



LOVEJOYS NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2019

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2019 winter newsletter.

Although there were problems during one of the driest summers on record, the only crops that it seems to have seriously affected are potatoes and onions and unfortunately I predict prices for these products will continue to rise towards the end of the winter.

VEGETABLES - All root crops seem to be of good quality especially leeks, parsnips, beetroot and swede, which are all coming from the local area. Supply of cabbage, especially savoy, will be subject to the weather. Instead of spring greens we will be supplying hispi until the weather improves and the quality of the spring greens with it. Also red cabbage is especially good at the moment.

Jerusalem artichokes from the New Forest will continue through the winter.

Curly kale and cavolo nero should be ok, subject to the weather.

Baby bunched carrots have now finished and heritage carrot will move to large donkey size.

All imported winter vegetables should be available as normal. This includes butternut squash, fine beans, broccoli, sweet potato and courgettes.

POTATOES - There is a possibility that our local maris piper will not last as long as normal due to the obvious problems of last year. To be honest, it is hard to predict how supply will be after March. Washed mains should not be a huge problem, as obviously there is an abundance of small potatoes. Bakers could get short in supply, especially the larger sized ones.

SALADS - Winter is not a brilliant time for salads with most of them coming from Spain, France and Italy. We do however have our local watercress, although we sometimes have a problem with this when the weather goes very cold. According to our grower, it can replace purple sprouting broccoli as it is a brassica. I don't whether you would agree with this.

Tomatoes do not have the greatest taste at this time of year but I believe vine tomatoes always have the best taste, along with cherry vine.

FRUIT - We still have plenty of UK apples and pears available. All soft fruit will now come from the continent and citrus from further afield. Satsumas have now come to an end and clementines will shortly follow and then minneolas will be available.

We have Seville oranges until the end of February and blood oranges probably till the end of April.

LARDER - Following the successful merger of Lovejoys Wholesale and Lovejoys Larder at the beginning of this year, you will notice you are now only receiving one invoice per order. I trust this streamlines everything for you and makes payments easier.

If you would like to see a comprehensive product list, please give the office a call and a member of the team will arrange for one to be delivered with your order or emailed to you. This would be beneficial should you place your order using our product codes, as all larder products now have new codes.

VISIT US - You are more than welcome to visit the warehouses - just come in if you are passing by - a member of the team is always available to show you around. Our reception staff make an excellent cup of tea! Alternatively I do enjoy getting out and about to visit customers to discuss future menus and availability of local produce.

Keep busy and keep warm!

Neil