

# FRESH LINK MARKET REPORTS

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## **Bell Peppers-**

Bell Pepper is extremely tight and supply will remain short at minimum for the next 14 days. New plantings in Florida will come online but worth noting: Hurricane Helene devastated North Florida which typically bridges the soon-to-be gap in Georgia to South Florida. Additionally, Mexico has only begun packing minimal amounts of volume. Look for Bell Pepper production to remain challenging now thru the end of the year. We will see better volume likely during the first week of December come on, but the front part of this Winter season in the southeast will not come easy.

## **Cucumbers –**

Georgia, and Florida production has increased at a fairly rapid rate these last 3-4 days. Mexico and Florida will continue to increase their volume over these next 7-10 days while Georgia has been hitting larger numbers than normal, likely due to the delayed plantings and weather the plants received in the past 30-45 days. Georgia has in fact started their descent of production. We should see less supply going into this weekend and by the end of next week Georgia will be on the exit as we look to Florida supplies.

## **Eggplant –**

As with bells, eggplant is very tight. This week will continue to prove challenging for most on Eggplant for both sides of the country. Heavy production out of Mexico is helping to relieve the demand in the East. Florida will start cutting Eggplant this weekend / next week which will also help in the now but as stated earlier, Florida's overall production initially will be constrained due to previous weather. Look for better numbers in volume for the weeks ahead allowing pricing to shift and be more advantageous for retailers. We have already started to see some of this out West.

## **Squash-**

Squash has been really the only promotable item in the southeast lately but that has turned around in recent days as Georgia growers disc their fields and abandon harvests for the remainder of the season. Markets had just become too cheap. Crossings have slowed up a bit in Nogales, as well. All of this is leading to greater demand and higher markets. Expect this to continue through the Thanksgiving pull and settle thereafter.

## **Corn-**

The corn market has been lowering almost daily as Georgia finishes this week and looks to clear out product. South Florida is now harvesting across all growers around the lake. But corn is not "out of the woods" yet with many affected by previous storms it will be another 45-60 days until plantings after the storms are ready to harvest. Markets will push right back up by next week.

