



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending July 27, 2008

## MIX OF SUMMER SUNSHINE AND STORMS

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** Daytime highs were in the 90s during the week of July 21 through 27. Nightly lows ranged from the upper 60s to mid-70s. Rainfall was scattered throughout the State. Some areas received less than an inch, while others saw over three inches of rain. Sebring, in Highlands County, reported 4.71 inches of precipitation for the week. Most locations in the northern part of the State got about one inch, except Live Oak and Carrabelle which reported over 2.5 inches.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut pegging was 90 percent completed, compared to 79 percent last year. Peanut condition was rated 21% fair, 53% good, and 26% excellent. Most fields continued to welcome recent rains as conditions for crops were favorable. Marion County reported that small amounts of hay have been baled this season. Hendry County reported that hay looked good. Peanut growers in Okaloosa County treated crops for tobacco budworms. Soil moisture levels were short to adequate in the Panhandle and Big Bend. The central and southern Peninsulas had adequate soil moisture.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending July 27, 2008			
Stage	2008	2007	5-yr Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Pegged	90	79	89

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	0	0	6	0	4	9
Short	31	13	16	36	14	30
Adequate	64	75	74	61	75	60
Surplus	5	12	4	3	7	1

**VEGETABLES:** Vegetable growers in Hendry County began preparing land for fall planting in August. Okra and avocados moved through the market for the week ending July 27, 2008.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture was in fair to excellent condition, with most in good condition. Recent rain favored growing conditions for forages. Pastures were looking better and forage for hay looks good. Pasture in the central area was fair to excellent, but most was in fair condition. There has been good growth of pasture grasses. The condition of cattle was mostly fair. The water level of some stockponds was up but some were short. In the southwest, pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most fair to good. The pasture condition has gone down due to drought. The cattle condition in the southwest was very poor to excellent. Some livestock were bothered by flies and mosquitoes. Statewide, cattle condition was mostly fair to good.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	1	0	5	0
Poor	4	1	5	2
Fair	45	34	40	28
Good	45	60	45	55
Excellent	5	5	5	15

**CITRUS:** All citrus-producing areas received some rainfall during the week. Localized thunderstorms in some areas brought large amounts of precipitation. Recordings in Sebring were over four and one half inches for the week. Balm had over three inches. Temperatures have been warm, reaching the lower 90s on several days. A high of 96 was recorded in both Lake Alfred and Balm. Activity in the groves included applications of summer oils, cleaning ditches, fertilizing, mowing, and some hedging. Growers were combining efforts to address canker and psyllid control. Access to groves with canker or greening was being approved by cautious owners and usually with restrictions. Overall, the showers have been beneficial to the growth of both the foliage and the new fruit. Oranges have been observed at various sizes ranging between golf ball and baseball size. Grapefruit tend to be running larger.

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