

Crop Report

Wednesday 23rd July to Wednesday 30th July

Get the insight you need to plan more effectively and manage your menus with our latest report from the field, brought to you by our expert produce team.

Tenderstem® Broccoli



After the hot spell, Tenderstem broccoli continues to be in short supply. While the heavy rains have eased some restrictions on taking water from lakes, they have had little impact on the hydrophobic soil. The lack of water is likely to extend the problems for around a month or so.

We are working with suppliers to source additional volumes, including some from Kenya, but we are expecting further challenges as there are limited stocks available and strong demand across retail and wholesale.

Fine beans are British and have excellent availability. These may be a good alternative option until the market improves.

Sweet Potato



Market availability remains very challenging at the end of a difficult season. We are expecting the first deliveries of Argentinian produce shortly, which will help ease the situation.

Supply will remain problematic until the new Egyptian season starts in August. As a result, concessions will remain in place for the next month or so, including for size, to help availability.

Broccoli



While the recent rains have helped address some of the pest issues that accompanied the heat, we are still seeing some quality problems for the crop, for example with pheasant eye (a discolouration of the buds caused by uneven development) and hollow stems, neither of which should affect the eating quality of the product.

Butternut squash



While the market is still very challenging, we are now receiving supply from Spain and Portugal, which is helping to ease what has been a challenging few weeks. With the arrival of the new produce, we are not expecting any further problems.

Spring Greens



There are some heat-related problems with spring greens, which is resulting in smaller produce that has some hearting at the core.

Raspberries



There are some ongoing issues with the supply of raspberries following the sustained period of hot weather. This caused volumes to slow as temperatures rose.

As a result of the constricted supply, we may need to support availability with a small amount of imported product during this difficult period. However, this should be a short-term measure, if it is needed at all, and the intention is for supply to remain British if at all possible.

Red and White Cabbage



White cabbage availability continues to improve as we get further into the new season. We expect to be fully transitioned to the new season in August.

The quality of stored red cabbage is lower than expected, and we are working with suppliers to minimise the impact on customers. While the new season has started, it is likely to be mid to end of August before we are fully transitioned.

Strawberries



As we approach the main summer season, availability continues to improve. We expect progress to be maintained over the next week or so as we get into the new season.