

OLIVER KAY

Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 18/11/2024

www.oliverkayproduce.co.uk
01204 385463
orders@oliverkayproduce.co.uk

Fruit Of The Week



Cantaloupe Melon:

Brazilian origin. Use in sorbets & smoothies or with cured meats

Veg Of The Week



Rainbow Chard: UK origin. Great sautéed or use the leaves for Steamed parcels

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Quality Update

Key: ● = Alert ● = Warning ● = Resolved / For Info

CODE	PRODUCT	MARKET SITUATION	PHYSICAL CONDITION	COMMENTS / ACTION
21471	Thai Basil	Inconsistent supply due to quality issue in Kenyan crop	To be substituted with sweet basil if required	Micro Thai basil 98889 still available
All Codes	Bagged Salads	Spanish crop limited supply. Processors using remaining UK leaf to ensure supply	Delicate & 'pinking' quickly. Agreed alternative leaves to be used for best quality	Use before UB date for best quality
All codes	Iceberg, Cos & Little Gem	Spanish crop of limited supply. Ongoing wet, humid conditions	Some pinking to outer leaf. Growers also reporting concerns with internal defects	Use quickly & remove any affected 'pinking' to outer leaves
75323 75318	Easy Peeler	Spanish crop limited supply. Using a mixture of origins.	Moroccan good, taste & colour improving for Spanish	Information only
75264 75295	Rhubarb	Dutch Origin	Reduced life. Use quickly	UK forced still 3 weeks away
All Codes	Tomatoes	Incredibly short on the market. Our supply is secure but need to use multiple origins	Quality and shelf-life is inconsistent. Some mixed maturity in batches. Colour will vary by origin	Use quickly and avoid storing
07391 32213	Sugar Snap Peas	Peruvian Origin	Reduced Shelf-life	Use quickly and avoid storing
75498 75624 26240 75517	Green Tip Bananas	Supply issues have improved from last week	Still seeing some under colour fruit but this should improve during the week	Store any under-colour fruit warm and keep in sealed bag

Additional Information

Shipping: Although no missed deliveries, we are monitoring the situation closely in Europe as suppliers are reporting late deliveries and difficulties with transit through Spain (road closures/repairs) and France (farmers strikes). We have also received reports of some delays expediting deliveries at port in Morocco.

Spain: The weather continues to be wet and humid. There is an increased risk of soiling and field debris in open crops from heavy rain. Although quality appears stable at present and action is being taken to mitigate the impacts; there are concerns that if conditions persist, we will start to see an increase in viruses, moulds and insects which will impact the quality and shelf-life or crops such as lettuces, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, aubergines, broccoli & courgettes later in the season.

Seasonal: Chestnuts are available in their shells: 76912 or peeled: 05999. We also have red currants 75176 (pre-order) & cranberries 74948. Loose Brussels sprouts: 76938 or 76936 are also in stock with peeled to follow in December.