

# FRESH LINK MARKET REPORTS

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## **Bell Peppers-**

The bell pepper market is a bit stronger this week with the majority of product being the crown picked/bigger sizes. Few off grades have been available but that is expected to be short lived as the newer Spring fields ramp up production. There will be several days of rain moving in this weekend that should tighten the market further.

## **Cucumbers –**

Florida is now officially into their domestic cucumber deal. While they have only got into those fields in the last few days, they are picking decent enough supply to drive the market down. Honduran product is all but finished at this point and as we look into the next few weeks we can expect this trend to continue. Georgia will start harvesting their cucumbers mid-April but the pending tariffs on Mexican product will make the eastern markets hard to predict for the time being.

## **Eggplant –**

Volume on eggplants out Florida has dropped off, as is typical this time of year, and now the pricing is finally reflecting that. The market has jumped up a couple of dollars and growers throughout Florida are hit and miss with their availability. However, this pricing should not get much higher as growers move into their spring crops further north. Quality has been exceptional.

## **Squash-**

Squash saw a brief spike in pricing in the last couple of weeks but now appears to be dropping once again. There is just not the demand to sustain the pricing structures that Florida growers are trying to push. As long as Nogales has plenty of cheap product, Florida must follow suit. Several days of rain this weekend may do something to strengthen the market but new Spring fields are continuing to open up further and further north. Georgia will begin harvesting in early April.

## **Corn-**

Corn has tightened up this week in Florida, driving the market a few dollars higher and limiting what has been available on any given day. Growers are preparing to get into Spring crops by end of next week which should drop the market again, probably even more so as it will be a fairly huge flush of corn. Spring corn crops always bring with it the fatter, fuller barrels that have made Florida corn so popular.

