



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending July 5, 2009

## HOT, HUMID CONDITIONS PREVAIL FIELD CROPS AWAIT RAIN

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** High temperatures throughout the State reached the 90s last week. Nighttime lows were in the upper 60s and low 70s. In major cities, temperatures ranged from average to three degrees above average. The southern and central Peninsula collected the majority of the precipitation. Most locations received at least an inch and a half of rain, while several areas received two to four inches. Glades and DeSoto counties reported the most with 6.48 and 6.74 inches, respectively. Rain was less plentiful in the Big Bend and Panhandle regions with most receiving less than an inch of rain. Escambia and Santa Rosa counties reported drought conditions.

**FIELD CROPS:** Peanut pegging was 49% complete compared to 52% last year. Peanut condition was rated 3% poor, 18% fair, 66% good, and 13% excellent. Soybeans, cotton, and peanuts in the Panhandle were drought stressed. Cotton in Okaloosa County was reported in good condition. Grasshoppers took their toll on soybeans and some were replanted. Some soybean fields in Holmes County experienced death of seedlings. Corn growers in Washington and Holmes counties were concerned about pollination of the crop during these hot and dry weeks. Yield may be significantly reduced for some field corn. Potatoes were harvested, but activity was declining. Hay was cut in the central Peninsula with few rain delays. Soil moisture levels were short in the Panhandle, while the southern and central Peninsula was adequate.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending July 5, 2009			
Stage	2009	2008	5-yr Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Pegged	49	52	49

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	2	0	3	0	1	10
Short	13	13	19	16	14	36
Adequate	71	79	69	73	80	53
Surplus	14	8	9	11	5	1

**VEGETABLES:** Few fields have vegetables remaining during this time of the year. Some producers in the southern Peninsula treated fallow fields for weeds. Light tomato harvests came from the Panhandle and central Florida. Highlands County picked a few late watermelons. Pumpkins were also growing in Highlands County, but recent heavy rainfall reduced the crop's quality. Blackberries were harvested in Hernando County. Okra and avocados were marketed as well.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition was very poor to excellent with most fair to good. High temperatures have been oppressive for cattle and especially difficult for dairies. Cattle condition was mostly fair to good. In the central areas, the summer rainfall pattern was beneficial to pastures. Range and pasture condition was mostly good. Stock ponds water levels were still low. In the southwest, pasture was mostly good to excellent. Some pastures were in poor condition due to localized flooding in low lying areas. Cattle were in very poor to excellent condition with most fair to good. Statewide, cattle condition was very poor to excellent with most fair to good.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	1	0	1	1
Poor	4	5	3	4
Fair	30	30	26	30
Good	50	50	45	50
Excellent	15	15	25	15

**CITRUS:** Summer weather patterns were normal across the citrus-producing areas. Temperatures reached the lower to mid-90s, two to three days during the week and high 80s on the remaining days. All areas received at least some rainfall, with portions of the citrus belt receiving heavy downpours. The most rainfall recorded was in the western citrus-producing region, where showers brought five inches in one day. Growers in most areas reported trees in good condition. Cultural practices continued and included limited fertilizations, hedging, and the resetting of young trees. Some summer sprays were being applied as rainfall permitted. Fresh fruit packinghouses were closed for the season. The Valencia orange harvest was nearly over as most of the remaining processing plants closed for the season. Growers are now focusing on psyllid control using both aerial and ground spraying.

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