

Market Update

Washed mids

At moment there are three main options available;

Old season English – which is large, marked and badly graded sample. There will be an element of waste given the length of time in store. Eating quality won't be great, again given the length of time in store. Price = low.

New season English – we have seen the first samples in the last day or two and as always, they are a bright but unstable sample as the skin is not yet set. Eating quality is good but, because of the unset skin, shelf life is massively reduced. We will probably move on to new season in July if the product is more stable. Price = medium to high.

Imported Israeli – this is our chosen option as it a stable product and is consistent in eating quality and grading. Price = medium to high.

Carrots

UK production was hampered earlier this year after heavy rainfall caused water tables to rise in key growing regions in Scotland, Lancashire and East Anglia, according to the British Carrot Growers Association. This resulted in water logged fields which reduced some of the volume to below saleable levels. Similar poor weather affected growers in Germany, France and Spain. Spanish importers have even looked to source from the UK during recent weeks.

The above has been compounded by a delay in the new season English crop starting, by around 4/5 weeks, due to the late spring and is now expected, weather permitting, towards the end of July however recent warm spells should help this along and could bring it forward a touch.

The market for June and July is high, June more so. During June we should see an increase in volumes from France, Spain and Israel and towards the end of the month Poland which should all go some way to help overall prices for July.

Wholesale carrot values have increased by around 55% year on year.

The message, certainly for June, is “good quality samples will be expensive - be careful with old season UK samples”

