

# THE GRAPE VINE



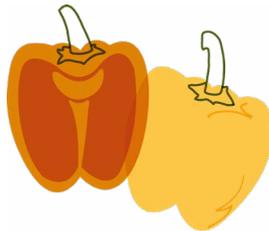
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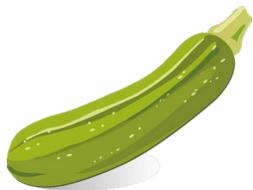
## Cabbage **ALERT** ⚠️

Above average rainfall at the end of 2019 has damaged crops and caused quality issues to some of the UK cabbage. The rain has also slowed growth resulting in smaller head sizes with the season finishing earlier. Leaf spotting is present on most crops. A concession is in place for reduced head sizes.



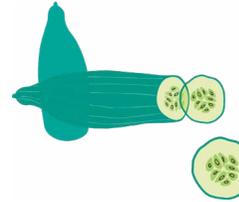
## Peppers **ALERT** ⚠️

Recent weather in Spain is causing availability, quality and short shelf life challenges with peppers. After the colder spell from last month and high humidity levels since; most crops have been slowing down the natural maturity process of the peppers causing streaking and slight mixed colouration on the odd individual pepper. Our suppliers are harvesting backwards, and carrying out increased checks before despatch. We are also carrying out additional quality checks on arrival into our depots.



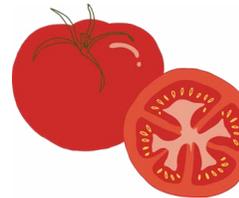
## Courgette

After recent challenges with courgettes, we are now seeing the new Spanish crops coming through. With better weather the volumes are increasing along with much improved quality.



## Cucumber **ALERT** ⚠️

Spanish crops are coming to the end of season. The older crops are deteriorating quickly with a reduced shelf life. We are carefully checking for softness although a 10/15% of more slightly misshape pieces may be evident until we switch to the spring crop. Dutch supply is slowly increasing but still showing signs of immaturity and pale colouration.



## Tomatoes - all varieties **ALERT** ⚠️

Tomatoes from the Canary Islands are of good quality specifically on loose round, with beef and plum varieties being more challenging. With the crops from mainland Spain and Morocco we are seeing quality issues developing into mould and shorter shelf life, but we are expecting this to improve in coming weeks as the weather improves. The colouration will remain a bit lighter than usual, but this is expected to keep improving to a more uniform colouration throughout next week arrivals. Volumes will remain tight for the rest of the season.



## Runner Beans

Moroccan runner beans are looking good. The product is fresh, with good colour and shelf life.



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