

# CROP REPORT

Wednesday 27th November to Wednesday 4th December

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.

## Potatoes



There are currently no major availability issues with potatoes.

Depending on market conditions, we do not expect any major issues before March/April time. However, after that, we do anticipate some market availability challenges on salad potatoes and large bakers.

We will keep customers updated as the season progresses.

We are currently monitoring some quality issues on prepped potatoes and have introduced further checks, which should address the problems.

## Strawberries



Strawberries remain in very short supply as delays to the Moroccan season have been compounded by transport and ferry problems. With Dutch glasshouse production coming to an end, there will be market-wide availability issues for the next week or so.

The situation is expected to ease as the Moroccan fruit arrives, followed by the start of the Egyptian harvest at the beginning of December.

While there are significant challenges on strawberries, other berries are not affected in the same way and could potentially be used as a short-term alternative, for example raspberries.

## Avocados



While we continue to manage availability of avocados well, there are still widespread issues across the UK market.

From a quality perspective, the early season fruit from Chile and Columbia is ripening at variable speeds, which is causing some challenges. We are working with suppliers and are putting additional checks in place to try to minimise the impact on customers. However, as this is the result of lower oil content and higher dry matter, it is likely to be a week or two before it can be fully resolved.

## Green Batavia



Green Batavia is the last of the lettuce crops to recover from the Spanish storms. We expect produce to start arriving in the coming days, hopefully returning to normal by the end of this week.

## Tomatoes - round



We are working with growers across multiple origins. This is helping us to avoid some significant challenges that are being seen by producers on mainland Spain, which is significantly down on expected volumes, making the market very tight.

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