



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending January 30, 2011

Vegetable Production Down Due to Cold

Weather Summary: Growers in Florida experienced varying amounts of rain and freezing temperatures during the reference week. According to the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN), Baker, Polk, Alachua, and Marion counties received two inches or more of rain while remaining counties received less. The U.S. drought monitor, last updated January 25, illustrated drought conditions in all parts of Florida, with more extreme conditions in northeast Florida and along the eastern coastline. Temperatures averaged two to five degrees below normal with lows in the 20s, 30s, and 40s and highs in the 60s and 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	1	0	5	1	3
Short	29	19	22	32	21	26
Adequate	65	67	72	59	65	66
Surplus	1	13	6	4	13	5

Field Crops: Fieldwork was minimal as farmers in the north welcomed the small amounts of rain. In Jackson County, wheat made good progress and cover crops were growing in preparation for spring. In the Hastings area, producers planted potatoes. Sugarcane harvesting continued in the Everglades region.

Vegetables: In the southern region, vegetable yields and quality were down due to freezes in December and January and continual cold weather. In Flagler County, cabbage production was two to three weeks behind normal due to earlier freezes. Endive, escarole, and sweet corn production was below normal due to cold temperatures. In Bradford County, strawberry development was slow. In Hillsborough County, growers were harvesting strawberries. In Dixie County, growers were preparing to plant watermelon. Market movement was down from normal and consisted of snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, endive, escarole, bell peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, and strawberries.

Livestock and Pastures: The condition of the pasture and the cattle improved slightly **Statewide** from the previous week due to rainfall and milder temperatures. Feeding of hay to livestock was ongoing. The condition of the cattle ranged from very poor to excellent with most in fair to good condition. In the **Panhandle** area, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in poor condition. Winter pasture growth improved as temperatures warmed up. Hay and supplements were fed to livestock. In the **northern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most poor to fair. Cool season forage and grains made progress due to good moisture and warmer temperatures. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the **central** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most in poor condition. Most pasture was in poor condition due to frosts several weeks ago. In the **southwestern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in poor condition due to drought and cold. Rains helped green up sparse pastures. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in fair condition.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	1	15	5
Poor.....	15	20	55	65
Fair.....	50	40	20	25
Good.....	30	35	9	4
Excellent.....	5	4	1	1

Citrus: Lows were in the 30s and 40s with highs in the 60s and 70s across most of the citrus area. This week, all 25 of the FAWN stations in the citrus area recorded more than three-quarters of an inch of precipitation, with 22 of them recording more than an inch. Frostproof reported the most, with 2.35 inches of rainfall recorded. Overall, there were moderate to severe drought conditions in most of the citrus area according to the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on January 25. Indian River, Brevard, and parts of St Lucie and Flagler counties were experiencing extreme drought conditions. Forty-eight packinghouses and 18 processors have opened. Harvest of early and midseason oranges and grapefruit continued with processing plants running early and midseason oranges at full capacity. Cultural practices included irrigation and application of lime.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	January 16, 2011	January 23, 2011	January 30, 2011
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	5,865	5,771	5,348
Navel oranges.....	74	79	46
Grapefruit.....	810	720	698
Temples.....	12	21	17
Tangelos.....	99	97	56
Tangerines.....	186	248	134
Total.....	7,046	6,936	6,299

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.