

Weather Crop Report

Week ending January 1, 2006

COOL, MOIST WEATHER BOOSTED SMALL GRAIN GROWTH

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WEATHER SUMMARY: Mostly dry, warm conditions over the central and southern Peninsula allowed field work to progress on schedule during December 26 through January 1. Temperatures for the week averaged from four degrees below to five degrees above normal in the major stations. Daytime highs were in the 60s, 70s and 80s. Evening lows were in the 30s, 40s and 50s with Brooksville recording at least one low in the upper 20s. Minimal traces of precipitation were recorded in most central and southern Peninsula stations. The Panhandle and northern Peninsula received around one to two inches of rain for the week. Marianna recorded one and two thirds inches of rainfall.

FIELD CROPS: Sugarcane harvesting continued around Lake Okeechobee. The recent cool, moist weather boosted growth of small grains in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula. Recent rainfall over the Panhandle and northern Peninsula kept most soil moisture supplies adequate with a few spots of short and very short supplies reported for Wakulla, Suwannee, Union and Washington counties. Drier conditions over the central and southern Peninsula decreased soil moisture with supplies rated short to adequate. St. Lucie County reported spots of very short soil moisture while Marion County reported localities with surplus soil moisture.

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last Year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	10	1	1	10	1	1
Short	10	19	30	10	19	27
Adequate	76	79	58	79	77	67
Surplus	4	1	11	1	3	5

VEGETABLES: Favorable weather conditions allowed planting and harvesting to progress with most growers taking a break to welcome in the New Year near the end of the week. Producers marketed snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries and tomatoes.



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LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle and northern areas, the growing conditions for winter forage are good. A warm trend for the weekend helped winter grazing growth. Some small grain winter forage is just emerging. In the central areas, the condition of the pasture is poor to good with most in fair condition. In the southwest, much of the range is in fair condition due to drought stress on the grass. Statewide, cattle condition is mostly fair.

Condition	Range		Cattle	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	0	0	0	0
Poor	10	15	0	0
Fair	70	50	60	30
Good	20	25	40	60
Excellent	0	10	0	10

CITRUS: This past week was dry and unseasonably warm in all citrus producing counties. Temperatures reached the high 70s to low 80s in all areas towards the end of the week. Growers continue to irrigate in dryer areas, clean ditches, and remove dead limbs and debris from groves. Harvesting of early and midseason oranges slowed for the holidays but is expected to pick up during the month of January. Grapefruit is below a half million boxes again this week, with a larger percentage going to processing rather than fresh. Sunburst tangerines are still going strong. Tangelos have slowed the last couple of weeks. A small quantity of Honey tangerines are being picked for processing. Twelve processing plants ran oranges this past week with another scheduled to open sometime early next month. Some plants ran through the holiday weekend while others closed and were scheduled to restart late Monday or early Tuesday .

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	Dec 18	Dec 25	Jan 01
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Navel oranges	320	139	81
Early and Mid oranges	4,448	3,443	4,439
Grapefruit	563	423	387
EarlyTangerines	289	210	159
Honey Tangerines	7	1	5
Tangelos	73	24	25

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