



Is the world really facing food shortages?

April 15, 2020

As supermarket shelves clear and shoppers rush to stockpile as lockdown regulations tighten, it appears as if major cities are being affected by food shortages. But is it just an illusion?



1-1. Panic buying _____

1-2. such as pasta and flour, as _____

2. But are there really shortages - or _____

3-1. Meat, diary _____

3-2. have been struggling _____

3-3. creating _____

4. Lack of air freight and truckers _____

5-1. But retailers and authorities _____

5-2. and supplies of most products _____

5-3. as bakeries and pasta firms _____

BRITISH AGRICULTURE MINISTER GEORGE EUSTICE SAYING:
"There's more than enough food to go around."

6. That's _____

BRITISH AGRICULTURE MINISTER GEORGE EUSTICE SAYING:

“But the challenge that all of our retailers have faced is keeping shelves stocked throughout the day in the face of increased purchasing behavior.”

7-1. The logistics of getting food _____

7-2. does point _____

8. Lack of labour _____

9-1. That could cause shortages _____

9-2. in a throwback to the food crises _____

[Vocabulary]

- panic buying:** a situation in which large numbers of people buy a product in large quantities because they are worried there is not enough of it available
 - *Ministers' comments sparked panic buying of petrol.*
 - *As well as shuttered banks, shoppers were panic-buying as shortages grew by the hour.*
- staple:** an important product, especially a food, that people eat or use regularly; necessary or important, especially regarding food or commodities
 - *Rice is the staple of Japan.*
 - *Wheat is a staple crop.*
- dairy:** dairy products include milk and foods that are made from milk, for example butter and cheese
 - *She can't eat dairy.*
- grocery store:** a marketplace where groceries are sold
 - *On the corner stood what seemed to me the largest grocery store in the world.*
- perception:** a particular way of understanding or thinking about something
 - *The public's perception of him is slowly changing.*
 - *He is interested in how our perceptions of death affect the way we live.*
- freight:** the transportation system that carries goods; goods that are carried by vehicles
 - *The ferry carries both freight and passengers.*
 - *a railroad network equipped for both passengers and freight*
- air freight:** freight transported by aircraft
 - *The medical supplies were shipped by air freight to Jordan.*
- trucker:** someone whose job is to drive a truck
 - *For the most part, car drivers and truckers are extremely courteous.*
 - *As the son of a long-distance trucker, this was my dream drive.*
- disrupt:** to interrupt something and prevent it from continuing by creating a problem
 - *Protesters tried to disrupt the meeting.*
 - *The drought has severely disrupted agricultural production.*

- **retailer**: a person or company that sells goods directly to the public for their own use
 - *But the retailer says it is now ready to design and manage its own site.*
- **underlying**: real but not immediately obvious; basic, fundamental: underlying causes, facts, ideas, etc. are the real or basic ones, although they are not obvious or directly stated
 - *Find the underlying cause of stress.*
 - *The underlying causes of the riots have been ignored.*
- **replenish**: to make something full again, or to bring it back to its previous level by replacing what has been used
 - *"to replenish a stock of goods"*
 - *I had to keep going back to try to replenish the stock.*
- **firm**: a business or company
 - *a building/engineering/law firm*
 - *a building firm*
 - *She works for a large firm.*
- **ramp up**: to bolster or strengthen
 - *Ramp up security in the airports.*
- **George Eustice**: **Charles George Eustice** (born 28 September 1971) is a British Conservative Party politician and former public relations executive. On 13 February 2020 he joined the Cabinet replacing Theresa Villiers as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- **challenge**: something that needs a lot of skill, energy, and determination to deal with or achieve, especially something you have never done before and will enjoy doing
 - *The company faces the daunting challenge of completing the building on time.*
 - *The new government's first challenge is the economy.*
- **stocked**: furnished with more than enough
 - *"Rivers well stocked with fish"*
 - *"a well-stocked store"*
- **in the face of**: When threatened by or confronted with.
 - *in the face of a looming crisis*
 - *It's hard to be an optimist in the face of so much tragedy and turmoil in the news each day.*
- **logistics**: the practical arrangements that are necessary in order to organize something successfully, especially something involving a lot of people or equipment; handling an operation that involves providing labor and materials be supplied as needed
 - *We need to redesign the logistics system.*
 - *The logistics of organizing such a big show pose enormous practical problems.*
- **point to**: to indicate, reveal, suggest, or imply that someone or something is the likely conclusion or answer to some question.
 - *After a careful investigation, all signs point to Mr. Walker as the perpetrator of the theft.*

• *The unusual angle of this wound points to the second shooter from a higher level.*

□ **planting**: putting seeds or young plants in the ground to grow

• *"The planting of corn is hard work."*

□ **harvesting**: the gathering of a ripened crop

• *Beekeepers have been harvesting this honey for over 100 years.*

• *The other men go back to their homes or to the factories in the cities, where they await the harvesting and threshing season.*

□ **staple crop**: one of a region's most important crops, typically constituting a major portion of the region's diet.

• *Grains, legumes, and starchy foods like potatoes are common staple crops in many regions of the world.*

□ **throwback**: a reappearance of an earlier characteristic; If you say that something is a throwback to a former time, you mean that it is like something that existed a long time ago.

• *His manners were a throwback to a more polite era.*

• *The idea is a throwback to more ancient forms of justice.*

[参照辞書: Merriam-Webster, Oxford English Dictionary, America Heritage of the English language, Collins English Dictionary, Macmillan Dictionary, the Free Dictionary, Wikipedia]