

# OLIVER KAY

## Fresh Produce Update

Week commencing 24 /03 /2025

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### Fruit Of The Week



**Kiwi:** Adds great colour. Ideal for desserts and smoothies

### Veg Of The Week



**Savoy:** Portuguese imports. Great steamed in wraps and stir-frys

### Quality Update

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

CODE	PRODUCT	MARKET SITUATION	PHYSICAL CONDITION	COMMENTS / ACTION
75075 09398	Broccoli	Tight supply due to flooding in Spain	Quality currently good	Crops being monitored for quality
98889	Micro Thai Basil	Supply will improve during this week	Micro Sweet Basil will be substituted if required	Replacement Code 98887
74919 74897	Little Gem Lettuce	Tight supply & quality issues due to flooding in Spain	Discolouring quickly. Outer leaves require removal. Odd breakdown	Reduced yield and shelf-life
75085 75534 75069 75087	Iceberg & Cos Lettuce	Tight supply due to flooding and water damage in Spanish crop.	Discolouration to outer leaves & ribs. Remove affected leaves	Reduced shelf- life
83280 75596 16073 75603 75411	Round Tomato (larger sizes)	Tight supply due to poor growing season in Spain & North Africa	Some skin marking and backwards colour. Shelf- life reduced	Please use quickly and avoid holding stock
74966 75090	Plum Tomato	Reduced supply of good quality larger fruit	Growers only using best quality so smaller sizes may be required	Temporary size spec to include 3M (40- 47mm)
75354	Jalapeño Chilli Pepper	Severe market shortages. Our growers are supporting contracted volumes	We are utilising a range of jalapeño cultivars to ensure supply so shades and shapes may vary slightly	Odd colour flashing as fruit is more mature at point of pick
All Codes	Capsicum Peppers	Tight supply due to poor growing conditions in Spain	Skins may be scruffy with reduced life for larger fruit	Some colour flash especially in yellow

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Additional Information

**Shipping:** Last week's closure at Heathrow airport continues to disrupt airfreight into the UK as up to 90% of cargo via the airport relies on passenger plane hold space with volumes severely limited due to passenger luggage taking precedence. This has impacted short life products such as exotics & soft fruit. We are also seeing long delays out of Morocco due to shorter working hours during Ramadan. Contingencies are in place however, so our supply should remain uninterrupted.

**Spain:** Rain and flooding continued in Spain again last week with some fields endured up to 14 days of precipitation leading to difficulty harvesting. Heads are moisture heavy so susceptible to bruising and discolouration. Outer leaves will be discoloured due to oxidation and require removal before use. Lettuce is the most affected with growers warning of potential quality issues like spear rot and moulds developing later in crops like broccoli due to standing water in heads.

**Seasonal:** UK cauliflowers are now back in stock, curds will be towards the lower end of the size specification until the crop fully matures. Jersey Royals are now available on a pre-order basis.