



Fresh Produce Consortium

Nigel Jenney, CEO – Fresh Produce
Consortium

nigel@freshproduce.org.uk

ABOUT US

We are the UK's fresh produce trade association.



WIDELY RECOGNISED AS *THE VOICE OF THE UK INDUSTRY* FPC PLAYS A UNIQUE AND CRUCIAL ROLE IN CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORTING THE GROWTH OF ITS MEMBERS' BUSINESSES. OUR EXTENSIVE MEMBERSHIP ENCOMPASSES ALL ASPECTS OF BOTH DOMESTIC AND GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS OF THE FRUIT, VEGETABLE AND THE FLOWER INDUSTRY.

www.freshproduce.org.uk



Fresh Produce Challenges & Opportunities

Delays & U turns in Post Brexit legislation

Divergence from EU legislation, e.g. pesticides

Policy

Delayed implementation of EU Border solution

UK no longer destination of choice?

Trade

Staff shortages due to Brexit / Ukraine / Covid / increased wages

New source countries for labour

Employment

Inflation & rising costs for horticulture - fertilizer, energy, fuel, labour

Consumer prices lagging cost of production

Production



Challenges



Opportunities



Policy

More industry autonomy / risk management – Trusted Trader?

Possible move to Codex standards as a solution?

Trade

International trade agreements allowing greater freedom and opportunity

Export potential

Employment

Low UK unemployment

Significant focus and funding for robotics

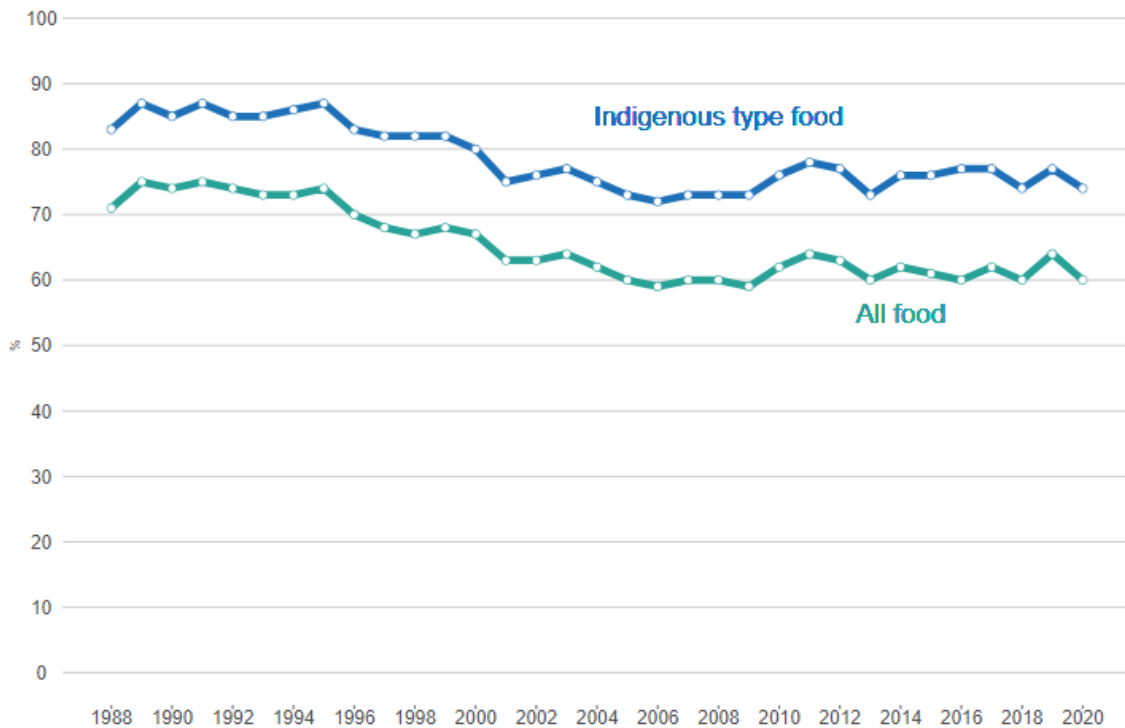
Production

Focus on food security and export

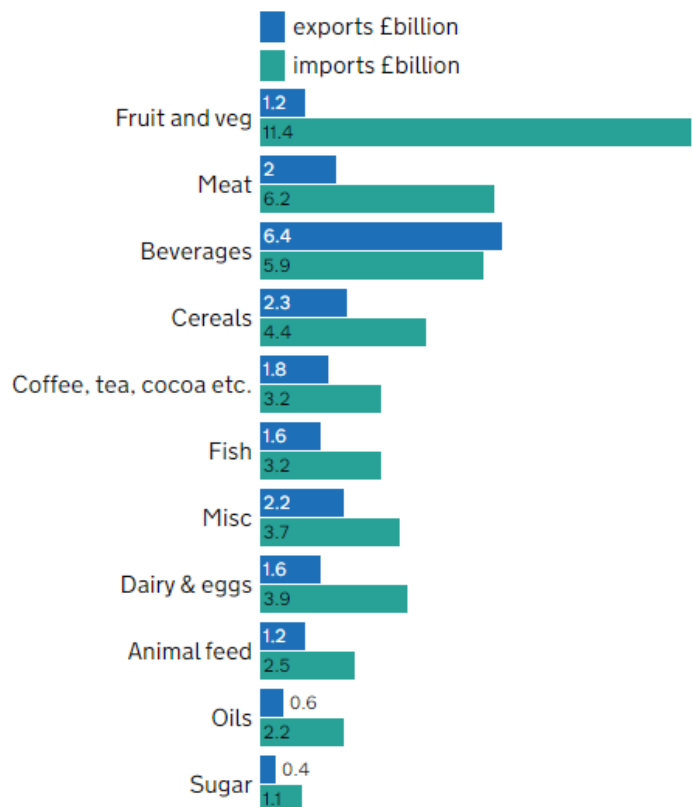
Positive govt support for UK agritech e.g. vertical farming



UK Food Production to Supply Ratio



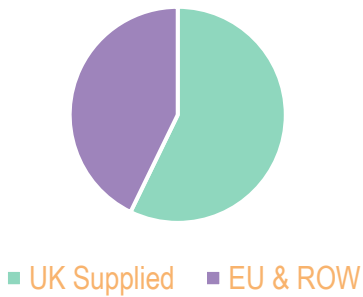
UK Trade in Different Food Groups 2020



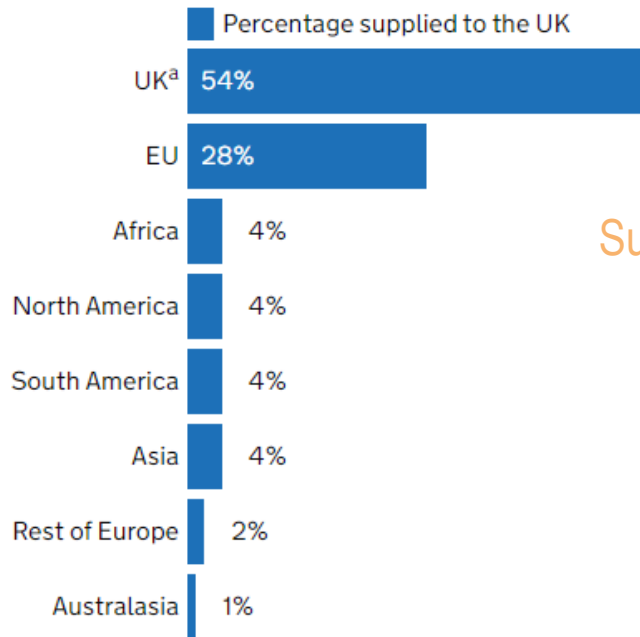
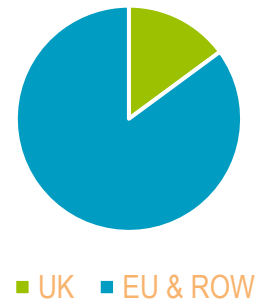
Origins of Food Consumed in the UK 2020



Supply of UK Veg



Supply of UK Fruit

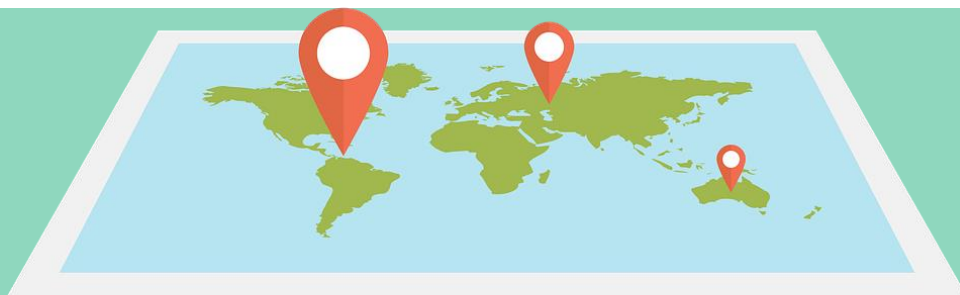


^a UK origin consists of UK domestic production minus UK exports

Sourcing food from a diverse range of stable regions, in addition to domestically, enhances food security¹.

Based on the farm-gate value of unprocessed food in 2020², the UK supplied just over half (54%) of the food consumed in the UK. The leading foreign supplier of food consumed in the UK were countries from the EU (28%). Africa, Asia, North and South America each provided a 4% share of the food consumed in the UK.

The three largest value imported commodity groups (at 2020 prices) were fruit & vegetables, meat and beverages (see 3.4).





Fresh Produce Consortium

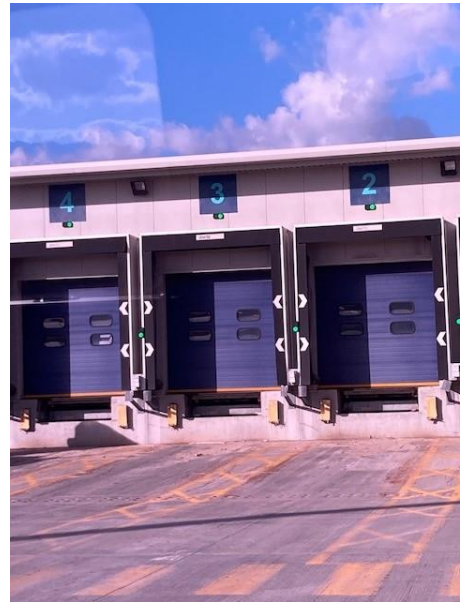
Recent FPC / DEFRA engagement on revised TOM plant health controls shows joint aspirations:

- World leading sector requires world leading border strategy
- Effective/ least cost solution is essential – total least cost strategy throughout supply chain
- Does not compromise plant / food safety or security based on proven and visible risk.
- Minimal impact on food inflation

Financial Cost of an In-Efficient Border

Worked Example of Current Costings

- Estimated 250,000+ EU consignments (70% on groupage)
- Estimated cost to EU admin €80-100m (excludes UK border costs)
- Current costs to UK – inspection costs, admin staff, delays, destruction, storage costs



BOM Strategy

Current strategy (including BCP's) is a bureaucratic and unsustainable solution. Key driver of consumer price inflation without managing appropriate risk

Upcoming changes

Inspection levels reducing to 3% EU and 5% ROW based on risk (some 100%)
Proposed plant import strategy requires a fundamental review – GROUPAGE REMAINS A MAJOR ISSUE



Evolution of the TOM

Trusted Trader Scheme

Accredited businesses & inspectors
Dedicated inspection areas at POD
Verification by DEFRA
Risk based traceable approach
Accessible to SME's / non-UK businesses
Include agents / logistics
All origins
Customs exclusion

E-phyto

Essential

System is managed through inter-govt / competent authority
No industry ID doc check fees
If deemed safe at point of EU export – inspection required in UK?
Removal of paper-based systems

The Ideal TOM

Agility

Plant Health Inspection system needs to respond quickly – Holland takes 2hrs to get a phyto / UK up to 7 days
Produce is 24/7 industry -
Inspectors need to be available around the clock and at a range of inspection points
Consistent process across points of entry

Communication / Data Sharing

Essential with Border Force, Port Health and service users (UK and OS)
Easily retrievable and trendable data – performance / KPI's
Real time data which is visible to industry