



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending June 24, 2007

SCATTERED RAIN AIDED CROPS, PASTURE GROWTH

WEATHER SUMMARY: Scattered rains in most areas aided crop and pasture growth during the week of June 18 through 24. Rain amounts totaled from traces at Jay, Ocklawaha, and Okahumpka, to nearly three and a half inches at Tampa. However, the rainfall skipped some localities, especially those in the Big Bend area and western parts of the northern Peninsula. Temperatures for the week in the major cities averaged from one degree below normal to one degree above. Daytime highs averaged in the 80s and 90s. Jay reported at least one daily high at 101 degrees. Nighttime lows averaged in the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s.

FIELD CROPS: Cotton and peanut growth were boosted in those localities receiving recent rains. However, some fields remain in very poor condition with plants wilting due to high temperatures and a lack of rain. Some producers continued to replant acreage where seeds failed to germinate. Reporters rated peanut condition as 18% very poor, 40% poor, 30% fair, and 12% good with 15% of the crop pegged. Virtually all dryland corn acreage has been negatively impacted due to drought. Soils remain very dry in some localities because recent rainfall skipped these areas. Topsoil moisture was rated adequate and subsoil moisture was rated short to adequate over the southern Peninsula. Topsoil moisture was rated very short and subsoil moisture was rated short in the Panhandle. Elsewhere, both topsoil and subsoil moisture rated very short.

Percentage of peanuts pegged to date:		
This year	Last year	5-year average.
15	32	38

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	41	27	21	50	42	19
Short	29	36	43	30	41	52
Adequate	30	37	36	20	17	29
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0

VEGETABLES: Most harvesting in the central and southern Peninsula is finished for the season. However, Dade County producers continued to cut okra. Watermelon and organic vegetable harvesting in the Suwannee Valley area is expected to continue during early July. Watermelon harvest also advanced at a rapid rate in Washington County. In the Quincy area, growers are expected to market tomatoes through mid-July. Potato digging is expected to finish up around Palatka this week. Some light amounts of blueberries, cucumbers and squash were also picked during the week.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: In the Panhandle, pasture condition is very poor to good with most in poor condition due to drought. Stock ponds are very low or dry. Pasture grass is growing but slowly. New crop hay is being fed to cattle as pasture grass is very short due to drought. Cattle condition is mostly poor. In the northern areas, pasture condition is very poor to fair with most in fair condition, and cattle condition is mostly fair. In the central areas, pasture condition is very poor to poor and cattle condition is very poor to fair. In the southwest areas, pasture condition is very poor to good, depending on recent rainfall. Pastures are beginning to green up and producers have been able to reduce supplemental hay feeding. In the southeast, beef and dairy production have significantly improved due to sporadic rainfall over the last two weeks. Statewide, cattle condition ranges 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	25	10	40	25
Poor	10	30	20	30
Fair	50	40	30	40
Good	15	20	10	5
Excellent	0	0	0	0

CITRUS: During the past week, it has been hot with temperatures ranging from the upper 60s to low 70s at night, and the mid-90s during the day. Short afternoon and evening scattered rainfalls were sporadic in most citrus producing counties. Southern and interior citrus areas received just less than one inch of rainfall, while all other monitored areas had a quarter of an inch or less. Field workers are still reporting extremely dry conditions, including low water levels in canals and ditches, and some afternoon tree wilt. Even with the dry weather, overall the citrus trees look good, and the fruit is sizing well. Valencia harvest is winding down and it is being picked for fresh squeezed juice. It is expected that small quantities will still be harvested throughout the summer. Caretakers are irrigating heavily, mowing, fertilizing, and applying summer oils. Those growers who are able to get resets are putting new trees in the ground.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	Jun 10	Jun 17	Jun 24
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Navel oranges	2	1	0
Early and Mid oranges	20	3	1
Valencia	1,722	750	49
Grapefruit	16	27	5

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