects are still being seen in large numbers (we have had swarms of ladybirds in some counties) due to the weather so please also continue to wash open produce like leafy salads, cauliflower and cabbages thoroughly.

UK Seasonal products: UK tenderstem is now starting to come through.

Shipping: Significant delays are being reported with both arrivals and release from port due to mid-Atlantic storms and severe delays through London Gateway port. We have delays (but no shortages as yet) reported by suppliers for various fruit lines which are container shipped. Further updates to follow if required.