



31 August 2017

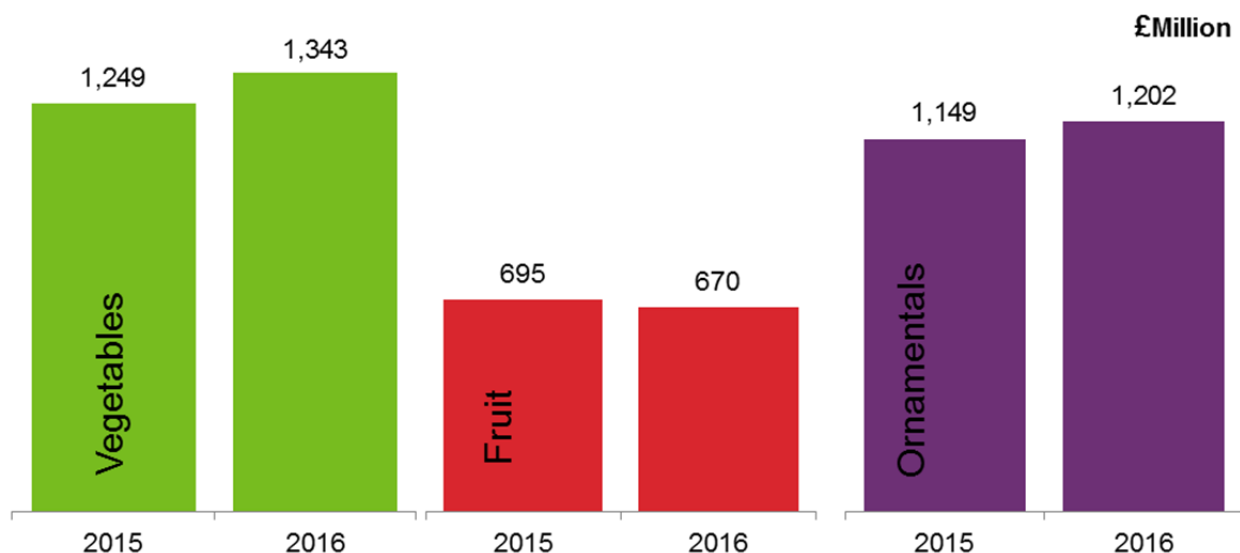
## Horticulture Statistics 2016

These statistics cover area, production, value, imports and exports of horticulture crops from 1985 to 2016. 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 2016, up 7.5% on 2015, although overall production fell by 5.2%. There was an increase in the value of field vegetables, which rose to £990 million (a £107 million increase) whilst the value of protected vegetables fell to £353 million (a £13 million fall).
- Home produced fruit fell in value to £670 million, a fall of 3.7% compared to 2015, with production at the same level as last year. The fall in value was largely driven by price with a fall in the value of soft fruit due to a later start to the soft fruit season and a fall in production when compared to 2015.
- UK ornamentals were worth £1.2 billion in 2016, an increase of 4.7% compared to 2015

**Figure 1: The Value of fresh fruit, vegetables and ornamentals 2015-2016**



### Enquiries and Feedback to:

Lisa Brown, Defra, 201 Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

Email: [crops-statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:crops-statistics@defra.gsi.gov.uk)

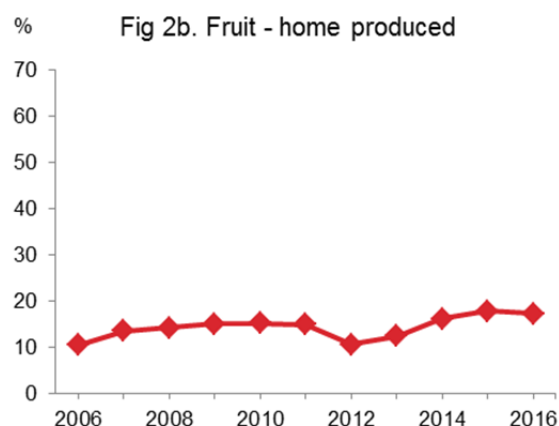
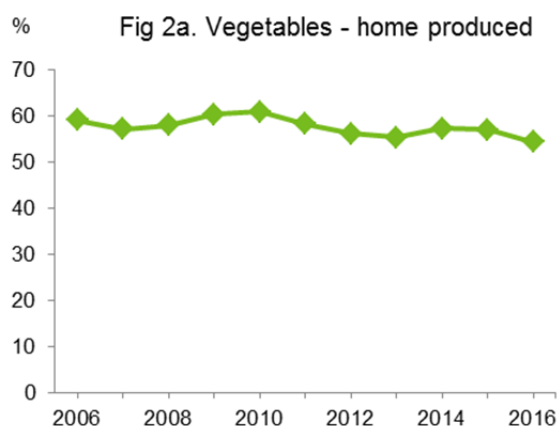
For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service: tel. 0845 601 3034 email [info@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:info@ons.gsi.gov.uk). You can also find National Statistics on the internet at <http://www.ons.gov.uk>

## Revisions

The 2015 figures are now final estimates. From previously published figures changes made to the trade data, both imports and exports, for fruit, vegetables and ornamentals. This changed the percent of supplies provided by home-grown market.

The cucumber price was updated, which reduced the overall value of vegetables in 2015 from £1,277 million to £1,249 million.

## Trends in UK production as a percentage of total supply



## Vegetables

- Home production of vegetables contributed to around 54% of the total UK supply in 2016, 4.6% lower than in 2015.
- Home production fell by 5.2% to 2.6 million tonnes. However, over the last 20 years total production of vegetables remains fairly constant between 2.5 and 3.0 million tonnes.
- Overall, total supply was down 0.6% to 4.9 million tonnes. This is the first fall in total supply for 4 years.
- Home production as a percentage of total supply of carrots and cabbages were over 90% in 2016 both slightly down on 2015.
- Home production as a percentage of total supply tomatoes were at 20% down by 0.6% from the peak home supply seen in 2015.

## Fruit

- Home production contributed 17% of the total UK supply of fruit in 2016, 3.4% lower than in 2015 (see table 10 in the dataset).

- Home produced apples increased their share of the market to 42% a 6.8% increase on 2015. This was due to an increase in home production and a reduction in exports when compared to 2015.
- Total supply of fruit rose by 3.5% to 4.5 million tonnes in 2016.

### Trends in field vegetable value and production

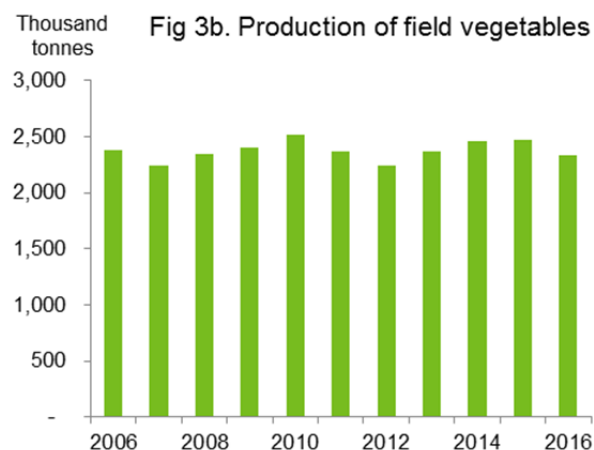
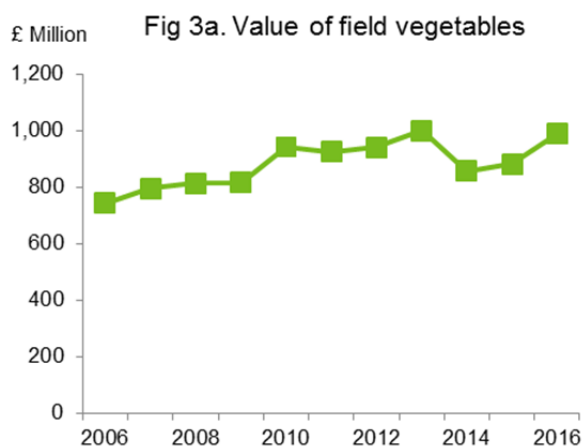


Fig 3c Field vegetables

Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£ million)	943	926	943	1,000	857	884	990	12.1%
Production (million tonnes)	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.3	-5.6%

At the start of 2016, conditions for growers were very good and parts of the UK started drilling very early. However, the weather conditions changed and hampered the progress of planting and crop development of spring-established crops. The overall impact was a delayed start to the harvest of early crops and reduced head size for autumn and winter brassica.

- Field vegetables increased in value by 12% to £990 million in 2016 despite a fall in production compared to 2015.
- Field vegetable production fell by 5.6% to 2.3 million tonnes in 2016 with the area of vegetables falling by 5.8%.
- [see tables 11 to 13 in the dataset]

## Trends in protected vegetable value and production

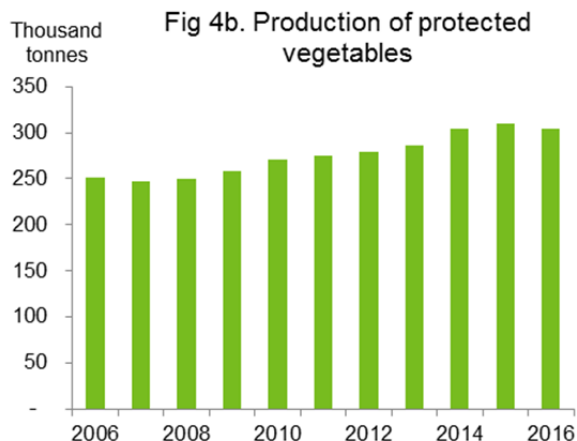
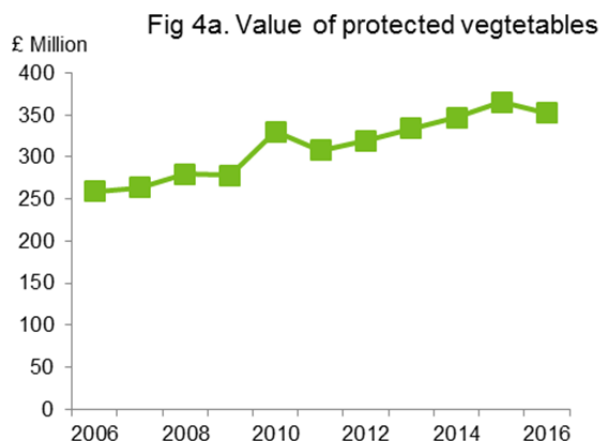


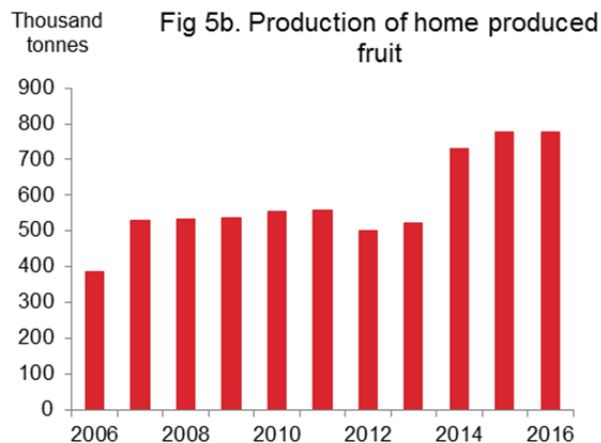
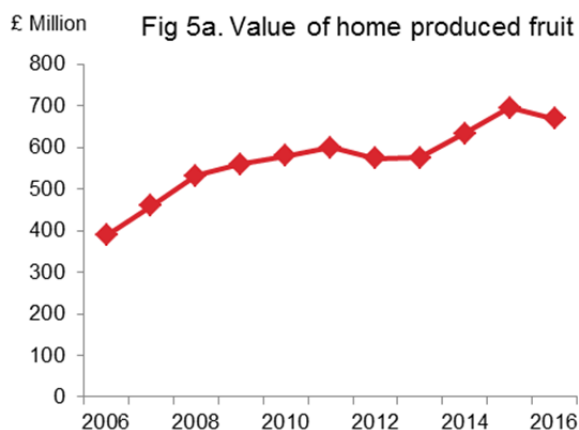
Fig 4c Protected vegetables

Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Diff (prov)
Value (£ million)	330	308	320	334	347	365	353	-3.5%
Production (thousand tonnes)	271	275	278	287	305	310	304	-1.8%

Good weather conditions in the early spring gave a boost to early production. But, the cooler and duller weather conditions over the summer reduced production during peak periods of consumer demand. Cucumber production continues to decline in the UK as growers are switching to other crops.

- The value of protected vegetables fell by 3.5% in 2016 to £353 million.
- Production of protected vegetables fell by 1.8% in 2016 to 304 thousand tonnes. Production has been increasing since 2007 until 2016 but current production is still 23% higher than 2007.
- [see tables 14 and 15 in the dataset]

## Trends in fruit value and production

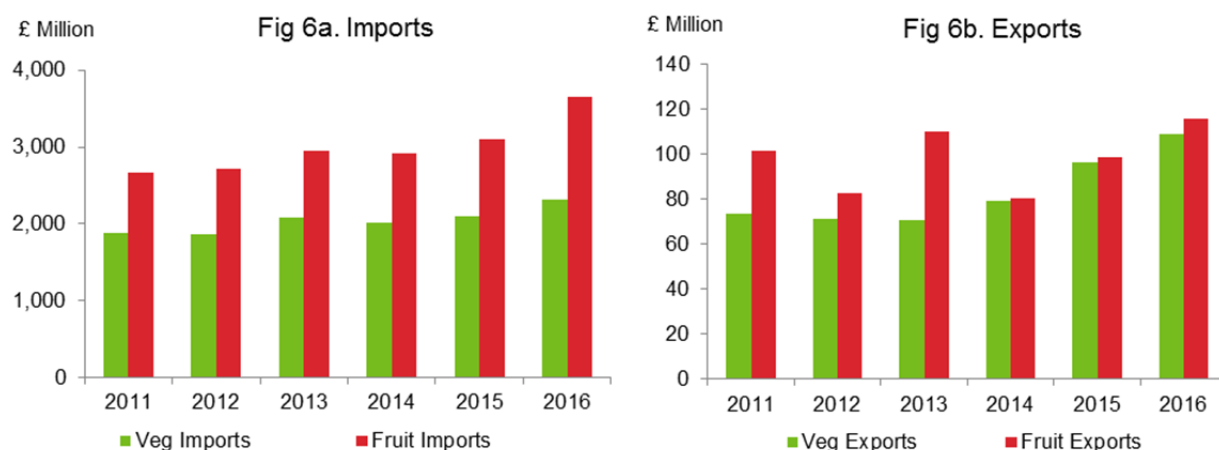


Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (prov)	% Diff
Value (£Million)	580	600	574	575	634	695	670	-3.7%
Production (Thousand tonnes)	555	559	501	522	731	777	777	0.0%

The cold spring led to later crop development and harvesting for all fruit. The cooler spring weather affected pear blossom more than apple blossom that flowered in good weather in early May. The cooler, duller summer led even growing conditions for strawberries and raspberries and the avoidance of over supply in production.

- Fruit production remained at 777 thousand tonnes although the value fell to £670 million in 2016, down 3.7%. This follows three years of growth in both value and production.
- The area total for fresh fruit in 2016 remained similar to previous years at around 30 thousand hectares a 1.0% increase on 2015 (see table 4 in the dataset).
- Glasshouse fruit rose in value by 2.7% in 2016 to £53 million.
- [see tables 4 to 6 in the dataset]

## Value of imports and exports of fruit and vegetables



Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (prov)	% Diff
<b>Imports value</b>								
Vegetable Imports	1,900	1,880	1,867	2,085	2,018	2,092	2,316	11%
Fruit Imports	2,534	2,673	2,724	2,955	2,916	3,107	3,660	18%
<b>Exports value</b>								
Vegetable Exports	75	73	72	71	80	97	109	13%
Fruit Exports	103	102	83	110	80	99	116	17%

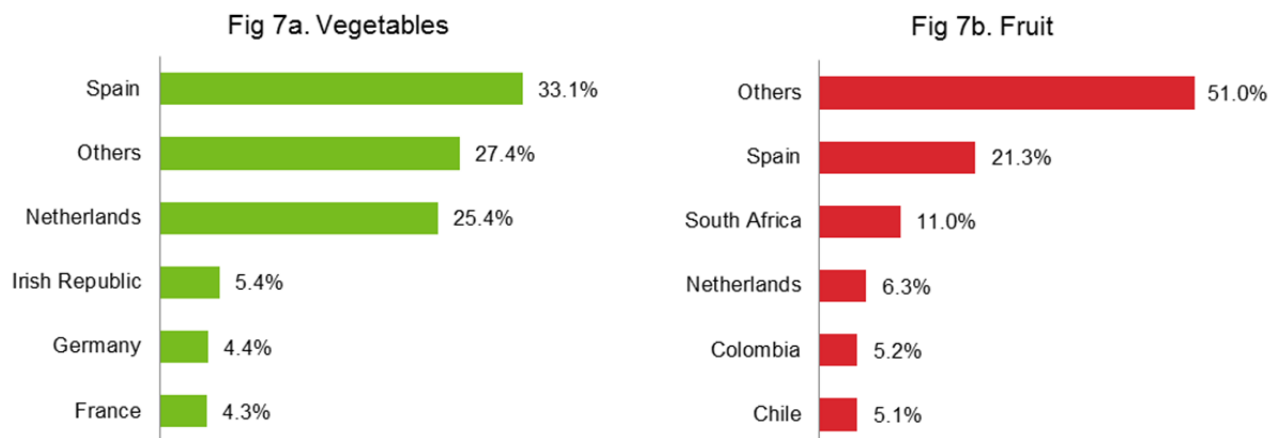
Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (prov)	% Diff
<b>Import volume</b>								
Vegetable Imports	1,884	1,988	2,050	2,225	2,179	2,256	2,372	5.1%
Fruit Imports	3,242	3,361	4,361	3,836	3,890	3,705	3,868	4.4%
<b>Export volume</b>								
Vegetable Exports	96	90	85	80	119	153	156	1.7%
Fruit Exports	143	150	110	143	103	130	143	9.3%

Source: HMRC

Overall there was an increase in trade both imports and exports for fruit and vegetables.

- Vegetable exports (including re-exports) were worth over £109 million in 2016, 13% higher than 2015 whilst volume increased by 1.7%. This is the highest export value on record.
- Vegetables imports cost £2.3 billion in 2016, an 11% increase on 2015 with volumes increasing by 5.1%.
- Fruit exports (including re-exports) were worth £116 million in 2016, a 17% increase on 2015 and the third consecutive increase in value. Volumes of exports increased by 9.3% to 143 thousand tonnes
- Fruit imports cost £3.6 billion in 2016, an 18% increase on 2015 with volumes increasing by 4.4%

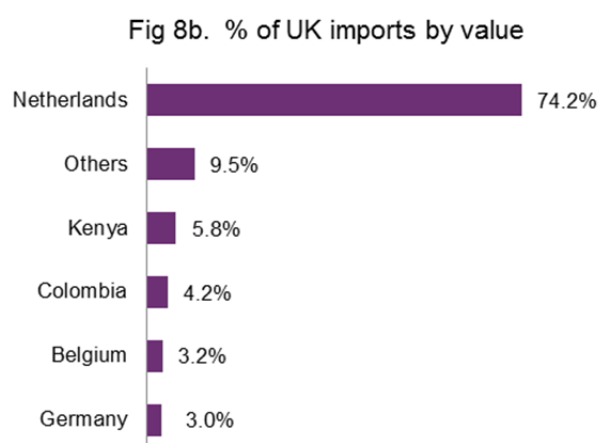
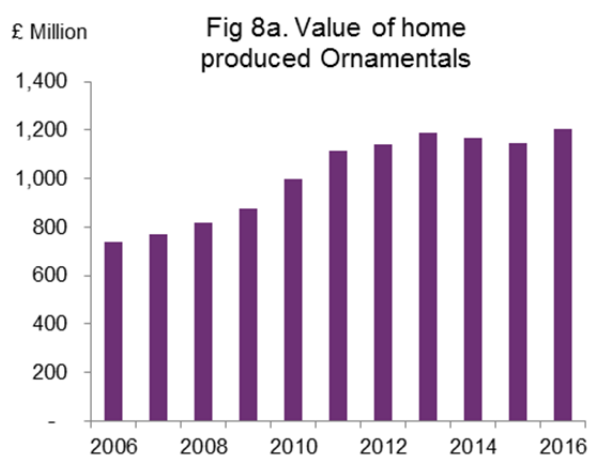
## Value of imports to the UK by country of fruit and vegetables



The UK imports the greatest value of vegetables (33%) and fruit (21%) from Spain.

- The UK imports for 33% of fresh vegetable imports, mainly tomatoes, lettuce and cauliflower and broccoli. The Netherlands accounted for 25% of vegetable imports, mainly tomatoes and sweet peppers. The Irish republic accounted for 5.4% of vegetable imports, mainly mushrooms.
- Spain accounted for 21% of fruit imports to the UK in 2016, mainly citrus fruit, grapes and strawberries. South Africa accounted for 11% of fruit imports, mainly grapes, citrus fruit and apples. The Netherlands accounted for 6.1% of fruit imports, mainly pears and strawberries.

## Trends in ornamental value and imports by country



Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016 (prov)	% Diff
UK Total:	996	1,114	1,142	1,191	1,166	1,149	1,202	4.7%

- Ornamental plants and flowers were worth £1.2 billion in 2016, a rise of 4.7%.
- The value of ornamental imports cost just below £1.2 billion an 11% rise on 2015. The Netherlands accounted for 74% of imports, mainly indoor plants, chrysanthemums and roses. Kenya accounted for 5.8% of imports, mainly cut roses and carnations.
- Imports of cut flowers showed a 13% increase and bulbs a 6.4% increase.
- Exports of ornamentals were worth £66 million in 2016 a 20% increase on 2015 (see tables 23 and 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 2018.