



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending June 28, 2009

WARM TEMPERATURES REMAIN AS GROWING SEASON ENDS

WEATHER SUMMARY: A downpour of showers covered the State last week. Areas of the Panhandle, central, and southern Peninsulas received over two inches of rain. Collier and Highlands counties received the most precipitation, 4.55 and 5.35 inches, respectively. Daytime highs were in the upper 90s and 100s, lows were in the upper 60s and 70s. Levy and Franklin counties had above average temperatures reaching the hundreds.

FIELD CROPS: Peanut pegging continued with 47 percent complete compared with 41 percent last year. Peanut condition rated 25% fair, 63% good, and 12% excellent. Hay and haylage was harvested in Orange and Seminole counties. Okaloosa County growers sprayed peanuts and cotton and completed their first cutting of hay. Corn silage and hay harvest was underway in Alachua County. Hay cutting continued in Putnam, Taylor, and Desoto counties. Sweet potatoes were planted in Miami-Dade County and are in the growing process in Highlands County. Nurseries remained active in the south Florida. The caladium crop was in full swing in Highlands County. Growers prepared for the caladium festival in August. Soil moisture condition was adequate in all areas.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending June 28, 2009			
Stage	2009	2008	5-yr Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Pegged	47	41	39

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	0	1	16	1	1	28
Short	13	23	17	14	21	28
Adequate	79	72	62	80	72	43
Surplus	8	4	5	5	6	1

VEGETABLES: Growers continued to wrap up the vegetable season. Sumter, Citrus, and Hernando counties harvested blackberries. Highlands County growers made their last run to harvest watermelons. Mangos and lychee nuts were being sold throughout south Florida. Overall, the quality and quantity of crops were in fair to good condition this season. Producers coped with extreme growing conditions from colder than normal fall and winter seasons, to drought, then heavy rain during the spring season. Okra and tomatoes were marketed.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: Pasture condition improved in some areas and worsened in others, depending on recent rainfall. In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition was poor to excellent with most fair to good. The poor condition was due to lack of rainfall. Cattle condition was mostly good; however, hot, dry weather negatively affected pasture and livestock conditions. Livestock were suffering from the extreme heat and ranchers were concerned bull fertility had been adversely affected by the hot weather. In the southwest, pasture was fair to excellent, slightly improved over the previous week. Cattle were in poor to excellent condition. Statewide, cattle condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	0	0	1	0
Poor	5	10	4	10
Fair	30	25	30	30
Good	50	55	50	55
Excellent	15	10	15	5

CITRUS: Most areas had average or slightly above average temperatures and several days of rainfall. Total rainfall amounts were the highest in the central and southern areas with about five inches each. The seasonal, tropical weather has been excellent for fruit growth and tree foliage. In well-cared-for groves, the majority of next year's citrus crop was in good condition. Production practices in all areas focused primarily on psyllid control through aerial spraying in an effort to control the spread of greening. Other grove care was somewhat limited but did include fertilizing, hedging, topping, mowing, and young tree care. Most fresh fruit packing was complete for the season. At least one plant plans on processing Valencia oranges into the first week of July. Grapefruit utilization was relatively over with just a few thousand boxes harvested.

Estimated Boxes Harvested - Week Ended			
Crop	Jun 14	Jun 21	Jun 28
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Valencia oranges	3,157	2,365	750
Grapefruit	3	6	1

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