CROP REPORT



Wednesday 4th September to Wednesday 11th September

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



We continue to move into the new season with yields appearing to be normal. There are some concerns over salad/mid potatoes and larger bakers, which have been affected by a reduced growing period following weatherrelated delays to planting.

We will continue to work with growers in the coming weeks to minimise quality issues with new season potatoes. We will also monitor the crop to understand the full extent of what is expected to be a challenging season, although it will probably be November before we know for certain.

For prep potatoes, we are managing volumes effectively and have additional equipment being installed to boost capacity in the coming weeks.

Rocket/Lamb's Lettuce/radicchio



It has been a very difficult period for growers across Southern Italy, where the excessive heat has caused some significant problems for the crops.

However, we are starting to see some improvement with fewer shortages, and we have also been able to manage quality rejections. Watermelons/Melons



We have reached the premature end of the Spanish season, which is earlier than had been hoped because of the hot weather.

However, we have already started to receive the first of the Brazilian crop. While we have been largely able to manage demand by bringing forward the start of the Brazilian season, it will remain difficult for the next couple of weeks while the harvest catches up.

In the meantime, to aid availability, we have a size concession in place to allow slightly smaller watermelons, while we wait for the season to get into full flow.

Asparagus



After a few tricky weeks, the quality and availability of asparagus is currently very good, and we are not anticipating any further issues.

Mushrooms



One of our mushroom suppliers has reported a significant compost failure, which has affected its yields. We have multiple suppliers to cover issues such as this and have therefore rebalanced supply to ensure that we minimise any impact on customers.

Cucumbers



We have been carefully managing the crop transition in Spain and Holland, avoiding any major availability issues. This week should see a further improvement in supply with the newer crop, although as we are early in the season there remains the potential for some quality issues, particularly on Class 2.

Peaches and Nectarines



We have now received the last delivery of peaches for the season, which was curtailed by the hot Spanish weather.

Nectarines will last a little longer, but we expect that to also finish by the end of the week.



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