



## Fruit and vegetable wholesale prices – June 2016

The fruit and vegetable wholesale price records the average price at wholesale markets in England. Prices are collected for a selection of the most common home-grown fruit, vegetables and flowers.

Unless otherwise stated, changes are based on a comparison with the previous month (May).

### **Key points**

#### *General*

Trade was inconsistent across the month. Wet and hotter weather and the Ramadan fasting period contributed to fluctuating trading patterns.

New season crops coming onto the markets led to mixed availability and price ranges.

#### *Fruit*

There was a lack of fruit on the markets in June as much of the homegrown top fruit was at the end of season. New season Blackberries, Gooseberries and Raspberries made their first appearances of the year.

Strawberries rose 11% to £1.98/kg as supplies fell slightly and demand grew significantly. The price at the same time last year was £1.85/kg when supplies were higher.

#### *Vegetables*

The Asparagus price fell 27% to £5.12/kg as supplies increased and demand fell.

The Savoy cabbage price rose 18% to £0.46/kg as supplies dipped. The price at the same time last year was 9% higher as supplies were lower.

The Winter Other cabbage price rose by 16% to £0.45/kg as supplies dropped at the end of the season.

Calabrese fell 24% to £0.72/kg as more new season produce came onto the markets. Kent cauliflowers fell 33% and Other cauliflowers fell 34% as supplies increased including some new season produce. Other cauliflowers were 14% higher at the same time last year when supplies were lower.

The Leek price rose 30% to £0.58/kg as supplies fell. The price at the same time last year was 40% lower as supplies were much higher.

The Outdoor rhubarb price fell 18% to £1.06/kg as supplies increased and demand fell. The price at the same time last year was £1.21/kg as supplies were less.

The Shelling Pea price fell sharply to £0.68/kg as supplies increased and demand fell. This was 20% lower than the same time last year when supplies were less.

The price for Cherry tomatoes fell 18% to £1.76/kg as supplies increased. Plum tomatoes rose 12% to £0.88/kg as supplies fell.. This was 9% lower than the same time last year when supplies were less.

### *Flowers*

Flower prices were steady across the month with only a few prices available. The price for new season Pinks was £0.60/kg

### **Data uses**

The wholesale fruit and vegetable price data is collected to provide data for the Agricultural Price Index, produced by Defra. Data is provided to the Office for National Statistics who use it in the production of the Producer Price Index. Data are provided to Eurostat for their Prix Agricole production, which provides absolute prices for products.

The data are also reproduced in the trade journals.

### **Methodology**

Trained Horticultural Market Inspectors collect fruit and vegetable data from four wholesale markets across England on a weekly basis. Prices are collected from Birmingham, Bristol, Liverpool and New Spitalfields.

Prices are collected on home-grown produce only for the most common fruit, vegetables and flowers. Up to five most usual prices are collected from each market along with the percentage sold at this price. Additionally information on the supply of produce at each market is recorded.

Defra identify the average price for each product based on the recorded prices and the volume of product sold at that price. The monthly data is a weighted average of the average weekly price.

Monthly data is based on all the weekly data collected that month, based on the date published in the weekly dataset. As some data are collected on the previous day to the published date it is possible that some price data will be recorded against the following month

There are periodic reviews of the produce that are collected, so the items as well as the markets may change over time.

**Table 1 National average monthly wholesale prices of homegrown produce**

		Quality	Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Per cent change month	12 month
<b>FRUIT</b>											
<b>Blackberries</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg						5.20		28.3%
<b>Blackcurrants</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Cherries</b>	Sweet Black	-	£/kg								
	Sweet White	-	£/kg								
<b>Cooking Apples</b>	Bramley's Seedling	Ave	£/kg	0.59	0.64	0.65	0.70	0.69	0.73	4.8%	17.5%
<b>Damsons</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Dessert Apples</b>	Cox's Orange-group	Ave	£/kg	0.61	0.63	0.67	0.70	0.77			
	Discovery	Ave	£/kg								
	Egremont Russet	Ave	£/kg	0.64	0.72	0.77	0.69	0.82			
	Spartan	Ave	£/kg	0.64							
	Worcester Pearmain	Ave	£/kg								
	Braeburn	Ave	£/kg	0.58	0.60	0.61	0.59	0.59	0.55	-5.9%	
	Gala	Ave	£/kg	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.66	0.68	0.71	4.2%	
	Other Early Season	-	£/kg								
	Other Mid Season	-	£/kg								
	Other Late Season	-	£/kg	0.59	0.52	0.53	0.61	0.65	0.59	-7.9%	
<b>Gooseberries</b>	Jonogold – group	Ave	£/kg								
	All Varieties	-	£/kg						2.52		-17.6%
<b>Pears</b>	Conference	Ave	£/kg	0.50	0.52	0.54	0.55	0.48			
	Doyenne Du Comice	Ave	£/kg	0.66	0.71	0.78					
	William's Bon Chretien	Ave	£/kg								
	Other	Ave	£/kg	0.83	0.62	0.56					
<b>Plums and Gages</b>	Czar	-	£/kg								
	Majorie's Seedling	-	£/kg								
	Victoria	-	£/kg								
	Other Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Raspberries</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg					4.94		-28.0%	
<b>Redcurrants</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Strawberries</b>	All Varieties	Ave	£/kg			2.72	1.96	1.79	1.98	10.6%	7.3%
<b>VEGETABLES</b>											
<b>Asparagus</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg		14.03	15.50	8.91	7.04	5.12	-27.3%	2.4%
<b>Beetroot</b>	Topped	-	£/kg	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.4%	1.2%
<b>Broad Beans</b>	Broad	-	£/kg						1.43		0.5%
<b>Brussels Sprouts</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.28	0.26	0.28					

**Table 1 National average monthly wholesale prices of homegrown produce continued**

		Quality	Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Per cent change month	Per cent change 12 month
<b>VEGETABLES</b>											
<b>Bulb Onions</b>	Yellow	-	£/kg	0.32	0.29	0.31	0.37	0.39	0.40	4.5%	9.6%
	Red	-	£/kg	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.46	0.48	0.49	2.4%	4.3%
<b>Cabbage</b>	Red	-	£/kg	0.35	0.40	0.52	0.60	0.61	0.63	2.4%	46.8%
	Savoy	-	£/head	0.37	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.46	18.0%	-9.3%
	Spring Greens - Loose	-	£/kg				0.90				
	Spring Greens - Prepacked	-	£/kg	0.72	0.88	1.28	1.16	0.88	0.82	-6.2%	24.8%
	Summer & Autumn-Pointed	-	£/kg				0.55	0.53	0.50	-5.4%	-2.6%
	Summer & Autumn Round	-	£/head	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.42	0.41	-0.2%	-8.5%
	White	-	£/kg	0.31	0.30	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.32	-6.7%	-32.4%
	Winter Other	-	£/head	0.37	0.39	0.38	0.40	0.39	0.45	15.5%	
<b>Calabrese</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg					0.95	0.72	-24.1%	-6.8%
<b>Capsicums</b>	Green	Ave	£/kg						0.81		12.3%
	Red	Ave	£/kg						1.21		46.0%
<b>Carrots</b>	Topped-Washed	-	£/kg	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.39	0.44	0.43	-2.8%	-8.3%
<b>Cauliflowers</b>	Kent	-	£/head	0.61	0.62	0.96	0.78	0.75	0.51	-32.2%	-8.0%
	All Other	-	£/head	0.56	0.50	0.93	0.78	0.73	0.48	-33.7%	-14.2%
<b>Celery</b>	All Washed	-	£/kg						0.68		-4.0%
<b>Courgettes</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg						0.51		6.8%
<b>Cucumbers</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg		0.76	0.74	0.68	0.69	0.80	16.9%	31.9%
<b>Beans</b>	Dwarf, French or Kidney	-	£/kg						2.65		
<b>Leeks</b>	Trimmed	-	£/kg	0.39	0.39	0.41	0.44	0.44	0.58	30.5%	39.6%
<b>Lettuce</b>	Butterhead – Indoor	Ave	£/head	0.35	0.36	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.31	-9.4%	3.7%
	Cos	Ave	£/head					0.62	0.52	-16.7%	-0.3%
	Crisp-Iceberg Type	Ave	£/head					0.41	0.37	-11.4%	6.1%
	Little Gem	Ave	£/twin	0.59	0.55	0.52	0.57	0.56	0.51	-8.0%	4.0%
<b>Mushrooms</b>	Button – Indoor	-	£/kg								
	Cup – Indoor	-	£/kg								
	Flat – Indoor	-	£/kg								
<b>Parsnips</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.92	1.16	1.07	-8.1%	30.3%
<b>Rhubarb</b>	Forced	-	£/kg	3.25	2.62	3.12	4.10	5.00			
	Outdoor	-	£/kg			4.02	1.72	1.30	1.06	-18.0%	-11.9%
<b>Runner Beans</b>	Runner-Climbing	-	£/kg						5.51		29.9%
<b>Salad Onions</b>	Salad	-	£/bunch				0.30	0.27	0.25	-5.9%	5.1%
<b>Shelling Peas</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg					1.35	0.68	-50.0%	-20.4%

**Table 1 National average monthly wholesale prices of homegrown produce continued**

		Quality	Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Per cent change month	12 month
<b>VEGETABLES</b>											
<b>Spinach</b>	Leaf - Loose/bunches	-	£/kg				1.03	0.96	0.98	1.2%	29.4%
<b>Swede</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.31	0.31	0.30	0.31	0.29	0.29	0.1%	-6.3%
<b>Sweetcorn</b>	All Varieties	-	£/cob								
<b>Tomatoes</b>	Round	Ave	£/kg			2.33	1.02	0.82	0.78	-4.6%	4.1%
	Vine	Ave	£/kg			4.00	1.04	0.90	0.76	-15.8%	-16.8%
	Cherry	Ave	£/kg				2.14	2.15	1.76	-18.2%	-12.6%
	Plum	Ave	£/kg					0.79	0.88	11.6%	-8.8%
<b>Turnip</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.93	0.96	0.77	1.00	1.11	0.96	-13.1%	20.9%
<b>Watercress</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch	0.51	0.52	0.53	0.51	0.50	0.52	2.4%	-8.1%
<b>CUT FLOWERS</b>											
<b>Alstromeria</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>	1.17	1.24	1.24	1.35	1.36	1.27	-6.8%	4.9%
<b>Chrysanthemums</b>	Indoor-bloom	-	£/bloom								
	Indoor-spray	-	£/spray								
<b>Gladioli</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>					0.55			
<b>Irises</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>				0.70	0.70			
<b>Narcissus-inc.Daffodils</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(2)</sup>	0.56	0.44	0.44					
<b>Oriental Lilies</b>	Homegrown	-	£/stem	0.76		0.69	0.75	0.71	0.69	-3.5%	3.8%
<b>Pinks</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch <sup>(3)</sup>						0.60		46.4%
<b>Tulips</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(4)</sup>	0.79	0.80	0.85	0.92	0.76			
<b>POT PLANTS</b>											
<b>Begonia-Elatior</b>	13cm	-	£ each	0.70	1.18						
<b>Cyclamen</b>	13cm	-	£ each	1.37	0.90						
<b>Poinsettia</b>	13cm	-	£ each								
<b>Chrysanthemum</b>	13cm	-	£ each		1.25				1.10		-9.6%

Note:

- (1) a bunch equals 5 stems
- (2) a bunch equals 10 blooms
- (3) a bunch equals 10 stems
- (4) a bunch equals 5 blooms

Link to full dataset: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wholesale-fruit-and-vegetable-prices>