



MARKET REPORT



Looking Forward to a Change

SEPTEMBER 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

As the embers of summer start to fade, temperatures drop and nights begin to draw in this will give way to seasonal produce with a slightly more robust feeling.

The period ahead is a great time to blend some early autumnal treasures into your late summer menus making for a gratifying post-autumn mash-up!

It is all about selecting some of the flavoursome brassicas & roots on offer whilst using the wonderful late summer produce still available.

Expect stunning late fruit from our growers, some vibrant products together with some very early signs of transition over to winter salads.



Our growers will have the first crop of heritage carrots this month.

Arriving in purple, white and yellow varieties, these striking roots will set the plate ablaze with colour and flavour.

Scottish girolles will continue to arrive throughout the month, the wet weather has been the main reason for the good volumes arriving.

The arrival of main crop potatoes will be slightly later than normal due to late planting earlier in the year.

Brassicas are a great option this month with broccoli, tenderstem and UK savoy all at their best.

Summer Squash have begun to arrive from our growers. The colourful gems are a classic late summer veg with a terrific variety of flavours and textures.

A few other considerations are UK baby carrots, UK hispi cabbage and the seriously delightful Spanish globe artichokes.

FRUIT



Blueberries are the quintessential late summer fruit which are not only incredibly versatile but, as they have taken longer to ripen in cooler evening temperatures, they taste quite sensational.

This is the ideal period to make a real show of the Turkish figs. The sweet fruits are an absolute pleasure on their own, used in baking or quite sensational added to a Mediterranean salad with Serrano ham & mozzarella.

Sadly cherries have come to an end so beware of imported prices increasing.

Damsons are a great option this month if you are looking for something quirky.

The small plum-like fruit has many culinary uses including desserts, preserves or even a devilishly satisfying flavour in gin or vodka!!



UK Discovery apples are now available as well as Majorie Seedling plums, the sweet replacement for Victorias. The transition to Brazilian melons, from Spanish, will continue.

Honeydew, water, galia and cantaloupe will all be arriving from the Southern Hemisphere.

UK quince are growing in popularity and will start to appear around mid-month. The apple-shaped pear is perfect for making and stocking up on jellies, preserves or pastes for the months ahead.

SALAD



We are entering into the early stages of a crucial transition period for European salads from UK & Northern European Summer Crops over to Mediterranean winter produce.

Currently, our Spanish growers have no concerns over tomatoes, peppers and cucumber crops for the coming season.

UK & Dutch produce will remain available until towards the end of October although there will be small pockets of Spanish appearing at the end of this month.

Historically we know there can be challenges in the coming months. These can be caused by cooler growing conditions forcing UK & Dutch crops to finish earlier than expected.

UK whole-head salad will continue throughout the month with the switch over to Southern European produce in late Sept / early Oct.

However, with the nights starting to get longer and Autumn on the horizon, yellow cherry tomatoes are a fabulous and affordable way to inject some summer back into your salads.

AT THEIR BEST

- Blueberries
- Heritage Carrots
- UK Beetroots
- UK Damsons
- UK Summer Squash
- Turkish Figs



PLANNING AHEAD?

- Main Crop Potatoes
- UK Quince
- Pumpkins
- Chards



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