



## Fruit and vegetable wholesale prices – June 2015

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.

### **Key points**

#### *General*

Trade was slow and steady in the first half of June but picked up towards the end of the month as the weather improved. The amount of home grown produce was varied as some crops were coming to the end of their season and other summer crops were coming onto the market. Imports from the continent ensured supplies of soft fruit and salad were good across the month.

The flower market saw quiet trading at the beginning of the month but trading picked up as the weather improved and demand increased. Prices and supplies remained steady across the month.

#### *Fruit*

Supplies of home grown pears continue to fall as the season comes to an end. Only Conference pear prices were quoted at market. Conference pears rose 13% to 0.59/kg.

Demand for Strawberries was high but prices fell by 24% to £1.85/kg as more fruit including Scottish and Dutch and Belgian imports came onto the market.

Demand was also high for Raspberries but the price fell 11% to £6.86/kg as supplies increased. The quality of the fruit remained high across June which stopped the price falling further.

#### *Vegetables*

Asparagus prices continued to fall, down 18% to £5/kg by the end of June. Supplies remained high but demand was low and the quality of the produce was mixed.

Broad bean prices fell sharply as supplies increased and demand dwindled. The price fell 37% to £1.42/kg by the end of the month.

Savoy cabbage rose by 25% to £0.51/head and White cabbage rose 33% to £0.48/kg as supplies were short of the new season crop.

Cauliflower prices rose across the month as supplies dwindled. Leeks rose as supplies were short awaiting the new season crop.

## *Flowers*

Prices for Oriental Lillies dropped by 6% to £0.66/stem despite demand rising towards the end of the month.

### **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 five wholesale markets across England on a weekly basis. Prices are collected from, Birmingham, Bristol, Liverpool and New Spitafields with flower prices also collected from New Covent Garden. 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 is collected, so the items will change over time, and also the markets where the data are collected.

**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						4.05		-15.8%
<b>Blackcurrants</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Cherries</b>	Sweet Black	-	£/kg						2.47		-38.8%
	Sweet White	-	£/kg								
<b>Cooking Apples</b>	Bramley's Seedling	Ave	£/kg	0.61	0.61	0.60	0.60	0.61	0.62	1.3%	-6.2%
<b>Damsons</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Dessert Apples</b>	Cox's Orange-group	Ave	£/kg	0.69	0.78	0.89	1.00				
	Discovery	Ave	£/kg								
	Egremont Russet	Ave	£/kg	0.73	0.77	0.74					
	Spartan	Ave	£/kg	0.54							
	Worcester Pearmain	Ave	£/kg								
	Braeburn	Ave	£/kg	0.62	0.61	0.59	0.59	0.62			
	Gala	Ave	£/kg	0.72	0.69	0.64	0.68	0.66			
	Other Early Season	-	£/kg								
	Other Mid Season	-	£/kg								
	Other Late Season	-	£/kg	0.66	0.59	0.57	0.63	0.64			
	Jonogold – group	Ave	£/kg	0.58			0.71	0.68			
<b>Gooseberries</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg						3.06		-19.3%
<b>Pears</b>	Conference	Ave	£/kg	0.48	0.48	0.45	0.45	0.52	0.59	12.5%	-28.2%
	Doyenne Du Comice	Ave	£/kg	0.59	0.62	0.55	0.50	0.61			
	William's Bon Chretien	Ave	£/kg								
	Other	Ave	£/kg	0.37	0.42	0.66	0.61				
<b>Plums and Gages</b>	Czar	-	£/kg								
	Majorie's Seedling	-	£/kg								
	Victoria	-	£/kg								
	Other Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Raspberries</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg					7.74	6.86	-11.4%	34.8%
<b>Redcurrants</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg								
<b>Strawberries</b>	All Varieties	Ave	£/kg			2.23	1.60	2.43	1.85	-24.0%	20.4%
<b>VEGETABLES</b>											
<b>Asparagus</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg			12.05	9.37	5.79	5.00	-13.7%	-18.5%
<b>Beetroot</b>	Topped	-	£/kg	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.16	-0.6%	-13.2%
<b>Broad Beans</b>	Broad	-	£/kg					2.26	1.42	-36.9%	0.8%
<b>Brussels Sprouts</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.25	0.25	0.26	0.25				

**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>Bulb Onions</b>	Yellow	-	£/kg	0.26	0.29	0.27	0.30	0.32	0.37	15.5%	-2.1%
	Red	-	£/kg	0.45	0.44	0.39	0.41	0.43	0.47	9.3%	51.1%
<b>Cabbage</b>	Red	-	£/kg	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.33	0.38	0.43	11.5%	4.3%
	Savoy	-	£/head	0.35	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.41	0.51	25.2%	15.1%
	Spring Greens - Loose	-	£/kg	0.62	0.64						
	Spring Greens - Prepacked	-	£/kg	0.64	0.81	0.81	0.75	0.72	0.66	-8.1%	6.8%
	Summer & Autumn-Pointed	-	£/kg				0.46	0.50	0.51	2.6%	17.7%
	Summer & Autumn Round	-	£/head	0.34	0.31	0.39	0.42	0.48	0.45	-6.2%	30.3%
	White	-	£/kg	0.26	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.36	0.48	33.4%	61.5%
	Winter Other	-	£/head	0.36	0.34	0.35	0.36	0.35			
<b>Calabrese</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg					0.70	0.77	11.2%	39.5%
<b>Capsicums</b>	Green	Ave	£/kg				0.69	0.75	0.72	-3.7%	-37.4%
	Red	Ave	£/kg				1.49	0.85	0.83	-2.5%	6.3%
<b>Carrots</b>	Topped-Washed	-	£/kg	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.32	0.43	0.47	8.0%	40.6%
<b>Cauliflowers</b>	Kent	-	£/head	0.87	0.64	0.52	0.43	0.45	0.55	21.1%	-16.2%
	All Other	-	£/head	0.74	0.59	0.46	0.42	0.43	0.56	29.6%	2.7%
<b>Celery</b>	All Washed	-	£/kg						0.71		9.1%
<b>Courgettes</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg						0.48		37.6%
<b>Cucumbers</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg		1.23	0.76	0.70	0.65	0.61	-5.9%	-2.4%
<b>Beans</b>	Dwarf, French or Kidney	-	£/kg								
<b>Leeks</b>	Trimmed	-	£/kg	0.35	0.38	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.41	13.2%	-25.0%
<b>Lettuce</b>	Butterhead – Indoor	Ave	£/head	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.31	0.31	0.30	-2.0%	-0.2%
	Cos	Ave	£/head					0.52	0.52	-0.5%	-0.9%
	Crisp-Iceberg Type	Ave	£/head					0.36	0.35	-2.8%	-8.8%
	Little Gem	Ave	£/twin	0.60	0.61	0.61	0.63	0.56	0.49	-11.4%	-1.9%
<b>Mushrooms</b>	Button – Indoor	-	£/kg								
	Cup – Indoor	-	£/kg						1.19		-36.3%
	Flat – Indoor	-	£/kg								
<b>Parsnips</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.78	0.80	0.77	0.78	0.76	0.82	7.4%	-4.1%
<b>Rhubarb</b>	Forced	-	£/kg	3.76	3.45	3.62	3.84	5.65			
	Outdoor	-	£/kg			2.68	1.86	1.30	1.21	-7.3%	15.7%
<b>Runner Beans</b>	Runner-Climbing	-	£/kg						4.24		22.7%
<b>Salad Onions</b>	Salad	-	£/bunch				0.24	0.24	0.24	-0.8%	-3.9%
<b>Shelling Peas</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg						0.85		13.0%

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<b>VEGETABLES</b>											
<b>Spinach</b>	Leaf - Loose/bunches	-	£/kg				0.95	0.81	0.75	-7.1%	0.6%
<b>Swede</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.30	0.29	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.31	9.7%	5.4%
<b>Sweetcorn</b>	All Varieties	-	£/cob								
<b>Tomatoes</b>	Round	Ave	£/kg			1.10	1.11	0.86	0.75	-12.9%	-17.3%
	Vine	Ave	£/kg			0.75	1.00	1.07	0.91	-14.4%	-15.8%
	Cherry	Ave	£/kg				2.91	2.37	2.01	-15.1%	-12.7%
	Plum	Ave	£/kg					1.02	0.97	-5.3%	
<b>Turnip</b>	All Varieties	-	£/kg	0.92	0.52	0.70	0.96	0.84	0.79	-5.7%	-12.6%
<b>Watercress</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch	0.52	0.56	0.54	0.55	0.56	0.56	1.1%	4.9%
<b>CUT FLOWERS</b>											
<b>Alstromeria</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>	1.18	1.22	1.29	1.14	1.19	1.21	1.8%	24.0%
<b>Chrysanthemums</b>	Indoor-bloom	-	£/bloom								
	Indoor-spray	-	£/spray	0.24			0.63				
<b>Gladioli</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>						1.08		139.6%
<b>Irises</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(1)</sup>		0.88	0.95	0.80	0.56			
<b>Narcissus-inc.Daffodils</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(2)</sup>	0.58	0.62	0.54	0.42				
<b>Oriental Lilies</b>	Homegrown	-	£/stem				0.79	0.70	0.66	-5.9%	4.4%
<b>Pinks</b>	All Varieties	-	£/bunch <sup>(3)</sup>					0.40	0.41	3.6%	25.6%
<b>Tulips</b>	Indoor	-	£/bunch <sup>(4)</sup>	0.77	0.86	0.85	0.88	0.83			
<b>POT PLANTS</b>											
<b>Begonia-Elatior</b>	13cm	-	£ each	1.25	1.13	1.08	1.10	1.20	1.25	4.0%	14.6%
<b>Cyclamen</b>	13cm	-	£ each	1.37		1.30					
<b>Poinsettia</b>	13cm	-	£ each								
<b>Chrysanthemum</b>	13cm	-	£ each	1.25	1.19	1.21	1.23	1.23	1.22	-0.9%	2.4%

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>