



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending June 19, 2011

## State of Emergency due to Drought, Wildfires

**Weather Summary:** On June 13, Governor Rick Scott declared Florida in a State of Emergency due to drought and wildfires. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, updated June 14, 86 percent of the State had moderate to exceptionally dry drought ratings. Only a small portion of the State near Brooksville and Dade City showed no drought. The Panhandle and southern Peninsula are still showing extreme drought. Lake Okeechobee continued to show declining water levels. Recent rains last week were welcomed, but more was needed to alleviate drought. Parts of south and central Florida received greater amounts of rain while northern Florida remained very dry. According to the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN), Palmdale (3.94 inches), Kenansville (2.43 inches), and Clewiston (2.31 inches) received the most rainfall. Temperatures averaged three to five degrees above normal. High temperatures were mostly in the mid 90s. Seven of the 36 FAWN stations reported high temperatures of 100 degrees or more. Lows were in the mid to upper 60s. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Forestry had current reports of 440 active wildfires covering 118,887 acres. As of June 19, 36 new fires were reported covering 438 acres. The majority of the wildfires are along the East Coast.

## 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 .....	30	3	24	30	1	25
Short .....	61	21	55	57	18	49
Adequate .....	9	70	20	13	72	25
Surplus .....	0	6	1	0	9	1

**Field Crops:** Field crops continued to be stressed due to drought. Scattered thunderstorms provided temporary but minor relieve for some fields. Approximately 75 percent of topsoil and subsoil moisture levels were very short or short. In the north, corn, cotton, and peanuts have been severely affected by drought. In Santa Rosa and Walton counties, peanut planting was not complete. Farmers in north Florida were deciding whether to plant an alternative crop in replacement of peanut acreage. Some cotton and peanut fields were replanted. In Suwannee County, dryland corn is in poor condition. In the south, sugarcane growers are concerned about the potential effects of drought on cane. Surface water irrigation sources were low. Peanut planting was 98 percent complete, two percent below last year, and comparable to the five-year average. The peanut crop condition was reported as 17 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 45 percent fair, and 16 percent good. More rainfall is needed to improve peanut progress. Peanuts pegged were 3 percent compared to 14 percent last year, and the five-year average of 15 percent.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending: June 19, 2011

Stage	2010	5-year average	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Planted .....	100	98	98
Pegged .....	14	15	3

**Vegetables:** Light vegetable activity was taking place entailing okra, tomato, and watermelon harvest and market movement. Avocado movement was expected to increase. Potato harvest in the tri-county area was complete.

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide,** pasture condition ranged from very poor to good, with more pasture in fair to good condition than last week. The cattle were in poor to excellent condition, with most in fair condition. Their overall condition was unchanged from the previous week. In the **Panhandle** and **northern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good, with most poor to fair. Scattered rain during the week at some locations gave minor relief to pastures. Hay feeding was active with cattle producers feeding stockpiled hay from last season. In many locations no hay was cut this spring because it has been so dry. The condition of the cattle ranged from poor to excellent, with most in fair condition. In the **central** and **southwest** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good, with most in poor to fair condition. A few scattered thundershowers around the area provided the pastures some relief. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent, with most in poor to fair condition.

### Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	0	10	10
Poor.....	30	13	53	40
Fair.....	50	60	30	37
Good.....	17	25	7	13
Excellent.....	2	2	0	0

**Citrus:** Temperatures were in the upper 60s at night and the upper 90s during the day for the majority of the week. There was widely variable rainfall this week, with 24 stations receiving some rainfall, 10 of them receiving an inch or more. Palmdale recorded the most, with 3.94 inches. Exceptional drought conditions now exist in Palm Beach and Martin counties. Extreme drought conditions existed in the southeastern portion of the State, with the most severe conditions in Indian River, St Lucie, Okeechobee, and parts of Brevard, Collier, Highlands, Hendry, Osceola, and Glades counties. Twelve packinghouses and twelve processors were still running. Processing plants were running Valencia oranges and planned to continue to operate through late June. Grove activity included harvesting, resetting new trees, young tree care, applying herbicides, hedging and topping, brush removal, and fertilizer application.

### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	June 5, 2011	June 12, 2011	June 19, 2011
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia.....	4,349	3,629	3,277
Grapefruit.....	15	5	3
Total.....	4,364	3,634	3,280

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.