



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending August 10, 2008

## WARM, DRIER CONDITIONS FOR MOST

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** High temperatures for last week were in the 90s. Nighttime lows were in the 60s and low 70s. Major cities averaged temperatures that were normal to 3 degrees above normal. Most of the State saw less than an inch of rain last week, especially in the Panhandle and Big Bend regions. Some areas in the central and southern Peninsulas received substantial rainfall though. Kenansville, Ona, and Homestead acquired 2.7, 3.2, and 4.6 inches, respectively.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut pegging was 98 percent completed, compared to 89 percent last year. Peanut condition was rated 43% fair, 43% good, and 14% excellent. Hay baling picked up in Marion County. Soil moisture in the Panhandle was reported as short in most areas; however, the few areas that received rain reported good soil moisture. Growers used irrigation when available and hoped for more rain in upcoming weeks. Santa Rosa County reported stress on cotton due to dry conditions. Soil moisture was adequate for central and southern locations.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending August 10, 2008			
Stage	2008	2007	5-yr Average
<i>Percent</i>			
Pegged	98	89	97

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
<i>Percent</i>						
Very short	4	1	4	4	4	11
Short	15	5	35	15	21	39
Adequate	71	85	58	78	73	48
Surplus	10	9	2	3	2	2

**VEGETABLES:** Most vegetable growers were finished with harvesting. However, some producers marketed avocados and okra last week. In the southern Peninsula, land preparations for fall vegetables were increasing. In Polk County, summer cover crops were being incorporated into fields for fall cabbage and broccoli planting.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** Drought in the southwest reduced the State's pasture condition. In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture was in fair to excellent condition. Soil moisture conditions were good, helped by rain at favorable intervals. In the central areas, pasture and cattle conditions were mostly good, but ranged from poor to excellent. In the southwest, pasture condition was mostly good, but ranged from very poor to excellent. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent. Statewide, the cattle condition was very poor to excellent with most in good condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	1	0	1	0
Poor	4	0	4	0
Fair	25	25	25	20
Good	60	65	60	65
Excellent	10	10	10	15

**CITRUS:** The heaviest rainfall amounts this past week were received on the East Coast. Ft. Pierce had over four inches for the second week in a row. Ona, located in the southern citrus area, had over three inches. Other monitored citrus producing areas had an inch or less. Daily high temperatures were into the lower 90s early in the week, cooling off slightly by the weekend. Grove activity included aerial and ground spraying, primarily for psyllid control. Other activity included mowing, irrigating, and fertilizing. Where caretakers were spending sufficient time maintaining groves, the crop was progressing well. Orange sizes were as large as baseballs; grapefruit are typically larger. Some color break has been observed inside grapefruit in younger groves. Overall, conditions were good in well managed groves and the outlook was good for the next season.

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