WEATHER SUMMARY: Warm and mostly dry weather continued during the week of May 11 through 17. Temperatures averaged from two to five degrees above normal in the major cities. Daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s while most nighttime lows were in the 60s and 70s. Jacksonville and Tallahassee recorded at least one low in the 50s. Sporadic showers dropped from a quarter to three-quarters of an inch of rain over the major cities. Several localities recorded no measurable rain for the week. The clash of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico sea breezes brought thunderstorms and significant rains to some coastal and many inland areas on Sunday, May 18.

FIELD CROPS: Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies continued to dry out in most localities with no areas reporting any surplus supplies. Most soil moisture is short to adequate in all areas with very short supplies reported in scattered areas of both the Panhandle and the Peninsula. Some peanut producers are waiting for significant rains before planting dryland acreage. Peanut planting is 50 percent finished compared with 61 percent done by this date last year, and the five-year average progress of 57 percent done. Peanut and cotton emergence is good in most Panhandle and northern Peninsula areas. Irrigated tobacco is in mostly good to excellent condition. Hay baling is active, especially in some Panhandle and northern Peninsula counties.

VEGETABLES: Producers continued picking for the Memorial Day market. Vegetables available include cantaloupes, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, potatoes, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelons. Harvesting is declining seasonally for snap beans, cabbage, celery, radishes and squash with lighter volume available.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: The condition of range and pasture decreased throughout the State due to drought. Statewide, the condition of the cattle ranges from fair to excellent, but most are in good condition.

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