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WEATHER & CROP NEWS



Week ending June 5, 2005

Released 4:00 P.M.

June 6, 2005

WEATHER SUMMARY: Abundant rain fell over most of the State during the week of May 30 through June 5. Rainfall ranged from about an inch at Carrabelle to nearly nine inches at Sebring. Some central, southwestern and southern Peninsula areas were soaked while some northern Peninsula and Big Bend localities received light amounts. Temperatures averaged from normal to three degrees below in the major cities. Daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s while nighttime lows were in the 60s and 70s.

FIELD CROPS: Substantial rains throughout the week increased soil moisture levels in most areas. Soil moisture in the Panhandle is mostly surplus while supplies in the Big Bend and northern Peninsula areas are mostly short to adequate. Central and southern Peninsula localities recorded mostly adequate supplies with a few areas reporting surplus. Farther down the southern Peninsula in Dade County, soil moisture supplies are short to adequate with Broward County still reporting some areas with very short supplies. Significant precipitation in Jefferson County helped alleviate stress in corn as well as other field crops. Peanut planting in some Panhandle areas is delayed until saturated soils dry out. Ninety five percent of peanuts are planted compared to 84 percent a year ago and the five year average of 88 percent. Peanut condition is rated 3 percent poor, 15 percent fair, 75 percent good and 7 percent excellent.

Percentage of Peanuts Planted to Date

This year	95
Last year	84
Five year average	88

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
<i>Percent</i>						
Very short	1	3	17	0	1	11
Short	2	37	34	8	24	36
Adequate	68	60	45	90	75	49
Surplus	29	0	4	2	0	4

VEGETABLES: Rain delayed harvesting in all areas. Sweet corn and blueberry picking are nearing the end. Central and northern Peninsula producers are starting to pick watermelons with most southern Peninsula harvesting finished. Snap bean picking is slow. Other vegetables available include cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers and tomatoes. Very light amounts of squash are also available.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: Pasture throughout the State is recovering from an extremely dry May and is generally in good condition. However, pasture in low spots in the north and Panhandle are in fair condition due to excess soil moisture while some pastures in the southwest are in only fair condition due to short soil moisture. Statewide, most cattle are in good condition.

Condition	Range		Cattle	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
<i>Percent</i>				
Very poor	0	0	0	0
Poor	0	5	0	0
Fair	5	35	5	20
Good	75	55	70	75
Excellent	20	5	25	5

CITRUS: Hot, dry weather at the beginning of the week turned into rainy, cooler days toward the middle of the week and lasted throughout the weekend. On Monday, highs were recorded in the low to mid 90s in all areas. Nighttime temperatures for the week dropped to the mid 60s. All areas had significant amounts of rain with the most being recorded in Sebring at over eight and a half inches, followed by Ft. Pierce at over eight inches for the week. The least recorded was in Lake Alfred at just over two inches. Valencia harvesting was between four and five million boxes a week, the previous two weeks, but the many days of rain affected this weeks estimated utilization. Grapefruit harvest is virtually over in both the white and colored categories. Harvest of Honey tangerines is complete for the season. Growers halted grove maintenance due to the numerous days of rain, but will continue to apply post harvest sprays and fertilizers as the weather clears.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED WEEK ENDED

Crop	May 22	May 29	June 3
In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes			
Late oranges	5,341	4,407	2,023
Grapefruit	32	9	3

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