

FRESH LINK MARKET REPORTS

Sept. 27, 2024 | Fresh-Link East | 800-220-1010 | infoFLE@freshlinkproduce.com

WEATHER ALERT

Early this morning the eye of Hurricane Helene traveled directly through the growing regions on South Georgia. As of publishing time no news is available as to the extent of damage but we can expect it to be significant enough to dramatically affect supply and markets for next week.

Bell Peppers-

Good volume has been available on Bell pepper this past week, mostly via the Midwest. There has been limited production on the East coast mostly due to the previous weather from Hurricane Debby stunting some of the fall plantings and delaying harvests. We should see better production this week into next out of states like New Jersey and North Carolina. We have seen excellent quality on Bell pepper as a whole due to the optimal growing conditions and weather. Look for Bell pepper to remain in good standing as we enter next week. However, we should see the tides change at some point during the week of 9/22, as crops transition even farther south to South Carolina and Georgia.

Cucumbers –

Demand and market has remained steady. We seem to be past any immediate difficulty on Cucumbers in the short-term. Mexico is in better shape and local regions will start NEW fall plantings likely end of this week along with NEW crop Cucumbers beginning in Georgia and North Carolina respectively. Greater volume will lead to more aggressive markets and retail-pushes. Look for good supply throughout the month of September on Cukes.

Eggplant –

Eggplant remains tight but there is light at the end of the tunnel. New fields will kick in across the Local plantings while new regions such as Georgia have started and will increase volume week over week. Look for market pricing to fall on Eggplant as we approach the end of the month, again, as a result of more supply in the marketplace as a whole from ALL regions.

Squash-

The past 7 days have been cooler in most parts of the Eastern U.S. with lows touching the 40s for 5-7 days. As a result we have seen Squash temporarily in short supply, specifically Yellow Squash as plants have been put on pause with overcast skies and again, cooler weather. Overall, the outlook for warmer temperatures is promising and we should see the plants come online again. Georgia's weather in particular is not conducive with rain and overcast skies projected for the next 7 days. Many in Georgia already are behind due to Hurricane Debby and the 8-10"+ of rainfall that ensued. Looking ahead, there is a Super-Harvest moon anticipated for 9/17 which should help bring on the squash quickly.

Corn-

Corn remains tight. Aside from less Corn being planted, we saw a MASSIVE Labor day pull partly in thanks to the timing and weather. It took many days to refill the empty pipeline. This in combination with again, cooler weather has kept supply lines limited. Look for Corn to become easier. Reminder, Georgia Fall corn will begin the last week of September/first week of October.

