



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751  
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

Week ending May 23, 2010

## Scattered Showers Allowed Planting to Progress

**Weather Summary:** Most areas within Florida had dry, sunny days with a few scattered showers during the week of May 17 through 23. Most rainfall totals for the week were less than an inch. Areas receiving over one inch of precipitation included Highlands, Hillsborough, Marion, Palm Beach, Putnam, Suwannee, and Volusia counties. Fort Lauderdale, MacClenny, Miami, and Pensacola recorded over 2 inches of rainfall for the reference week. Ona received the most rainfall with over 3 inches. Temperatures averaged 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Muggy daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s. Pleasant evening lows varied from the lower 60s to the 70s.

## Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	5	4	2	0	5	2
Short .....	15	13	26	15	21	18
Adequate .....	75	67	68	80	66	76
Surplus .....	5	17	4	5	8	4

**Field Crops:** Growers reported 65 percent of peanut crops planted. The previous year planted progress at this time was 52 percent and the five year average progress was 54 percent. Cotton and peanut planting continued across the Panhandle and northern Peninsula with some areas nearing completion. Scattered rains aided newly planted peanuts and cotton emergence; planting was still slightly behind schedule in Jackson County. In Washington County cotton and peanut plantings are progressing at a swift pace. Wheat harvesting in the Panhandle was active. Digging of potatoes is in full swing in Hastings with good yields.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending:

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Planted .....	52	54	65

**Vegetables:** Warm weather permitted vegetable harvesting to continue on schedule with producers supplying the Memorial Day demand. Tomato picking is slowing as the season winds down in the central and southern Peninsula. Harvesting of tomatoes in Quincy is expected to begin early June. Cabbage growers in south Florida are expecting to finish harvesting by this week. Vegetables and melons are growing at a swift pace. Growers in Hastings have completed cabbage and greens harvesting. Supplies of snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplants, radishes, and squash are declining seasonally as hot temperatures bring harvesting to an end in some central as well as most southern Peninsula areas.

**Livestock and Pastures:** The pasture and cattle conditions improved slightly over the previous week. In the Panhandle and northern areas, the condition of pasture and the cattle were poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Fertilizer was applied to pastures. Most pasture had adequate soil moisture; however some pasture was in poor condition due to standing water in low spots from earlier rains. Some pasture was poor or fair because of overstocking and pasture was overgrazed. Pasture in Washington County was looking good. Most pasture in Columbia County was producing sufficient forage. In the central area, pasture was very poor to excellent, with most in fair to good condition. Pasture in very poor condition was due to drought. Pastures in Polk County were recovering slowly from previous drought. In the southwest area, the range condition was poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Pastures were stressed by the lack of rain and by seasonally hot temperatures. Statewide, the cattle were in poor to excellent condition with most in good condition.

**Cattle and Pasture Condition**

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	0	0	2
Poor .....	9	10	5	3
Fair.....	40	30	40	25
Good .....	45	55	50	65
Excellent .....	5	5	5	5

**Citrus:** Highs this week were in the lower to mid 90s, with early morning lows ranging from the lower to upper 60s. Rainfall was variable. Ona in Hardee County received the most rain with 3.06 inches. Seventeen of the 24 stations in the citrus area received less than an inch. Growing conditions continue to be good across the citrus region and no drought has been reported within the citrus producing area. Twenty-three of the 51 packing houses remain open. Varieties being packed include Valencia and colored grapefruit. Valencia oranges and grapefruit comprise the majority of fruit going to plants. Grove activity last week included harvesting, mowing, irrigation, psyllid treatment, hedging/topping, brush removal, and nutritional spraying.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	May 9, 2010	May 16, 2010	May 23, 2010
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	5,761	5,959	4,877
Navel oranges .....	2	3	1
Grapefruit .....	203	171	100
Honey tangerines .....	22	5	0

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_State/Florida/Subscribe\\_to\\_FL\\_Reports/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp). To set-up this free subscription, select Florida Crop-Weather; enter your name and your email address, click on Subscribe. This report will be sent automatically each week; or call us at 800/344-6277 and we will enter the subscription for you. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Data for individual reporting stations is available at: <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information Technologies.