

And if you can find containers, shipping times have doubled, meaning there is less time available to get toys into shops before the festive season.

The Toy Retailers Association has said shoppers may struggle to find what they want, while John Lewis says it is chartering a fleet of extra ships to make sure it has Christmas stock on time.

One of the UK's biggest toy retailers, The Entertainer, is warning that delays at UK ports will result in shortages this Christmas, because it will be harder to get stock to the right places at the right time.

Barbie dolls and Paw Patrol toys are among the children's favourites that the firm expects to sell out fast.

Turkeys and trees

The poultry trade is also hard hit by the labour shortage, with the British Poultry Council estimating there are nearly 7,000 vacancies across the sector.

Farmers are warning of a Christmas turkey shortage because visa changes to allow labour recruitment from abroad have come too late.

And the "perfect storm" of labour shortages, shipping costs and post-Brexit labour regulations could also lead to a scarcity of Christmas trees this year.

According to the British Christmas Tree Growers Association, between eight and 10 million real trees are sold in the UK each year.

But between one million and three million of those are imported from elsewhere in Europe. Now those supplies could be set for the chop, pushing up prices for home-grown trees.

Chocolates and milk

The UK's shortage of lorry drivers means that supermarkets are getting fewer deliveries of everything than they used to, so when they sell out of a particular product, it now takes longer for them to fill that gap on the shelf.

That includes chocolate and other confectionery.

Large quantities of sweets are an essential indulgence for many families at Christmas, but some of the most popular selections might be absent from store shelves in the run-up to the festive season.

Nestle, which makes Quality Street as well as Aero and KitKat, has said it is experiencing some supply chain problems - again caused by the UK's shortage of HGV lorry drivers and global shipping issues.

The Swiss-based multinational is the world's largest producer of dairy products, but it's not the only firm in its sector that has been hit.

Dairy giant Arla, which supplies milk to all major UK supermarkets, has been forced to cut back on its deliveries by the lack of lorry drivers.

The firm has been experiencing driver shortages since early April and there is no end in sight to the problem.

It normally delivers to 2,400 stores a day, but now cannot deliver to all of them every day.

However, it says it is working closely with customers to make sure supplies get through.

At the same time, at least one dairy farmer has said he was told to dump his milk after the lorry driver shortage meant it could not be collected.

Meat

Among other grocery items sometimes missing from supermarket shelves right now, shoppers are finding they can't always buy their favourite cuts of meat.

Since the UK's departure from the European Union, the food sector, like many others, has been struggling to cope with a loss of workers after many eastern Europeans went home.