



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending June 22, 2008

## HEAVY SHOWERS, AFTERNOON THUNDERSTORMS SEASON ENDS FOR MOST CROPS

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** Hot and humid weather conditions continued and significant showers fell over most areas of the State. Areas of the central and southern Peninsula received the most rain, Osceola with 4.03", Polk with 3.67", and Dade with 5.66". The Panhandle received the least precipitation, reporting less than one inch. Daytime highs reached the upper 80s and 90s; lows were in the 60s and 70s. Major cities averaged highs in the 80s and 90s with lows in the 60s and 70s.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut pegging was 25 percent complete compared with 14 percent last year. Peanut condition was rated 1% poor, 53% fair, 34% good, and 12% excellent. Wheat harvest was completed in Santa Rosa County. Growers were planting sorghum as a cover crop in Palatka. Only a handful of producers were still digging potatoes in the area last week. Topsoil moisture was mostly short in the Panhandle and short to adequate in other areas around the State. Subsoil moisture was adequate in all regions.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending June 22, 2008			
Stage	2008	2007	5-yr Average
<i>Percent</i>			
Pegged	25	14	30

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
<i>Percent</i>						
Very short	25	31	37	40	34	48
Short	28	34	31	15	28	33
Adequate	43	34	32	44	38	19
Surplus	4	1	0	1	0	0

**VEGETABLES:** Summer crop harvest continued in Florida City, but other areas reported field activity ending. Avocado, guava, okra, mango, and mamey were harvested and packed. In Fort Pierce, cucumbers continued to be planted. Plant City reported a few fields of tomatoes left to be harvested. Harvest will be ending in the next couple of weeks. Suwannee and Jefferson counties harvested watermelon. Also in Suwannee County, zucchini, squash, eggplant, okra, and peppers were harvested. Wauchula packed watermelons but all other crops were finished for the season.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** Continued rainfall in some areas this past week helped pasture conditions remain stable throughout the State. The Panhandle and northern locations reported pasture varying from poor to good with most in fair condition. Cattle were mostly fair with some in good and excellent condition. Pasture in the central district was reported as very poor to good. The condition of cattle was very poor to fair. In the southwestern areas, pasture condition ranged from poor to good. Cattle were mostly in fair to good condition in the southwestern areas. Statewide, cattle condition varied from poor to good.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	20	15	20	25
Poor	9	25	20	30
Fair	30	40	30	35
Good	40	20	30	10
Excellent	1	0	0	0

**CITRUS:** Weather conditions across the State were hot and humid, with several days of afternoon thunderstorms and heavy showers. Rainfall amounts were between one inch in Lake Alfred to over two and a half inches in Apopka and Sebring. Daily highs have been in the upper 80s to lower 90s, with at least one day reaching 95 degrees in Lake Alfred. The tropical weather has been beneficial to fruit growth and tree foliage. Oranges were as large as golf ball size, while grapefruit were about two to three times as large. Production practices were on schedule in all areas, included herbiciding, spraying, mowing, and brush removal. Some growers were combining efforts to put out aerial applications for Psyllids control. Valencia harvest dropped below four million boxes due to lessening availability. Some processing plants plan to run Valencia oranges into the second week of July. Grapefruit utilization was almost over with small amounts of red varieties continuing to be processed. Honey tangerine harvest was relatively over for the season.

Estimated Boxes Harvested - Week Ended			
Crop	Jun 08	Jun 15	Jun 22
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Navel oranges	2	1	1
Valencia oranges	4,891	4,170	3,551
Grapefruit	44	28	26
Honey tangerines	7	1	0

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