



# 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 October 16, 2011

## Light Vegetable Harvesting

**Weather Summary:** Spotty showers and pleasant temperatures prevailed during the week of October 10 through 16. Rainfall totaled from none in Balm and Frostproof to nearly three inches in Homestead. Several stations recorded only minimal traces to over one inch of rain. A few stations reported over two inches of precipitation. Temperatures averaged from normal to three degrees above normal. Pleasant daytime highs were in the 80s. Cool evening lows were in the 40s, 50s, and 60s.

## 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 .....	6	11	2	4	6	4
Short .....	25	35	16	26	28	18
Adequate .....	58	52	62	61	61	62
Surplus .....	11	2	20	9	5	16

**Field Crops:** Recent rains loosened the ground for peanut digging in the Panhandle with 71 percent of the crop harvested. Last year by this date 75 percent of peanuts were dug while the five-year average progress was 59 percent harvested. Peanut crop condition was rated 2 percent poor, 4 percent very poor, 43 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 7 percent excellent. Peanut and cotton harvesting proceeded at a steady pace in Washington County. Cotton defoliation continued in Jackson County. Cotton picking started in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties with low yields as well as poor quality reported. Sugarcane harvesting was active in the Everglades.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending: October 16, 2011

Stage	2010	5-year average	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested .....	75	59	71

**Fruits & Vegetables:** Fall crop harvesting in central and southern Peninsula continued to increase slowly. Avocados were marketed last week from southern Florida with the season slowing down. Cabbage planting remained active and growers prepped the land for potatoes in Flagler County. Miami-Dade County growers continued to cut and replant okra. Tomato picking remained active in the Quincy area while central Peninsula growers prepared to begin harvesting within two weeks. Growers began harvesting very light supplies of cucumbers, eggplant, squash, and watermelons.

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide**, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent, with 70 percent in good condition. The condition improved as soil moisture improved in the central and southwestern areas. The cattle condition was very poor to excellent, with 70 percent in good condition. In the **Panhandle**, pastures were in very poor to excellent condition, with most in fair condition. Drought was the first limiting factor on pasture condition. Land preparation for cool season pasture was in progress with little, if any, small grain forage planted. In the **northern** areas, pasture condition was poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Rain, early in the week, gave a boost to pastures and land preparation for planting small grains for winter forage. The cattle condition was fair to excellent with most in fair condition. In the **central** and **southwestern** areas, pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Land was being worked for planting. The condition of most forage improved after recent rains. Water has gone down in most flooded pastures, but some in the eastern counties still have standing water. Planting of winter forage was delayed in some locations due to standing water from recent rains. The condition of the cattle was mostly good.

### Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	1	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	4	4
Fair.....	25	18	30	20
Good.....	63	70	50	70
Excellent.....	10	10	15	5

**Citrus:** Highs were in the upper 80s, with early morning lows ranging from the lower to upper 60s. Most of the citrus growing area had less than one-tenth of precipitation for the week. Umatilla received the most rainfall with just below one-half of an inch. Overall, there were normal moisture conditions in the citrus producing region with a few southern areas showing abnormally dry conditions. Thirty-five packinghouses and seven processors have opened, with more scheduled to open this week. Varieties being packed included early oranges (Navels, Ambersweet, and Hamlins), white and colored grapefruit and Fallglo tangerines. Cultural practices included applying herbicides, fertilizer application, tree removal, new tree planting, and irrigation.

### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	October 2, 2011	October 9, 2011	October 16, 2011
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	13	26	44
Ambersweet.....	14	19	14
Navel oranges.....	31	45	49
Grapefruit.....	146	184	200
Tangerines.....	59	79	75
Total.....	263	353	382

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.