22 July 2016

Horticulture Statistics 2015

These statistics cover area, production, value, imports and exports of horticulture crops from 1985 to 2015. Estimates are provided for around 50 fruit and vegetables and for aggregated ornamental production. All of the statistics are available in the accompanying dataset.

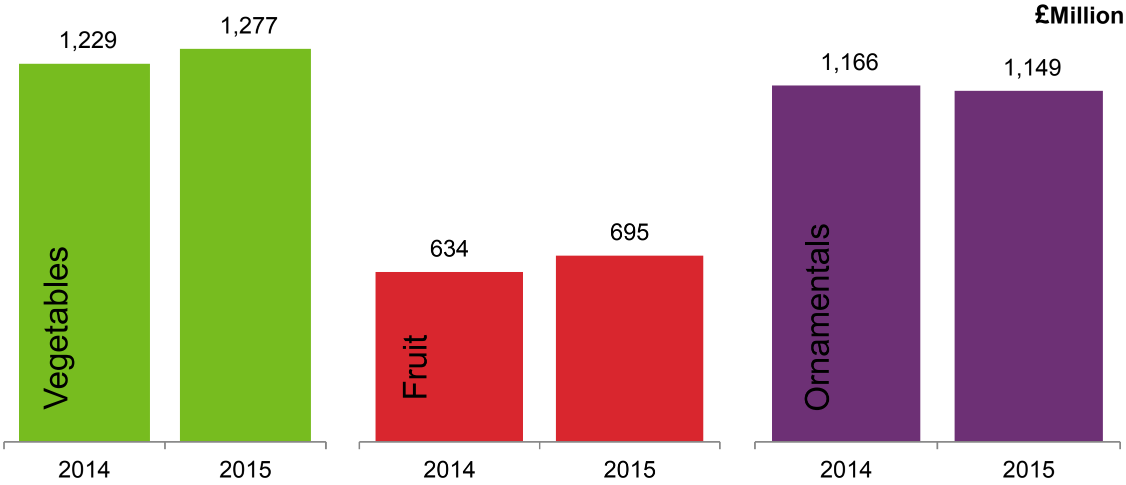
Key points:

- Home produced vegetables were worth £1.3 billion in 2015, 3.9% more than in 2014 this increase was mainly driven by carrots, mushrooms and cabbages. Field vegetables were worth £884 million and protected vegetables £393 million.

- Home produced fruit rose in value to £695 million in 2015, 9.6% higher than in 2014, driven by demand for soft fruit, larger yields and a longer growing season.

- UK ornamentals were worth £1.1 billion in 2015, 1.5% lower than in 2014.

Figure 1: The Value of fresh fruit, vegetables and ornamentals 2014-2015



Revisions

The provisional 2014 figures have been replaced with final estimates. There are revisions to Scotland and Northern Ireland estimates. Revisions have been made back to 2007 for Orchard fruit production. The changes are due to new data becoming available (Cider Apples & Perry Pears) and discrepancies found in the datasets. Full list of revisions are in the dataset. The policy on revisions is available here.

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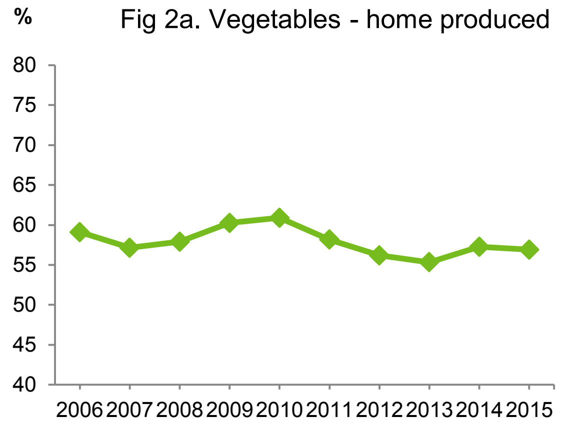
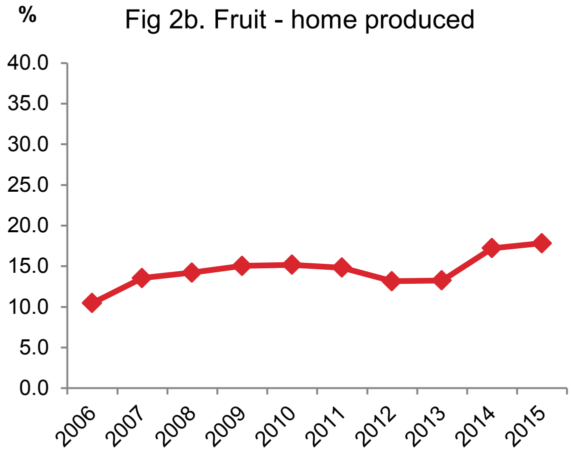
Trends in UK production as a percentage of total supply





Vegetables

- Home production of vegetables contributed to around 57% of the total UK supply in 2015, 0.6% lower than in 2014 despite an increase in home production, which was offset by increased demand.

- Home production as a percentage of total supply of vegetables had a recent peak at 61% in 2010 but there is a longer term downward trend driven by increasing demand and rising imports.

- Total supply of vegetables rose by 12% between 2007 and 2015.

- Home production as a percentage of total supply of carrots was 99% in 2015 down from 102% in 2014. Exports rose to 39.4 thousand tonnes up 2% on 2014 and the highest level of carrot exports on record.

- Home production as a percentage of total supply of tomatoes reached 20%, the highest level since 2002.

Fruit

- Home production contributed nearly 18% of the total UK supply of fruit in 2015, 3.5% higher than in 2014 showing increases in nearly all sections (see table 10 in the dataset).

- Export and re-exports of fruit rose by 28% in 2015 at 132 thousand tonnes. Apples showed a 25% increase at 20.1 thousand tones.

- Total supply of fruit rose by 12% between 2007 and 2015 with a 2.7% rise in 2015 compared to 2014.

Trends in field vegetable value and production

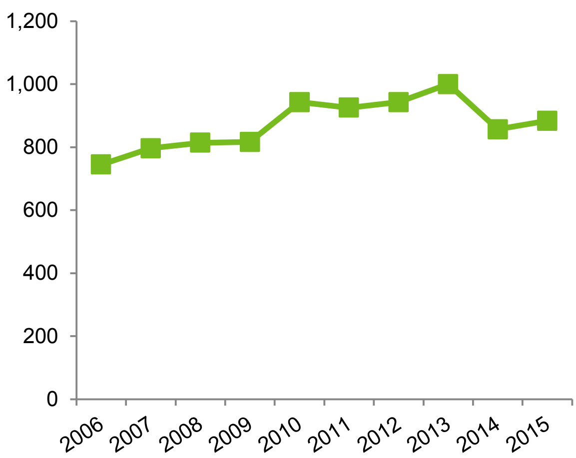


Fig 3a. Value of field vegetables

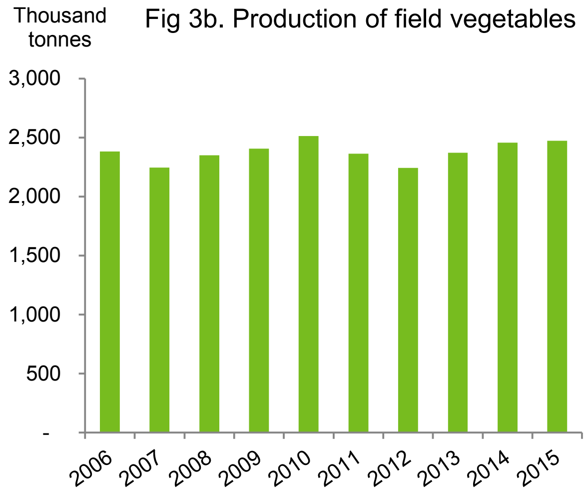
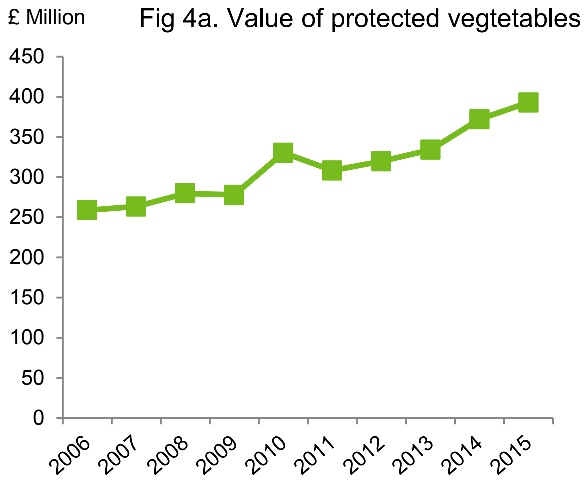


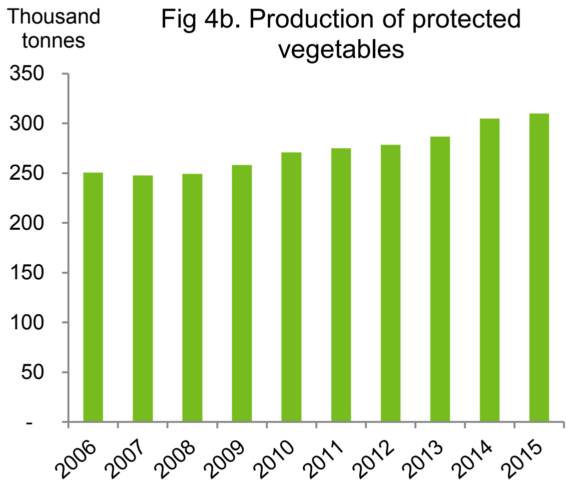
Fig 3b. Production of field vegetables

Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£Million)	669	745	797	814	817	943	926	943	1000	857	884	3.2%
Production (Million tonnes)	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.5	0.7%

- Field vegetables increased in value by 3.2% to £884 million in 2015 as both production and prices increased in 2015.
- Field vegetable production increased by 0.7% to 2.5 million tonnes in 2015 with peas, harvested dry showing the largest increase at 72 thousand tonnes a 41% increase on 2014 and the highest figure on record.
- Carrot production fell by 3.1% to 731 thousand tonnes in 2015 while the value increased by 22% to £124 million. Improved carrot quality was improved in 2015, saw prices up 25% compared to 2014
- Broccoli production increased by 6.1% to 72 thousand tonnes and the value increased 3.5% to £31 million. Lower yields were seen during the summer but favourable conditions in the autumn saw increased yields to give the overall increase in production.
- Leek production at 34 thousand tonnes in 2015 was 4.4% lower than 2014 and the value fell 21% to just under £14 million. The market for leeks was subdued in 2015.
- The area of vegetables rose by 5.0% in 2015 to 138 thousand hectares with notable increases in peas (harvested dry), celery and asparagus (see table 11 in the dataset).

Trends in protected vegetable value and production





Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£Million)	248	259	263	280	278	330	308	320	334	372	393	5.6%
Production (Thousand Tonnes)	250	251	248	249	258	271	275	278	287	305	310	1.7%

- The value of protected vegetables rose by 5.6% in 2015 to £393 million. It has risen over 58% since 2005. Increased demand for salad items saw production increase by 0.8% on 2015.

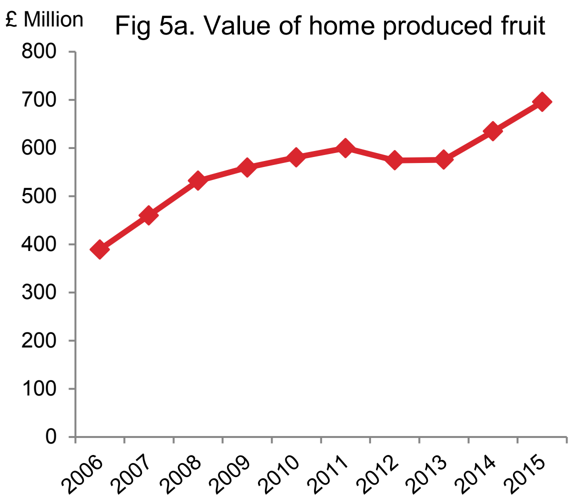
- Production of protected vegetables rose by 1.7% in 2015 to 310 thousand tonnes. It has been increasing since 2007 and was 25% higher in 2015 than in 2007 with rises in nearly all categories.

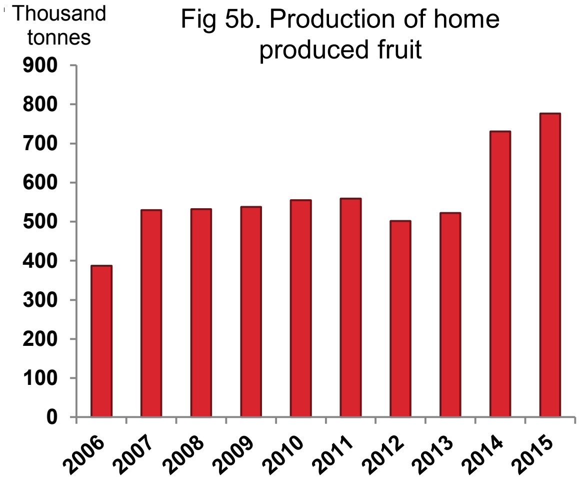
- Tomato production fell by 1.3% in 2015 to 97 thousand tonnes. The value of production was £119 million a 1.2% rise on 2014.

- Lettuce production rose by 13% in 2015 to over 13 thousand tonnes. The value of production was £17 million a 4.4% increase on 2014.

- The area of protected vegetables rose by 0.7% in 2015 to 861 hectares with increased area for lettuce (see table 14 in the dataset).

Trends in fruit value and production

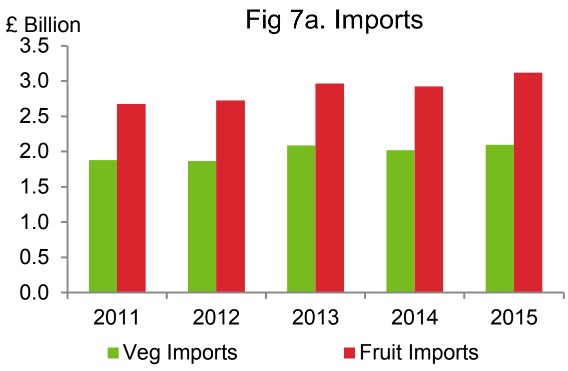


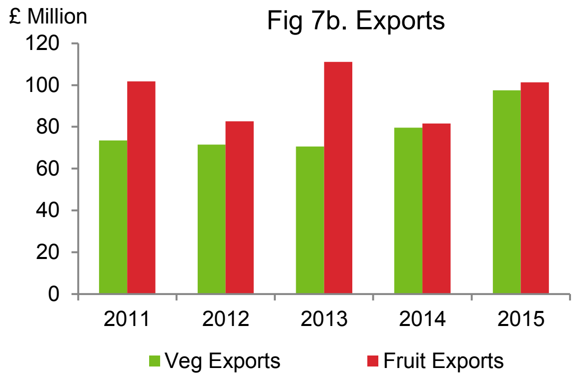


Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£Million)	383	389	460	532	559	580	600	574	575	634	695	9.6%
Production (Million tonnes)	363	387	529	532	537	555	559	501	522	731	777	6.3%

- Fruit production increased and reached 777 thousand tonnes and worth £695 million in 2015, up 9.6% on 2014, driven by demand for soft fruit, larger yields and a longer growing season.
- Strawberries were worth £284 million in 2015, up 16% on 2014 the highest recorded value. Production reached a new high of 115 thousand tonnes, up 11% on 2014.
- Raspberries were worth £124 million in 2015, an increase of 14% on 2014 with production falling by 2.9% against the record high of 2014 to 17 thousand tonnes.
- Cherries were worth £14 million in 2015, equivalent to 2014 with production rising by 18% to a new high of 4.7 thousand tonnes.
- The area total for fresh fruit in 2015 remained similar to previous years at around 30 thousand hectares a 1.4% increase on 2014 (see table 4 in the dataset).
- Glasshouse fruit fell in value by 7.2% in 2015 to £51 million.

Value of imports and exports of fruit and vegetables

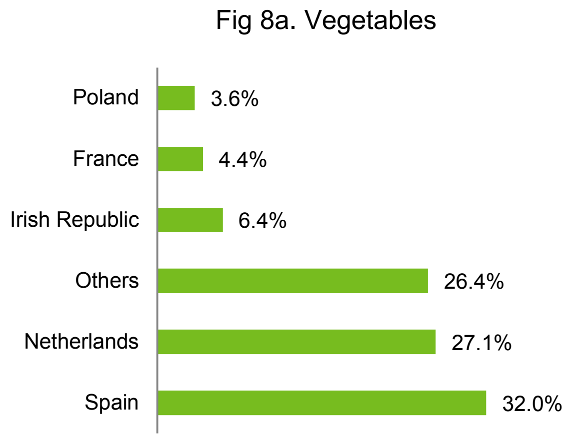


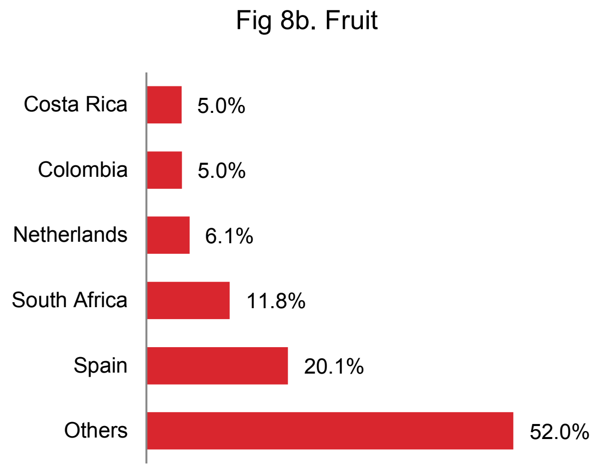


Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (prov)	% Diff
Imports value (£Billion)							
Veg Imports	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.1	3.9%
Fruit Imports	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.1	6.7%
Exports value (£Million)							
Veg Exports	75.2	73.4	71.6	70.7	79.6	97.5	22.5%
Fruit Exports	102.8	101.9	82.6	111.1	81.6	101.3	24.1%

- Vegetable exports (including re-exports) were worth over £97 million in 2015, 22% higher than 2014. This was the highest export value on record.
- Fruit exports (including re-exports) were worth £101 million in 2015, a 24% increase on 2014.
- Fruit imports cost £3.1 billion in 2015, a 6.7% increase on 2014. While vegetables imports cost £2.1 billion in 2015, a 3.9% increase on 2014.
- Exports of lettuces were worth £13 million in 2015, carrots and turnips were worth just under £10 million.
- Much of UK fruit exports are from re-exports of oranges and bananas worth £28 million in 2015. Apples exports however (including re-exports) were worth £10 million.
- Total Imports of fruit and vegetables increased to 6 million tonnes, up 3.1% on 2014.
- Total Exports of fruit and vegetables increased to 287 thousand tonnes, up 29% on 2014.

Value of imports to the UK by country of fruit and vegetables





- Spain accounted for 32% of fresh vegetable imports, mainly tomatoes, Cauliflower and Broccoli. The Netherlands accounted for 27% of vegetable imports, mainly tomatoes and sweet peppers. The Irish republic accounted for 6.4% of vegetable imports, mainly mushrooms.

- Spain accounted for 20% of fruit imports to the UK in 2015, mainly citrus fruit, grapes and strawberries. South Africa accounted for 12% of fruit imports in 2015, mainly grapes and apples. The Netherlands accounted for 6.1% of fruit imports, mainly pears and strawberries.

Trends in ornamental value and imports by country

Fig 6a. Value of home produced Ornamentals

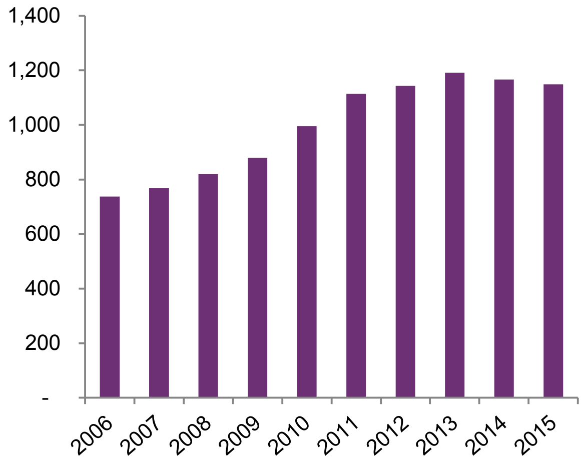
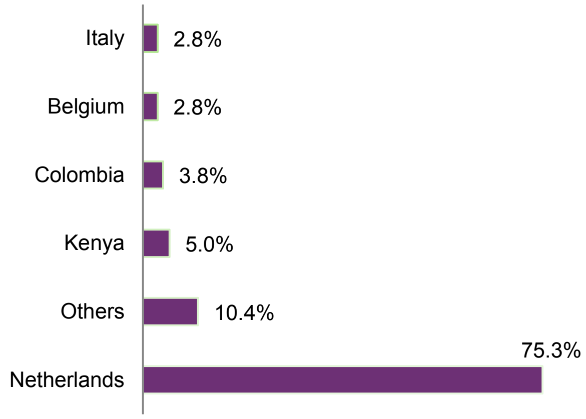


Fig 6b. % of UK imports by value



Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£Million)												
Flowers & Bulbs in the Open	31	32	32	34	35	33	39	38	45	42	45	7.8%
Hardy Ornamental Nursery Stock	473	459	487	539	563	648	756	791	809	796	783	-1.7%
Protected Crops	266	245	249	246	280	314	319	313	336	328	321	-2.2%
UK Total:	**770**	**737**	**768**	**819**	**879**	**996**	**1,114**	**1,142**	**1,191**	**1,166**	**1,149**	-1.5%

- Ornamental plants and flowers were worth £1.1 billion in 2015, a 1.5% fall against 2014.
- Ornamental imports cost just below £1.1 billion a fall of 4.4%. The Netherlands accounted for 75% of imports, mainly other cut flowers, indoor plants and roses. Kenya accounted for 5% of imports, mainly cut roses and carnations.
- Imports of cut flowers showed 3.6% decrease, imports of bulbs a 13% decrease and a 3.9% fall in other ornamental imports.
- Exports of ornamentals were worth £56 million in 2015 (see tables 23 & 24 in the dataset).

Further Information

The UK government and the European Commission use these statistics to support policy makers and improve profitability of the horticulture sector, to monitor productivity and competitiveness including supply and self-sufficiency, to inform growers and the trade about markets, to assess the impact of disease outbreaks, e.g. E-coli.

Estimates are made as the result of impartial intelligence gathering from a wide range of sources. Details are provided in the associated meta-data this can be found here .

This is an annual release. The next release will be in summer 2017.