

Weather Crop Report

Week ending September 17, 2006

DESPITE RAINS; MANY PANHANDLE AREAS REMAIN DRY

Released:

September 18, 2006
4:00 pm

Access our reports
Via the internet at
www.nass.usda.gov/fl

WEATHER SUMMARY: Daily scattered showers continued during the week of September 11 through 17, mostly across the Peninsula areas, with some spotty showers in the Panhandle. Rainfall ranged from none at Daytona Beach to nearly five inches at Fort Lauderdale. Areas recording over an inch of precipitation included Brooksville, Carrabelle, Frostproof, Monticello, Palmdale, Quincy, Tallahassee, Tampa, and West Palm Beach. Immokalee and Miami received over two inches of rainfall for the week. Elsewhere, some areas received under an inch of rain while southwest localities received over four inches. Temperatures for the week hovered around normal to one degree below normal in Tallahassee. Daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s. Pleasant evening temperatures were in the 60s and 70s.

FIELD CROPS: Peanut harvesting is expected to increase within the next few days. The drought has delayed peanut maturity in the Panhandle with growers expecting yields to be down considerably. Delayed maturity for cotton in addition to peanuts is anticipated with yields predicted to be down with recent rains not able to reverse damage. The drought has delayed all field crops harvesting in the Panhandle. Growers in Jackson County doubt that any cotton will be harvested and expect to lose over 90 percent of the crop. Peanut condition was rated 10 percent very poor, 20 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 25 percent good and 5 percent excellent. Topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were rated short to adequate across the State with some pockets of surplus supplies.



United States
Department
Of Agriculture



National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Florida
Field
Office

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

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

Percentage of peanuts harvested to date:		
This year	Last year	5-year average
6	9	17

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	16	10	7	18	10	2
Short	18	10	30	40	30	24
Adequate	60	70	56	38	50	57
Surplus	6	10	7	4	10	17

VEGETABLES: Field work continued with some activities interrupted by rain. Growers in Dade County continued okra harvesting between periods of scattered showers. Producers in the Quincy area are preparing for tomato harvesting which is expected to get underway soon.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle and north, pasture is poor to good with most in good condition. The pastures are growing nicely. The livestock condition is fair to good. In the central areas, pasture condition is mostly good and most cattle are good condition. In the southwest, most pasture is in fair to good condition, with some pasture under water from daily heavy rains. Statewide, cattle condition ranges from fair to good.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
<i>Percent</i>				
Very poor	0	0	0	0
Poor	10	5	15	5
Fair	30	15	20	35
Good	55	75	60	55
Excellent	5	5	5	5

CITRUS: Short, spotty showers on many afternoons this past week produced up to one half inch of rainfall in six of seven monitored citrus producing areas. The station in Immokalee received almost two and a half inches of rain, the majority of which came early in the week. With all citrus producing areas still behind average rainfall, the precipitation they are getting is good for the trees. Temperatures were warm this week, with daytime highs in the upper 80s to mid 90s. Fruit sizes are being reported as variable, with fruit quality overall good. A couple packing houses will open this week and will begin receiving Ambersweet oranges and grapefruit. Growers are mowing, cleaning ditches and applying final supplemental sprays. Scouting for canker and greening by growers and caretakers continues. Grove owners are resetting to the extent they can purchase new trees to put in the ground.

We are encouraging all subscribers of this report to consider receiving it by email. To do so, log onto: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp Select Florida Crop-Weather. Enter your first and last name. Enter your Email address. Click on Subscribe. The report will be sent automatically each week. Or you may call us at 800/344-6277 and we will enter your subscription for you.

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