WEATHER SUMMARY: Some southern and southeastern coastal localities received significant rainfall during the week of February 10 through 16. West Palm Beach recorded almost six inches of rain for the week. Ft. Lauderdale and Ft. Pierce reported around two inches. Elsewhere, rainfall totaled from traces to about two-thirds inch. The danger of wildfire continues to increase over the northern and central Peninsula and in a few western Panhandle areas. Temperatures at the major stations averaged from one degree below normal to two degrees above. Daytime highs were mostly in the 60s and 70s with several localities recording at least one high in the 80s. Most daily lows were in the 40s, 50s and 60s. Tallahassee, Jacksonville, and Pensacola each recorded at least one low in the 30s.

FIELD CROPS: Topsoil moisture supplies are short to mostly adequate with some surplus moisture reported for the Everglades. Subsoil moisture supplies are short to mostly adequate with scattered areas of very short supplies over the western Panhandle and over the northern and central Peninsula. Surplus subsoil supplies exist in the Everglades region with producers draining fields as needed. Land preparations for the planting of tobacco, pastures and other crops are slowly increasing in the northern Peninsula and Panhandle areas. Transplants in tobacco hot beds are doing well. Excessive rains in the Everglades region delayed some sugarcane harvesting with most on schedule.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle, small grain pasture is in good shape. Permanent pasture Bahia grass began to green up following warmer temperatures. In the north counties, cool season forage picked up. However, some ranchers are concerned with hay supplies running low. Statewide, cattle are in fair to good condition, up slightly from the previous week.

VEGETABLES: Spring crop planting is gaining momentum in the Palmetto-Ruskin area. Planting and harvesting continue at a normal pace around Immokalee, Jupiter and Stuart. The rain delayed some vegetable harvesting around Homestead with most on schedule. Growers continue to harvest tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, celery, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, parsley, potatoes, radishes, snap beans, squash, sweet corn and strawberries.

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