Weather Crop Report

Week ending November 13, 2005

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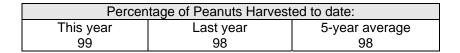
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GREAT WEEK FOR FIELD WORK

WEATHER SUMMARY: Favorable weather conditions for field work existed throughout the week of November 7 through 13. Another week with virtually no rainfall across the Sunshine State put some northern Peninsula localities at risk for wild fires. Temperatures in the major cities averaged one to seven degrees above normal. Daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s. Evening lows were in the 50s and 60s with some areas recording at least one low in the 40s. Alachua, Jay, Marianna, Macclenny and Gadsden reported at least one nighttime low in the 30s.

FIELD CROPS: Santa Rosa cotton harvest is about 60 percent complete. Growers there got off to a late start this season due to tropical storm systems. Peanut harvesting is 99 percent complete, compared with 98 percent completed by this date last year and the five-year average of 98 percent. Peanut growers in Suwannee County expect to finish harvesting this week. Pecan orchards in Jefferson County that have been sprayed and irrigated regularly are still green and in good condition. Orchards without adequate spray programs and irrigation are in poor condition and are likely to have significantly lower yield next year. Drier weather allowed soils to dry in some southern Peninsula localities while areas in the Panhandle as well as the northern Peninsula are in need of rain. Soil moisture supplies in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula range from very short to adequate. Elsewhere, soil moisture supplies are short to adequate with a few pockets of surplus supplies.



Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	Percent					
Very short	4	5	0	2	5	0
Short	37	18	48	33	17	32
Adequate	45	59	51	57	62	64
Surplus	14	18	1	8	16	4

VEGETABLES: Producers are harvesting to help meet the Thanksgiving Day demand. Drier weather in the central and southern Peninsula allowed fieldwork to progress at a normal pace and the drier weather allowed some saturated fields in the southern Peninsula to drain. Tomato harvesting is active around Quincy. Okra harvesting has slowed due to extensive storm damage around the Miami-Dade County area. Producers marketed light supplies of snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, squash and tomatoes.



United States Department Of Agriculture



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Florida Field Office

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Marketing and Development LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition is mostly fair. Planting of cool season forage is at a standstill at many locations while cattlemen wait for rain. Cattle condition is fair to excellent in the Panhandle and northern areas. Livestock owners are feeding supplemental hay. In the central areas, the range is in fair condition. Most of the cattle are in good condition. Some planting of winter forage is underway but moisture is limited. Small grains for winter forage are struggling to survive the dry weather. Fire hazard is mounting. In the southwest, the range is in poor to good condition in many locations. Statewide, the cattle condition is fair to good.

	Rar	nge	Cattle			
Condition	This week	Last week	This week	Last week		
	Percent					
Very poor	0	5	0	0		
Poor	10	15	5	10		
Fair	35	15	20	25		
Good	55	65	75	60		
Excellent	0	0	0	5		

CITRUS: There were ideal weather conditions across the citrus belt this past week with mild days, cool nights and very little rain. Most areas still have enough moisture in the ground to sustain tree growth and nourishment without having to irrigate. Field personnel have observed moderate maintenance activity within the groves. Sizes on early and mid oranges continue to be below normal. Average maturity levels are advancing from previous months but are still behind normal levels for this time of year. Color break is evident on all crops of early tangerines, early oranges, mids, and grapefruit. Picking is underway in the southern and eastern coastal areas. Varieties being picked include Hamlin, Ambersweet and Navel oranges, colored and white grapefruit, and Fallglo and Sunburst tangerines. Fresh fruit packinghouses that are open are primarily those on the east coast. Still only a few processing plants are opened as the picking season gets underway.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED							
Crop	Oct 30	Nov 6	Nov 14				
	In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes						
Navel oranges	61	101	99				
Early and Mid oranges	37	233	472				
Grapefruit	120	225	383				
Early Tangerines	104	103	124				
Tangelos	0	0	9				

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