Summer Mode: On

JUNE UPDATE

Each month Dole provides an update on what is happening in the marketplace.

We explain which new lines we expect to see in the following month, the produce causing us concern and which lines are at their very best.

OVERVIEW

It is the month where summer officially arrives with a growing abundance of soft fruit, UK veg starting to seriously flirt with flavour and a blinding array of Dutch produce confidently strutting into full swing.

Thanks to the warmer weather, some produce has arrived earlier than expected.

New season potatoes will start to roll in covered in dirt and regional pride along with increasing volumes of sun-ripened stone fruit and melons from Spain.

VEGETABLES

With the warmer weather, Cornish and Pembrokeshire have been coming in at good volumes and the quality is great.

They have a distinctive earthy nutty flavour and flaky skins, making them ideal for gently boiling or lightly steaming.

New season washed Maris Peer salad potato will start up during June.

UK courgettes will be arriving in small pockets throughout the month, along with some wonderful UK broad beans and UK runner beans. Early summer UK brassicas such as cavolo nero, tender stem and broccoli will all be available.

Harvested before the peak heat of summer, the vibrant products are generally sweeter and more tender than their later-season counterparts.

Asparagus will sadly come to an end by late-month, meaning only imported asparagus will be available. As the main carrot, swede and potato crops come to an end, shelf life will become noticeably shorter.

Keep both Old season Potato & Swede stock in cool darkened room and we would advise not to overstock, particularly towards the end of the month.

UK Carrot & Leek have now finished and will be working either Spanish or French until the new season UK becomes available during July.

FRUIT

This year strawberries kicked off the soft fruit season in spectacular style, with raspberries following in much the same way. The sweet fruit, balanced with a subtle acidity, pairs perfectly with any sugary dessert.

UK gooseberries will appear later in the month. The traditional fruit, with a real cult following, can be utilised in a host of summer offerings.

Look out for Spanish cherries arriving in two kilo boxes with Uk product following towards the end of the month.

Along with peaches and nectarines arriving from Spain, we also have some wonderfully sweet apricots.

The underrated stone fruit is ideal for baking, preserves or quite magnificent charred over hot coals with a drizzle of honey!

SALAD

UK salad season is now here in earnest with lollo, oakleaf, little gem and iceberg all arriving daily. Due to the higher temperatures, yields and quality of all whole head lettuce varieties have been fantastic.

It is a wonderful period to super-charge your salad plate with chicory, watercress or endive. All three products will not only add a peppery crunch but also be a cost-effective way to bulk out your dish.

Celebrate British Tomato fortnight, starting on June 2nd, with the UK Heritage tomatoes arriving from Westlands growers in Evesham. For something slightly different, consider the range of growing cresses available.

We have traditional mustard, affilla and the colourful mixed variety case. All offer faintly contrasting flavours, textures and colour.

FOODSERVICE

Our new foodservice brochure is packed with a comprehensive range of kitchen essentials.

Blue roll, chopped tomatoes, cleaning products and a host of other catering fundamentals which can simply be ordered along with your produce.

LOOKING AHEAD

UK Cherries

Redcurrants

UK Blueberries

Gooseberries

All our brochures are now online, simply scan the QR code below and select the depot nearest to you either to view online or download a PDF copy for offline viewing.

Scan Me!

IN SEASON NOW

UK Raspberries

Spanish Nectarines

UK Peas

UK Iceberg

New Potatoes

UK Broad Beans

UK Courgettes

THE LAST CHANCE

Asparagus

Be sure to check out our website & sign up to your local depots mailing list