



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending August 21, 2011

## Daily Rains and Hot, Humid Temperatures

**Weather Summary:** Daily rains along with hot, humid temperatures continued during the week of August 15 through 21. Scattered showers brought varying amounts of rainfall ranging from traces to over two inches in several stations. Over three inches of precipitation was recorded in Fort Lauderdale, Lake Alfred, Ona, Orlando, and Tampa. Areas receiving over four inches included Fort Pierce and Kenansville. In Carrabelle and Marianna no rainfall was reported. Temperatures for the week hovered near normal. Muggy daytime highs were in the 90s with the heat index in the 100s for numerous localities. Evening lows were 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 .....	1	0	3	2	0	3
Short .....	22	20	25	24	23	30
Adequate .....	70	65	67	67	60	65
Surplus .....	7	15	5	7	17	2

**Field Crops:** Continuous rainfall helped soil moisture with supplies rated mostly adequate. In Jackson County, bolls on the early planted cotton acreage began to open. Peanuts pegged progressed to 91 percent compared to being completed by this date last year. Peanuts pegged five-year average was 98 percent. Peanut condition was rated fair to mostly good. Growers in Washington County reported white mold was visible in peanut fields. In Suwannee County, peanut fields planted early were close to harvest with peanut pod blasting underway (which will determine digging dates). Corn harvesting advanced at a rapid pace in Washington County.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending: August 21, 2011

Stage	2010	5-year average	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pegged .....	100	98	91

**Vegetables:** Field preparation for fall crop planting continued across central and southern Peninsula areas. Some fall planting of vegetables was active in Lee County. Fall tomatoes along with other vegetables were planted and progressing on schedule. Tomato planting was ongoing in Manatee County. Okra harvesting remained active in Miami-Dade County with light supplies marketed. In Homestead, growers shipped avocados.

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide** the pasture condition was mostly good, up slightly from the previous week. Lack of soil moisture limited grass growth. The cattle condition declined from the previous week with most cattle still in good condition. In the **Panhandle** and **northern** areas, the pasture condition varied from poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Pastures continued slight improvement as the active growing season for summer perennials began to draw to a close. There was some damage from army worms. Most cattle were in good condition. In the **central** and **southwestern** areas, pasture ranged from very poor to excellent condition, with most in good condition. Grass growth was about two months behind normal for this growing season. Most of the cattle were in fair to good condition.

**Cattle and Pasture Condition**

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	1	1	1
Poor.....	2	2	4	2
Fair.....	23	32	25	27
Good.....	70	55	60	55
Excellent.....	5	10	10	15

**Citrus:** Temperatures were in the lower to mid 70s at night and the mid to upper 90s during the day for the majority of the week. This week there was heavy, but scattered rainfall, with all of the stations receiving some rainfall. Amounts received ranged from 0.02 inches in Okahumpka, to 4.73 inches in Kenansville. Severe drought conditions exist in small parts of Okeechobee, Martin, St Lucie, and Palm Beach counties, along the eastern and north-eastern shore of Lake Okeechobee. Drought conditions are as per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated August 16, 2011. Next season’s oranges were almost baseball sized, and next season’s grapefruit were approaching softball sized. Grove activity last week included resetting new trees, young tree care, herbiciding, hedging/topping, brush removal, and fertilizer applications.

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