



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending May 16, 2010

More Farm Activities in the North

Weather Summary: Maximum temperatures for the week ending May 16 were in the 80s and 90s. Minimum temperatures were in the mid 50s to low 70s. Temperatures did not diverge more than one to two degrees from normal. Most of Florida's weather stations reported little to no rainfall. Counties that reported over two inches of rain within the past week were Santa Rosa, Hendry, and Osceola. Over 80% of the State reported topsoil and subsoil moisture as adequate or surplus. High winds and warm temperatures rapidly dried flooded areas.

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	3	30	5	1	27	0
Short	11	42	15	11	45	15
Adequate	79	26	75	79	27	80
Surplus	7	2	5	9	1	5

Field Crops: Planting of field crops resumed in non-irrigated fields this week as a result of improved moisture in the Panhandle and Big Bend; however, county extension agents reported dry conditions throughout the central and northern areas. Peanut planting quickened with 48% of the crop in the ground at week's end and was 9% above last year, and 11% above the five year average. Cotton and soybean planting picked up in the upper part of the State. Ryegrass was harvested for hay. Harvesting of wheat and oats for grain was just beginning. Potatoes harvest was underway in the Hastings area.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: May 16, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Planted	39	37	48

Vegetables: Vegetables in the northern and central regions were progressing well. In Gulf County, sweet corn and peas were being planted. In Bradford County, strawberries and onions were harvested. In Orange and Seminole counties, cucumbers were harvested for pickling and cabbage harvesting was nearing an end. Except for watermelons, vegetable season was coming to an end in the south. Watermelon volumes throughout the State were increasing. Snap beans, blueberries, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, okra, peppers, radishes, squash, and tomatoes moved through the market last week.

Livestock and Pastures: In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture was poor to excellent with most in good condition. Pastures were growing well due to recent rains and temperatures in the 90s. Pastures improved considerably after the rains two weeks ago but need additional rain to maintain production. The condition of the cattle improved over the past two weeks with improved permanent pasture. In the central areas, pasture was poor to excellent with most in fair condition, as it was dry in some locations. In the southwestern areas, the range condition varied from poor to excellent with most in good condition. Pasture was growing well in most areas, but growth was limited in some counties because of dry soils. Some cattlemen were working the cattle in preparation for the seasonal shipment of feeders. Statewide, the cattle were in very poor to excellent condition with most fair to good. Many cows were lighter weight and were recovering from the previous months of poor pasture.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	1	0	0
Poor	10	9	5	5
Fair.....	40	40	35	40
Good	45	45	55	50
Excellent	5	5	5	5

Citrus: Highs were in the lower to mid 90s, with early morning lows ranging from the lower to upper 60s. Rainfall was lighter and still variable. Clewiston received the most with 2.32 inches, but twenty-one of the twenty-four stations in the citrus area received less than an inch, and five stations recorded no rainfall at all. Growing conditions continued to be good across the citrus region. Most packinghouses remained open. Varieties packed included Valencia, white and colored grapefruit, and Honey tangerines. Valencia oranges and grapefruit comprised the majority of fruit going to the plants. Grove activity included harvesting, mowing, irrigation, psyllid treatment, hedging and topping, brush removal, and nutritional spraying.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	May 2, 2010	May 9, 2010	May 16, 2010
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Temples	2	0	0
Valencia oranges.....	5,839	5,761	5,959
Navel oranges	2	2	3
Grapefruit	201	203	171
Honey tangerines	44	22	5

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp. To set-up this free subscription, select Florida Crop-Weather; enter your name and your email address, click on Subscribe. This report will be sent automatically each week; or call us at 800/344-6277 and we will enter the subscription for you. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Data for individual reporting stations is available at: <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information Technologies.