

Weather Crop Report

Week ending May 28, 2006

PEANUT PLANTING INCREASED

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WEATHER SUMMARY: Scattered showers brought significant rain to a few localities but left only traces in others during the week of May 22 through 28. Several localities reported no measurable rain for the week. Elsewhere, rain totaled from traces in several areas, to 2.69 inches in Miami. Wild fire danger remained high, statewide, with at least one significant fire caused by lightning. Temperatures for the week averaged 1 to 5 degrees above normal. Daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s while nighttime lows were in the 60s and 70s. Alachua, Monticello and Tallahassee reported at least one low in the 50s.

FIELD CROPS: Rain over the Panhandle replenished soil moisture with supplies rated short to adequate. This allowed some peanut and cotton planting to gain momentum during the week. However, dry soils prevented some planting in Gadsden County. Peanut planting was 59 percent finished by the end of the week, compared with 76 percent planted by this date last year, and the five-year average of 77 percent completed. Oats harvesting was active in Washington County as the mowing and baling of ryegrass hay wound down. Soil moisture supplies over the Peninsula were rated very short to short. A few surplus spots were reported for Holmes County but surplus ratings represented less than a half percent, statewide.

Percentage of peanuts planted to date:		
This year	Last year	5-year average.
59	76	77

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	55	53	3	50	45	1
Short	35	30	40	30	30	25
Adequate	10	17	57	20	25	74
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0

VEGETABLES: Tomato harvesting is expected to start around Quincy within the next few days. Northern growers are combating spotted wilt virus infestations in some Washington County tomato fields. A shortage of trucks slowed movement of harvested products as increased vegetable harvesting in States to the north competed for the trucks. Snap bean harvesting slowed over the central and southern Peninsula with picking nearly completed. Squash harvesting was very active in Washington County. Other vegetables and non citrus fruit marketed during the week included cantaloupes, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, potatoes, radishes, tomatoes and watermelons.



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LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle, most pasture is in fair to good condition. The cattle are in good condition. In the northern areas, pasture is mostly very poor due to prolonged drought. Most of the cattle are in very poor condition, and haying of livestock in some locations is going on. In the central areas, pasture condition is mostly poor and some is very poor. The condition of the cattle is mostly poor. In the southwest, pasture condition is poor to fair, and the cattle condition is mostly fair. Statewide, cattle condition varies from very poor to good, with most in fair condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
<i>Percent</i>				
Very poor	5	5	20	5
Poor	35	20	50	60
Fair	50	45	25	25
Good	10	25	5	5
Excellent	0	5	0	5

CITRUS: Temperatures across the citrus belt were summer-like all week. Highs ranged from 90 degrees in Ft. Pierce to 97 degrees in both Immokalee and Lake Alfred. The southern most monitored station, Immokalee, had the most rainfall with over an inch, followed by Ona, in the center of the State, with just over a half an inch. The rest of the State was dry, with no rainfall being recorded in citrus producing areas. Citrus areas are still well below average rainfall for the year and groves not well irrigated are showing signs of stress. Valencia estimated harvest continues to run just under five million boxes weekly, and will continue to be picked heavily into June in order to reach complete utilization. Activity in the groves has slowed, with some growers applying copper sprays to control citrus canker, applying nutritional sprays, mowing and removing brush from groves. Grapefruit harvest is winding down for the season, with less than 50,000 boxes being picked again last week. Honey tangerine harvest is also coming to an end, being picked primarily for the fresh market.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	May 14	May 21	May 28
<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>			
Valencia	4,785	3,622	4,923
Grapefruit	67	13	42
Honey Tangerines	98	78	28

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