



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending July 19, 2009

SPOTTY RAIN, MOST CROPS IN GOOD CONDITION

WEATHER SUMMARY: Rainfall for last week ranged from traces to over four inches. Gadsden, Franklin, and Santa Rosa counties, in the Panhandle, collected just over two inches of rain each. Other northern locations received one inch or less. Centrally located Marion, Osceola, and Volusia counties reported between two and three inches. Broward County received the most precipitation last week, 4.62 inches. Other areas in central and southern Florida recorded less than two inches of rainfall. Conditions were hot and dry for the southern Peninsula. High temperatures were in the 90s while lows were in the 60s and 70s.

FIELD CROPS: The peanut crop was 62% pegged, compared with 85% last year, and a five year average of 79%. Peanut condition was rated 2% poor, 11% fair, 59% good, and 28% excellent. Fungicide treatments were applied to some peanut fields. Some peanuts in Walton County were planted late and are currently behind schedule. In Washington County, non-irrigated field corn struggled and growers expect lower yields. Corn silage was chopped in Alachua County. The second cutting of hay was delayed by rain in Suwannee and Levy counties. Hay baling went well for others that were able to avoid the showers. Cotton was in fair to good condition overall. Some growers applied growth regulators. The soybean crop in Okaloosa County battled drought and grasshoppers. Soil moisture was short to adequate in most locations, with some surplus areas in the central Peninsula.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending July 19, 2009			
Stage	2009	2008	5-yr Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Pegged	62	85	79

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	1	1	0	1	0	5
Short	16	12	15	17	16	18
Adequate	64	73	74	66	74	70
Surplus	19	14	11	16	10	7

VEGETABLES: Growers continued to market okra. Avocado harvesting increased. Jackson County growers packed light amounts of peas, cucumbers, and squash. The blueberry and blackberry season was finishing in Hamilton County. Harvesting of late melons in Columbia County was cut short due to heat stress. Longan harvesting continued in Miami-Dade County. Fields in Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Lee counties were prepped for fall planting.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition ranged from fair to excellent. Scattered showers kept pastures green and growing. Most pastures were in good to excellent condition. The cattle condition continues to improve. In the central areas, range and pasture was fair to excellent with most in good condition. Pasture condition was good in most areas with some pockets that have missed afternoon showers showing some stress. Some pasture in low areas was very wet. In the southwest, pasture was reported as mostly good. Some low lying areas have standing water and were almost flooded. The condition of cattle was very poor to excellent with most in good condition. Statewide, cattle condition was very poor to excellent with most in good condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	1	1	0	1
Poor	4	4	1	1
Fair	25	25	19	18
Good	60	55	60	60
Excellent	10	15	20	20

CITRUS: More rain, hot weather, and high humidity have provided near ideal growing conditions for most citrus. Daily highs reached the mid-90s. Afternoon and evening rain showers brought between one-half to one and one-half inches of rainfall to citrus-producing areas. Trees and fruit responded well to the sub-tropical climate. The new crop fruit showed advanced sizes on grapefruit and some oranges. New tree growth observed in many groves. Grove activity included fertilizations, nutritional spraying, and hedging. Some growers combated canker with additional copper spraying during the rainy season. Growers used both aerial and ground spraying to reduce the citrus psyllid population that spreads greening. Some growers with heavy concentrations of greening choose to push individual trees, while others pushed entire blocks.

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