

# FRESH LINK MARKET REPORTS

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## **Bell Peppers-**

Bell pepper markets are a bit stronger this week. There is plenty of volume on all sizing but as growers transition into Spring crops, their coolers are not as full and the pipeline is no longer clogged. Quality should improve along with these more active markets. The weather throughout all of Florida appears to be cooperating for the foreseeable future.

## **Cucumbers –**

The cucumber market continues its slow trickle of Honduran product through the Florida ports. Each week there are fewer and fewer containers and by month's end, the flow of off shore cucumbers will stop. A few very small growers are already into their domestic product but it is hardly enough to make a dent in the markets. April will bring a more sufficient supply of Florida grown cucumbers but it will be active markets and tight availability until then.

## **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 has been much more active in response to Nogales markets as well as the high winds sweeping across southernmost Florida which are preventing the bees from properly pollinating. Yellow squash seems to be responding to this more dramatically than the green. As spring crops start to really ramp up at the end of the month, markets should adjust.

## **Corn-**

Corn remains abundant throughout south Florida. This market has been depressed for so long now that every attempt to prop it up seems to fall flat by end of day. Growers are preparing to get into the fields to pick yet more corn as spring crops are coming on fast. It is difficult to tell what the markets will do in the coming days, given these factors. Growers will not allow this market to stay where it is much longer...

