

Weather Crop Report

Week ending February 5, 2006

TIMELY RAINS

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WEATHER SUMMARY: Significant rains fell over the Panhandle and across the Peninsula near the end of the week of January 30 through February 5. Timely rains arrived to help decrease the wild fire potential in several Peninsula areas. Rainfall totals in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula ranged from over one inch to over three inches in most locations. Citra and Tallahassee received over five inches of rainfall. In some Central and southern Peninsula localities precipitation varied from over an inch to over four inches. Alachua received nearly nine inches of rainfall. Tampa recorded the most precipitation with a little over nine inches of rain. Temperatures at the major stations averaged from one to five degrees above normal. Daytime highs were in the 60s, 70s and 80s. Cool evening lows were in the 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s with Quincy recording at least one low in the 20s.

FIELD CROPS: Harvesting of sugarcane in the Everglades region is active. Recent rains improved soil moisture supplies in most areas but more rains are needed. Soil moisture in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula is rated mostly adequate to surplus. Suwannee County reported short to adequate soil moisture supplies. Topsoil and subsoil moisture in central and southern Peninsula areas is short to mostly adequate with a few pockets of surplus supplies.

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	0	12	2	0	8	1
Short	30	27	46	39	20	36
Adequate	55	60	47	53	70	62
Surplus	15	1	5	8	2	1

VEGETABLES: Substantial rains near the end of the week slowed field work. Despite rains last week, growers in Gadsden County continued land preparation for spring crop plantings. Suwannee County producers are preparing land for spring crop watermelons. Producers marketed snap beans, cabbage, eggplant, lettuce, squash, strawberries and tomatoes. Light supplies of sweet corn, celery, endive, escarole and peppers were also available.



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LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle, pasture condition ranges from very poor to good. Cattle condition ranges from fair to excellent. In the northern areas, warm days and cool nights are causing some rust in the small grains and ryegrass. Supplemental hay is being fed. Cattle condition is very poor to good. In the central areas, the pasture is fair to good with pasture short due to drought and cold. Supplemental hay is being fed. The cattle condition is poor to good. In the southwest areas, the condition of the range is poor to good, with most in poor condition due to drought. Statewide, cattle condition ranges from poor to good, with most in fair condition.

Condition	Range		Cattle	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	5	0	0	0
Poor	25	15	15	5
Fair	55	80	50	60
Good	15	5	30	35
Excellent	0	0	5	0

CITRUS: Two fronts crossed the State bringing much needed rainfall in all citrus producing areas. Totals ranged from two inches on the west coast to five and one half inches in the northern citrus areas. Some areas reported localized flooding and severe thunderstorms on Friday. Temperatures for the week were in the low 80s during the day and mid 30s to low 40s at night. Growers in most areas began fertilizing and applying herbicides. Some growers were hedging and topping after harvest and applying pesticides. Weekly harvesting of early and midseason oranges continued in the five million box range. Grapefruit harvest has been constant since before the beginning of the year, with slightly more going to processing than fresh. Honey tangerine and Temple harvest is picking up, primarily for the fresh market. All major processing plants are now open for the season .

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	Jan 22	Jan 29	Feb 05
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Navel oranges	118	106	79
Early and Mid oranges	4,872	4,978	4,809
Grapefruit	611	635	693
EarlyTangerines	49	24	10
Honey Tangerines	109	121	103
Tangelos	89	97	75
Temples	29	27	36

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