

# Weather Crop Report

Week ending August 14, 2005

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**WEATHER SUMMARY:** Rainfall was sporadic during the week of August 8 through 14. Rainfall for the week ranged from less than a quarter inch in Fort Pierce, Umatilla, and Lake Alfred to over 3 inches in Hastings and Tallahassee. Many stations in the central to northern Peninsula reported from one to one and a half inches of rain. Average temperatures were mostly in the mid-80s, a degree or two above normal. High temperatures around the State were all in the low to mid-90s, with Orlando reaching a high of 96 and Tallahassee reaching a high of 95. Low temperatures were 70s across the State.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut growers took advantage of a break in the rains to get into the fields to apply fungicide. Almost 75 percent of the peanut crop was rated good or excellent, although some white mold and tomato spotted wilt virus is showing up. All peanut plants have pegged. Hay production was reported below normal in some areas. Rainfall amounts have been varied, resulting in some areas being too wet and some areas too dry. In some localities, rains have continued to delay pest control activities. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were reported mostly adequate or surplus, with a few reports of short supplies.

Percentage of Peanuts Pegged to date:		
This year	Last year	5-year average
100	100	97

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	0	1	1	0	0	1
Short	8	5	13	6	6	5
Adequate	67	59	48	65	57	52
Surplus	25	35	38	29	37	42

**VEGETABLES:** Growers in central and southern counties are beginning some field preparation activities and checking irrigation systems. Limited tomato planting has begun in southern Hillsborough County.



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Agricultural  
Statistics  
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Florida  
Field  
Office

Benjamin F. Klugh, Jr.  
Director  
407/648-6013

Florida Department  
of Agriculture and  
Consumer Services,  
Division of Marketing  
and Development

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** In the Panhandle, the pasture condition is fair to excellent, with most pasture in good condition with excellent growing conditions. In the northern areas, armyworms are causing some damage. The pasture condition is poor to excellent, with most pasture in fair condition due to drought. In the central areas, the pasture condition is poor to excellent, with most pasture in good condition. In the southwest, the pasture condition is poor to excellent, with most pasture in poor to fair condition due to flooding. Statewide, the cattle condition is poor to excellent, with most in good condition.

Condition	Range		Cattle	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	0	0	0	0
Poor	10	5	5	0
Fair	25	10	20	5
Good	60	70	70	90
Excellent	5	15	5	5

**CITRUS:** A cool front, along with rainfall at the beginning of the week, cooled down the temperatures slightly in the western and central citrus producing counties. By the middle of the week, temperatures were back into the mid to upper 90s in all areas, with Lake Alfred and Sebring recording temperatures at over 96 degrees. Groves in the southern counties still have excess water in the grove middles and on secondary roads. Overall, trees look good, with field workers reporting slightly larger than golfball-size fruit on oranges and baseball-size fruit on grapefruit. Normal practices continue including fertilizing, spraying, and young tree care. Grove access is limited in some areas due to the canker eradication program in full progress.

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