

Hey Chefs,

Here's your bite-sized seasonal rundown to help you plan smarter menus, stay ahead of shortages, and get inspired by what's tasting amazing this July. **Beat the Heat** - extreme weather conditions are proving tricky with a lot of vulnerable key lines, it's key to keep produce refrigerated at all times.

Top of the Crops What's Looking Great Right Now English Berries (Strawberry, Raspberry, Blackberry) - grown in Maidstone, Kent English Cherries - have started and taste delicious, also grown in Kent Spanish Stone Fruit Season (Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots) - all great quality, we have even seen Flat Peaches (a.k.a Doughnut Peaches). English Green & Red Gooseberries - very short but sweet season so make the most whilst they are around. English Broccoli - quality and availability is great, highly recommended English Tenderstem - grown in Worcestershire, top quality! English Peas & Broad Beans - season is in full swing and lovely choice UK Heritage & Orange Bunched Carrot - vibrant in colour and great taste

Standouts & Struggles

The Positives

English Courgettes - early in season and will get better as the month goes on **English Runner Beans** - just started which is great news and price will come down

as availability increases **English Romanesque** - firm favourite and always something a little different for your menus.

English Kale & Calvo Nero (black cabbage) – quality is fantastic English Spring Onion – fresh daily arrivals from Worcestershire English Celery – another great salad item grown in the UK. English Heritage Tomato – vibrant in colour and packed full of flavours Dutch Yellow Courgettes – almost a firm favourite because of the pop of colour. English Baby Leaf (mix leaf, rocket & spinach) – grown in Bosham English Iceberg, Gem and Cos – all booming still, grown in Kent.

The Challenges

Large Onions - testing time at the moment due to seasonal changes and a gap in the market which we are navigating the best we can. Be aware quality is hit and miss with inflated prices for a short period of time.

Conference Pears - have drawn to an end leaving a 3-4 week gap where we may have to send an alternative before the new season.

Asparagus - sadly English has finished leaving Peruvian, however quality is still good considering the additional food miles.

Strawberries – as a result of Wimbledon starting this has a knock on affect with strawberry availability despite the quality still being top notch.

Figs - Brazilian season is coming to a close leaving a short gap before the long awaited Turkish Fig season.

Plums - Spanish has only just started and quality is a bit hit & miss. **Cauliflowers** - with the extreme weather conditions in the UK we have seen some discolouration on the heads.

Kiwi - Italian season has finished so we will be transitioning to New Zealand. Availability could run short in the period.

