

# THE GRAPE VINE



9th

September



## Tomatoes **ALERT** ⚠️

We are coming to the end of the Spanish tomato season and volumes are very low across most varieties. Whilst we are overlapping seasons our suppliers are extremely vigilant when sorting and packing the product. However, on transit isolated fruit may split or lack condition and result in a shorter shelf life. This situation is likely to carry on until the beginning of October when we start picking from new winter crops on the Spanish coast.



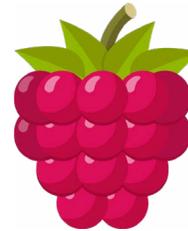
## Iceberg / Little Gem Lettuce **ALERT** ⚠️

The UK crop is still showing some quality issues with pinking, due to excessive water intake, which is affecting shelf life. We are carrying out additional checks, and growers are inspecting fields daily to harvest best available lettuce. We will be over to Spanish supply in early October.



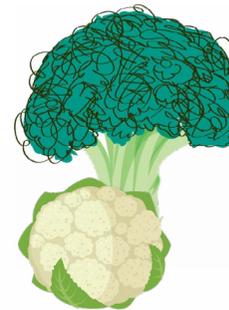
## Courgette

The UK courgette season will come to a close over the next couple of weeks, and the new season Spanish crop is already becoming available. The quality of the new crop is very good and dark green in colour. The recent heat in Spain is showing that there will be higher volumes of the larger courgettes.



## Raspberries **ALERT** ⚠️

UK raspberries are currently under stress due to the extreme temperatures that we've been seeing. Quality is affected and there is the odd crumbling of fruit. The cooler nights are affecting size and availability. We recommend keeping stock to a minimum.



## Broccoli & Cauliflower **ALERT** ⚠️

Our Spanish growers expect to start harvesting the new season broccoli crop towards the end of next week. Broccoli volumes have returned to normal this week, but, we anticipate a small dip next week, and then we will be back to reasonable volumes. Cauliflower remains challenging this week and there's some signs of stress visible on some products. Availability will be tight until w/c 16th September when we expect volumes to increase.



## Aubergine

We're due to head into the new Spanish aubergine season, volumes are limited at the moment, however yields should start to pick up next week. The quality is good, and both Dutch and local English production is also of good quality and availability.



Want to know more? Check out our weekly crop update at [freshdirect.co.uk/crop-report](https://freshdirect.co.uk/crop-report)