



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending May 30, 2010

Hot and Heavy Thunderstorms

Weather Summary: Typical summertime tropical weather returns. The last week of May yielded warm temperatures, high humidity, and afternoon showers. Highs were in the upper 80s to the mid 90s. Low's were mostly in the 60s. Thunderstorms and afternoon showers provided varying amounts of rainfall across the State. Several locations recorded precipitation above 2 inches. Areas receiving over three inches of precipitation included Polk, Santa Rosa, and Marion. Temperatures for the week averaged 1 to 3 degrees above normal.

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	2	1	6	2	2	3
Short.....	26	6	24	18	10	19
Adequate	68	70	66	76	74	70
Surplus	4	22	4	4	14	8

Field Crops: In the Panhandle and Big Bend areas ideal conditions allowed planting to progress at a rapid pace. Peanut growers reported 85 percent of the crop planted compared with 69 percent last year; the five year average progress was 73 percent. Cotton planting continued across the Panhandle and northern Peninsula with some areas at or nearing completion. Timely rains were aiding early maturing corn. Tobacco was progressing well. Soybean planting is slightly behind schedule. Localized crop damage was reported in cotton, peanuts, and vegetables by higher than normal infestations of thrips and aphids. Growers sprayed affected fields. Damage by browsing deer was problematic in some areas. Seasonal cultural practices continued. In central Florida, hay was baled and digging of potatoes continued in the Hasting area with good yields. In Palm Beach County rice was planted, but some field wetting was required due to dry topsoil conditions.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: May 30, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Planted	69	73	85

Vegetables: In southern growing areas, rain, heat, and low prices were shutting down many vegetable fields. Watermelon harvest was still active. Farm labor was reported as scarce and caused some issues. In central growing areas, tomatoes, sweet corn, watermelons, and cantaloupes were being picked with good yields and quality produce. Warm and mostly clear weather permitted harvesting to continue on schedule with producers supplying the Memorial Day weekend demand. Northern Florida producers began harvesting of vegetables with volume expected to increase in the coming days. Supplies of snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, radishes, and squash were declining seasonally as hot temperatures brought harvesting to an end in most southern Peninsula areas and some central growing areas.

Fruit and Nuts: Blueberries, blackberries, and peaches were being harvested. Peach harvesting was nearing completion.

Livestock and Pastures: Pasture and cattle condition improved slightly over the previous week. In the Panhandle and northern areas, the condition of pasture was poor to excellent with most in good condition. Some pasture was stressed due to drought and other pasture was poor due to standing water from previous rains. The cattle condition improved due to better pasture conditions. In the central area, most pasture and cattle were in fair to good condition. Locations with good rainfall in the month of May had quality pasture growth. In the southwest area, the range condition was mostly good, with conditions ranging from poor to excellent. Some pasture in St. Lucie County remains seasonably dry. 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.....	0	0	2	0
Poor	10	5	3	3
Fair.....	30	30	25	25
Good	55	60	65	65
Excellent	5	5	5	7

Citrus: Highs this week were in the upper 80s and lower 90s, with early morning lows in the 60s. Rainfall was variable. Frostproof received the most rain with 4.8 inches. Belle Glade and Pierson received only traces of rain. There has been no report of drought within the citrus producing area. Growing conditions continue to be good across the citrus region. Twenty-one of the 51 packinghouses remain open. Varieties packed included Valencia oranges and few grapefruit. Valencia variety comprised the majority of fruit going to the 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 16, 2010	May 23, 2010	May 30, 2010
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	5,959	4,877	4,962
Navel oranges	3	1	0
Grapefruit	171	100	31
Honey tangerines	5	0	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. 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.