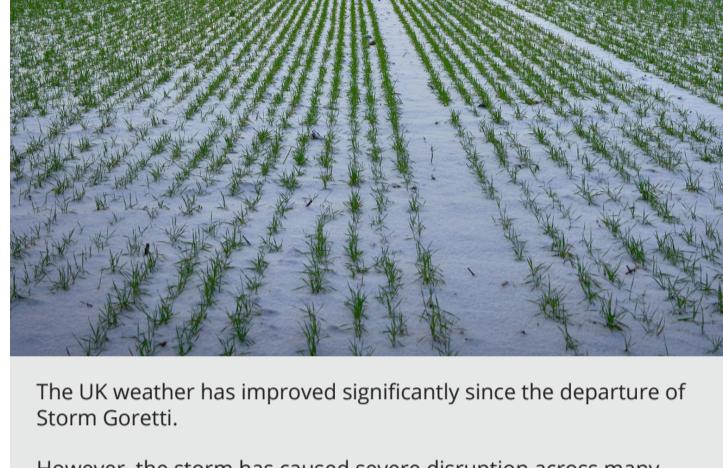


Crop Report

Wednesday 14th January to Wednesday 21st January

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.

Weather Conditions

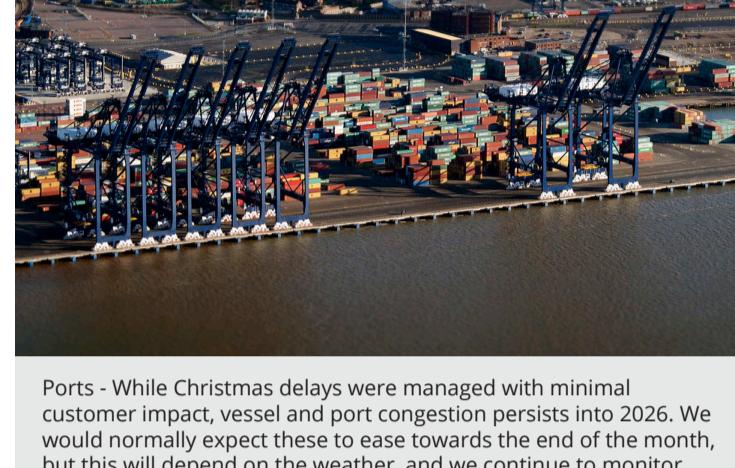


The UK weather has improved significantly since the departure of Storm Goretti.

However, the storm has caused severe disruption across many parts of Europe and there are also continuing poor weather conditions and freezing conditions across the continent.

This has caused market-wide problems across many categories, but we are continuing to work with our growers and supply chain teams and to date have managed to minimise the impact on availability.

Transportation



Ports - While Christmas delays were managed with minimal customer impact, vessel and port congestion persists into 2026. We would normally expect these to ease towards the end of the month, but this will depend on the weather, and we continue to monitor the situation closely.

Road & Rail - Ad hoc events have caused severe delays across the road and rail network, including the closure of some border crossings. The mix of extremely poor weather, farmer protests and road closures have all posed risks to timely deliveries from Europe. However, working closely with our suppliers, we have been able to minimise disruption.

Salad crops



Weather has created significant problems across most salad crops. Growers in Spain have faced storms and localised flooding, impacting both quality and availability—lettuce being particularly affected.

Storm damage has caused problems such as outer leaf and rib damage, as well as discolouration from prolonged water exposure. Concessions are in place, particularly for iceberg lettuce, to allow removal of outer leaves. We will continue to review with suppliers as necessary.

Thanks to our diverse grower base across multiple geographies, we have avoided many of the market-wide issues, minimising customer impact. We expect challenges to persist for the next week or two, depending on improved growing conditions.

Berries



While the weather has improved in Morocco, which has eased the pressure on growers, transport has become increasingly difficult. With the full Spanish season not due for another few weeks, availability remains tight across the market.

In addition, there are multiple transport delays across Europe, due to poor weather conditions, which has been exacerbated by farmer action in France and Spain over international trade deal concerns.

While we have managed availability well, the significant delays that drivers are facing are creating some quality concerns. We are working closely with our growers and supply chain to try to manage the delays and minimise the impact on our customers.

Blueberries continue to face shipping delays caused by congestion and adverse weather. While this has led to market-wide shortages, we have continued to avoid any major concerns.

Mushrooms



Extreme cold in Poland has affected compost stored outdoors, leading to an increase in quality concerns. While the product appears unaffected at harvest, deterioration occurs during transit, causing it to decline sooner than expected.

While this is causing market-wide challenges, we do not have any major concerns regarding availability, as we have multiple growers across different origins, which helps to mitigate any potential challenges.

Brassicas



Poor weather in Spain is creating market-wide challenges for broccoli availability. We have managed to avoid most of the problems so far, but the situation remains difficult and is being compounded by the transportation delays.