

GAC MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS



Chill C Farms in Moultrie, GA was founded in 2007 by partners, Sam Watson, Will Grantham, and Clay Underwood. They produce 500 acres of vegetables including: Bell Pepper, Yellow Straightneck Squash, Yellow Crookneck Squash, Eggplant, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Zucchini, and specialty peppers. They also have a 30,000 sq. ft. vegetable packinghouse.

Partner, Sam Watson has served in the Georgia House of Representatives for District 172 since 2013. On top of the farm operation, he continues to meet with legislators to make sure that his constituent's needs are met and that farmers in Southwest Georgia receive the relief funds from recent natural disasters. Rep. Watson found time in his busy schedule to update us about how things have changed since the pandemic began for his agribusiness.

Alongside existing food safety precautions, Chill C added facemasks, gloves, hand sanitizer and hand washing stations throughout the packinghouse. While the retail side of their business that supplies vegetables to grocery stores and markets is still holding strong, the demands for direct food service products have dwindled with restaurants being closed or resorting to take-out only options.

To offset the decrease in their food service business, Chill C began selling Georgia Grown produce boxes directly to consumers with the option of delivery within a 20-mile radius. With the the change in the market, they also had to increase social media efforts and update their website to provide their new customer base a way to get information and purchase their produce. The rapid pace of changes that have occurred over the past few months have certainly not made farming any easier but the partners at Chill C have been encouraged by the outpouring of support from the local community.

GAC appreciates all that Chill C and Rep. Sam Watson contributes to Georgia agriculture.