WEATHER SUMMARY: Cold fronts crossing from the Panhandle to the southeastern Peninsula brought abundant rains to many Panhandle and a few northern Peninsula localities during the week of November 3 through 9. Rainfall totaled from none to nearly two inches. A half inch to nearly two inches of rain fell over Brooksville, Jay, Lake Alfred, Marianna, Quincy, Daytona Beach, Pensacola, and Tallahassee. Many northern Peninsula and most central and southern Peninsula areas received less than a quarter inch of rain for the week. Most temperatures averaged from a degree below normal to a degree above. Daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s while most nighttime lows were in the 50s and 60s. Several Panhandle and a few northern Peninsula localities recorded at least one low in the 40s with Tallahassee and Alachua reporting at least one low in the 30s. Several reports of record daily highs were received during the week. On November 10 and 11 a cold front spawned severe storms and at least two tornadoes, one near Bratt in Escambia County and the other, near Ponce de Leon in Holmes County. Winds from these storms were clocked at 60 miles per hour at the Panama City-Bay County airport.

FIELD CROPS: Abundant rainfall continued to delay peanut and cotton harvesting in the Panhandle and some northern Peninsula localities, especially Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. However, the rains replenished soil moisture supplies with surplus supplies reported for a few Panhandle and northern Peninsula localities. Most topsoil and subsoil moisture is rated adequate to short with a few localities, scattered from the northern to the southern Peninsula, reporting very short supplies. Peanut harvesting slowed due to the rains with 97 percent dug. Last year, 99 percent of peanuts were dug by this date while the five-year average progress is also 99 percent harvested. Some northern producers are making the last cutting of hay for the year. Sugarcane cutting continues in the Everglades.

VEGETABLES: Harvesting of fall crops continues to increase over the central and southern Peninsula as growers begin to meet the Thanksgiving Day demand. Vegetables available include snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes and a very light supply of watermelons. Quality is mostly good. Strawberry harvesting is getting underway in the Plant City region although warm weather continues to hinder proper berry development.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle and northern counties, pasture is still green, with some “standing hay” going into dormancy. Growth of pasture grass slowed due to seasonally cooler temperature. Planting of small grains for winter forage was slowed by wet field conditions. The central and Big Bend area pasture is in fair condition due to drought. Pasture in the southern peninsula is mostly in good condition. Statewide, cattle and calves are in fair to good condition.

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