



# Fresh Gazette

July 2020

MONTHLY UPDATE ON ALL THINGS FRUIT & VEG!

After 4 months of lockdown we are overjoyed at the recent announcements allowing the hospitality industry to begin re-opening 4th July. It has been an extremely testing time for us all and we look forward to welcoming all our customers back to start a new 'normal'. I'm sure you are all itching to get back in the kitchen and start cooking up a storm, and we sure do have lot's of goodies to get you inspired.

The wholesale industry has been through the mill & back again since the pandemic began. Volumes have dropped by 90% and wholesalers have not been bringing in the same products / volumes as usual as there has been no demand. Now there is light at the end of the tunnel please bare with us whilst we all adapt back to 'normal'. We advise ordering in advance where possible & for the short term we may need to seek alternatives.

## Veg & Salad

English veg season is now ramping up nicely with both **Courgette & Broccoli** now coming from England. English **fresh peas, broad beans & runner beans** are now all in season. English **purple cauliflowers & Romanesque** have also made an appearance this week for something a little special. English **purple broccoli** has started, the season always starts a little pricey but usually eases as the weeks go on. **Marrows** are around now and always prove popular. **Swede** is set to rise in price due to new crop English starting. Avoid!

**English Tomato** season is now well underway. We sourced some lovely English **baby plum tomatoes** which would be a great alternative to Italian datterini. All lettuces are UK grown including some lovely **red cos lettuce** that landed in our warehouse this week, a lovely alternative to the usual green. French **Leeks** are finishing and we are awaiting the arrival of English leeks. English **cucumbers** have risen in the last week, hoping this is temporary.

## Fruit

English **Gooseberries** both red & green are in season. English **cherries** are becoming more plentiful so please make the most of the short season as you simply cannot beat the flavour of UK grown Cherries. Our cherries are grown on Pierce Mill Farm, Tonbridge, Kent a mere 38 miles from our warehouse. Our English **Strawberries, Raspberries & Blackberries** are all grown on Hughlowe Farm, Maidstone, Kent. We collect from the farm 12 hours after the berries are picked so you simply will not get fresher.

**Peaches (flat & round) nectarines (flat & round) & apricots** are all at the peak of their season. **Bramley cooking apples** have shot through the roof in price, they are coming to an end in the season & due to farms not having enough pickers to collect fruit, leaving a gap in supply. All varieties of **apples** are above average in price as they are all coming from the Southern Hemisphere until English season starts.

All Spanish **Melons** are a nice quality and prices reasonable. We are about to enter **Fig** season and we are seeing both black & green coming from Italy, it will not be long until Turkish varieties start and we can enjoy some great prices.



## Dry Stores



Whilst we have had some down time during Lockdown ( we are never the ones to sit twiddling our thumbs) we are now able to offer a wider range of dry store items. Chopped tomatoes, kidney beans, tuna & many more

Please give us a call for a full product & price list

## PPE & Hygiene

We have adapted our business during the current situation and we are able to supply PPE & Hygiene products. Items such as 3ply medical masks, FFP2 Masks, face visors & eye shields, vinyl gloves, sanitizing wipes & gels.

Please get in contact for a full availability & price list

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