

CROP REPORT

Wednesday 15th January to Wednesday 22nd 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-related shipping delays



Delays to shipping are expected until the end of January as ports catch up following congestion over the past few weeks, which was compounded by poor weather. This had a particularly challenging impact on limes.

However, as the majority of produce has now arrived, we are not expecting any significant problems with availability on the lines most affected, which included easy peelers, melons, grapes and limes.

As some fruits have been delayed by almost a month, we are closely monitoring quality as the products have been in transit for much longer than anticipated.

Potatoes



Supply of potatoes remains steady, with no major availability issues.

There are likely to be some challenges on salad potatoes, due to the lack of carryover stock creating shortages, and for large bakers, due to the limited growing time, which we anticipate seeing around March or April.

We are working with suppliers on potential contingency plans in the event of problems.

Our second prepped potato supplier, who we introduced to help ensure consistent supply and quality, continues to work well.



Our first blood oranges of the season will be arriving this week. There was a slight delay caused by the warmer than expected weather in Spain during December, which meant the fruit did not colour up as it should. However, the impending arrival of this seasonal favourite should mean that there are no further problems.

Brassicas



Despite weather challenges in the UK and Spain, we are currently managing availability well across the brassica category, with no major issues.

However, the cooler temperatures in Spain and the freezing conditions in the UK are both very challenging for growers, resulting in a tightening of availability as it slows the crop's growth.

One particular area of concern is Spring Greens, which could face challenges in a few works?time as a result of the

Lettuce



Low temperatures in Spain have caused some issues for growers, as they have slowed the crop's growth. We are not expecting this to cause any major availability problems, but the market is very tight.

We continue to work with our growers to manage supply and we expect an improvement in the weather in around a week's time, after which availability should improve.

tew weeks' time as a result of the weather conditions.



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