



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT**



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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Week Ending: July 1, 2012

Florida Drenched by Tropical Storm Debby

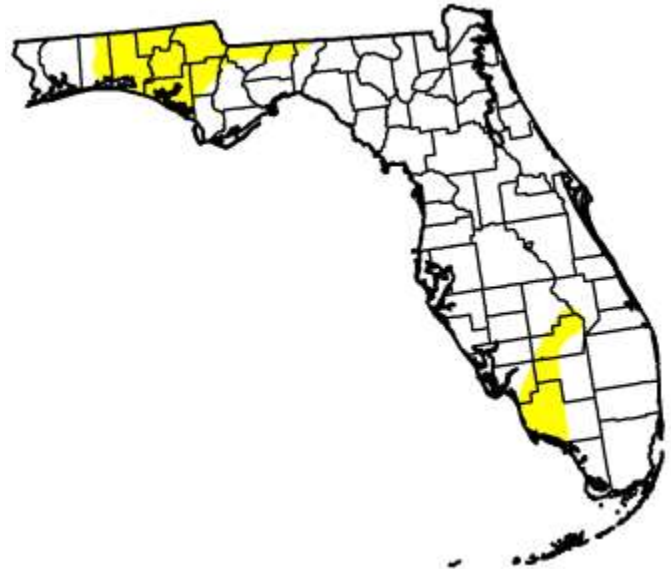
Weather Summary: Tropical Storm Debby, downgraded to a tropical depression early in the week, slowly moved across Florida. As Debby moved out to sea, it was followed by cooler temperatures at mid-week. These cooler temperatures did not last long and the week ended with dry, hot weather. Extreme amounts of rainfall recorded at the 36 Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) stations included Live Oak (16.34 inches), MacClenny (11.64 inches), Carrabelle (7.61 inches), Monticello (7.22 inches), Putnam Hall (6.01 inches), and Alachua (5.59 inches). Twenty one other stations reported over one inch of rainfall. Rainfall since March 1, 2012, was above normal at all major cities. Jacksonville, Pensacola, and Tampa ranged from 11 to 13 inches of rainfall above normal. Daytona Beach, Miami, Orlando, Tallahassee, and West Palm Beach received two to five inches above normal rainfall since March 1. High temperatures during the week were mostly in the low to mid-90s. Lows were mostly in the mid-60s. The water level at Lake Okeechobee as of July 1, 2012 was at 12.0 feet compared to 9.8 feet last year, and 13.4 feet average during the 1965-2007 period of record.

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	2	13	0
Short	11	35	7
Adequate	72	49	78
Surplus	15	3	15

Field Crops: The frequent rains raised soil moisture across the State. However, depending on a producer's location the rainfall was lacking, very beneficial, or way too much. Fieldwork was on hold across central Florida early in the week when rainfall was heaviest. The tropical storm caused major flooding in Baker County. In Suwannee County, a preliminary assessment was that 30 percent of the peanut acreage has been affected by flooding. Also, muddy fields prevented farmers from harvesting corn for silage. Marion County had many fields with standing water. Pasco County crops benefited from the rains which caused crops to take a growth spurt. In Gadsden County, the cotton crop was looking good. Dry land corn showed improvement. Hay was harvested when weather permitted. In Okaloosa County, the peanut and cotton crops were in good shape. The crops in Washington County were

U.S. Drought Monitor: June 26, 2012



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

looking good. The corn crop was mostly in excellent condition. Peanut and cotton crops were doing well also. The crops in Hendry received from two to four inches of rain in some areas, but other areas received less than an inch. Water levels in ponds remained below normal. Peanut condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 65 percent good, and 13 percent excellent with 45 percent pegged. Weeds were aggressively growing in many fields across Florida with the recent rains.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pegged	37	29	45

Fruits & Vegetables: In Gadsden County, the tomato harvest was coming to a close. The preparations for the planting of fall tomatoes were moving forward. The watermelon crop in Washington County was looking good; however gummy stem blight was present in a few fields. In Miami-Dade County, avocado and mangoes were going to market. St. Lucie County crops needed more rainfall.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the pasture condition was mostly good. Grass growth was limited in several central and northern locations due to flooding. Some Panhandle and central locations suffered from drought. High temperatures took a toll on the pasture condition. The condition of the cattle ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the **Panhandle**, pastures were in very poor to excellent condition with most fair. The threat of foliage feeders was a concern. Some pastures in Wakulla County had standing water. Also, weeds aggressively grew with recent rains. The cattle condition was mostly good. In the **northern** areas, the condition of most pastures and cattle were good. In Baker and Duval counties, pastures were affected by flood waters and water saturation. In **central** areas, the pastures were in very poor to excellent condition with most rated good. In Alachua County, the grass improved after the rains. The cattle condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the **southwestern** areas, the pasture conditions were very poor to excellent with drought the limiting factor to grass growth. Water levels in stock ponds remain well below normal despite recent rains. The condition of the cattle ranged from poor to excellent, with most in good condition.

Citrus: Daily high temperatures remained in the low to mid-90s across the citrus region. All FAWN stations in the citrus growing region recorded some precipitation this week, with Putnam Hall receiving the most at 6.20 inches (6.08 of that fell on Monday due to Tropical Storm Debby). Fifteen stations received more than two inches. Fort Pierce recorded the least precipitation with 0.16 of an inch. The majority of the citrus region was drought free, with the exception of an area extending from the north shore of Lake Okeechobee southwest to the gulf coast of Collier County which is still experiencing abnormally dry conditions, as per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated June 26, 2012. As late orange harvesting is drawing to a close, fertilizer application, summer oil spraying, young tree care and grove maintenance were the primary grove activities.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	Jun 11-17, 2012	Jun 18-24, 2012	Jun 25-Jul 1, 2012
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia.....	43	58	57
Grapefruit.....	3	6	1
Total.....	46	64	58

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	0	2	1
Poor.....	6	5	9	4
Fair.....	45	30	35	25
Good.....	43	55	41	50
Excellent.....	5	10	13	20

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