



Florida Agricultural Statistics Service  
 1222 Woodward Street  
 Orlando, Florida 32803  
 407 / 648-6013

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/fl>



# WEATHER & CROP NEWS

Week ending June 13, 2004

Released 4:00 P.M.

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**WEATHER SUMMARY:** Scattered storms dropped abundant amounts of rain over many areas of the Sunshine State during the week of June 6 through 12. Rainfall for the week totaled from about two tenths of an inch in Citra to more than three inches in Miami. Most localities received one to over two inches of precipitation. Marianna reported less than one tenth of an inch. Temperatures averaged normal to three degrees above in major cities, while Miami was one degree below normal. Hot weather patterns continued with daytime highs in the 80s and 90s. Nighttime temperatures ranged from low 60s to mid 70s.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut condition is rated 25 percent fair, 70 percent good and 5 percent excellent with a fourth of the acreage pegged. Oldest cotton acreage is beginning to form squares. Recent showers prevented some hay making. Although many localities received abundant rains, the storms were more scattered than in recent weeks, leaving some areas dry. Soil moisture supplies are short to mostly adequate with some areas that received more rain reporting surplus moisture, especially Marion, Seminole and Osceola counties. Volusia and Broward counties reported some spots of very short soil moisture.

### PERCENTAGE OF PEANUTS PEGGED TO DATE

This year	25%
Last year	17%
5 - year average	26%

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	1	15	0	1	10	0
Short	29	30	9	24	30	8
Adequate	67	50	75	72	55	81
Surplus	3	5	16	3	5	11

**VEGETABLES:** Most vegetable crops in northern Peninsula and Panhandle localities are producing peak volume. Producers around Quincy increased tomato picking as harvesting from central areas declined seasonally. Okra harvesting remains steady in Dade County. Watermelon and cantaloupe cutting continue with growers helping to

supply the Independence Day market. Sweet corn, cucumber, eggplant and pepper harvesting are nearing the end as hot temperatures prevail.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** The condition of the pasture and range improved in the Panhandle through the central counties following good rainfall. In the northern counties, pasture and hayfield condition improved due to mid-90s temperatures and rainfall. The range condition in the southwest is still fair to good due to drought. Statewide, cattle are in fair to good condition.

Condition	Range		Cattle	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	0	5	0	0
Poor	5	25	5	5
Fair	60	50	44	50
Good	35	20	50	40
Excellent	0	0	1	5

**CITRUS:** Afternoon thunderstorms continued this week with most areas receiving at least some scattered rainfall. Coastal areas received up to two inches while some interior stations recorded over five. Other areas received only scattered rainfall. Temperatures moderated with the arrival of afternoon rains and highs reaching into the low 90s before the arrival of afternoon clouds and rain. Growers in most areas reported needing more rain to replenish soil moisture levels which declined dramatically in the spring, and to replenish lake and canal levels. Cultural practices are continuing and include fertilizations, hedging, and resetting of young trees. Most fresh fruit packinghouses are closed for the season with only a few continuing to pack Valencia oranges. Valencia orange weekly harvest is declining as plants close for the season.

### ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED WEEK ENDED

Crop	May 30	Jun 6	Jun 13
Valencia oranges	6,507,000	4,674,000	4,162,000
Grapefruit	142,000	74,000	18,000

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In cooperation with the Florida Cooperative Extension Service whose county directors participate in supplying field information.