

# Crop Report

Wednesday 13th May to Wednesday 20th May

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.

## Spotlight on... British Spring Onions Strawberries



The arrival of British spring onions is a clear sign that summer is close. These versatile kitchen staples add freshness and flavour to a wide variety of dishes. The partnership with our grower spans more than a decade and reflects the consistently high quality and reliability of their produce.



Spanish fruit is mixed in quality, resulting in higher rejection rates. The encouraging news is that the UK season has now begun, with around half of this week's volume coming from this country. This should rise to full British supply next week, assuming no unforeseen circumstances.

## Blueberries



With the UK crop still about two months away and Moroccan output continuing to fall, the market remains under significant pressure, with heavy shortages expected over the coming weeks.

We're working closely with growers and reviewing alternative sources to bolster stocks, which is currently helping to stabilise our supply, but availability is expected to stay tight until British fruit starts to arrive.

## Raspberries



We continue to see strong volumes, but extremely variable quality and a number of rejections is creating pressure across the market. We're actively managing the situation and collaborating with suppliers to secure as much consistent product as possible during this challenging period.

## Blackberries



Around 90% of current supply is now UK grown, helping to balance issues seen in imported fruit. Full British supply is imminent.

## Lemons



The early South African crop is coming to an end, with a move to Eastern Cape fruit scheduled for early June. Smaller sizes will remain difficult to secure over the next few weeks. We have sourced additional produce to support supply, though it is expected to remain difficult until June.

## Lettuce



The shift to British supply is progressing well and remains on track to be completed around 15 May.

## Kiwi fruit



Italian fruit is expected to finish during May, ahead of the arrival of the new Chilean season. Controlled storage stocks and contingency plans are in place to ensure a smooth transition.

## Melons



We've reached the most difficult stage of the handover from Central America to Almeria in Spain, when supply typically tightens due to limited alternative origins. The Spanish season has started, but it is early days and honeydew remains particularly constrained.

## Kale



As the season draws to a close, we're seeing some isolated quality concerns, including yellowing.

We're working with growers to minimise any impact on customers.

## Savoy Cabbage



The UK season has ended earlier than expected, and availability from Spain and wider Europe is also limited, resulting in industry wide shortages. Imported product is also suffering from quality issues, requiring it to be stripped back in the same way as British product. However, we have managed to source additional product, which will help supplement stocks later this week.

Concessions have been introduced, and we're exploring all options to identify extra product, though supply is likely to remain restricted until the new British season starts at the end of the month.