



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending August 9, 2009

FIELD CROPS BENEFIT FROM SCATTERED RAINS

WEATHER SUMMARY: Last week's low temperatures ranged from the upper 60s to low 70s. During the day, highs were in the low to mid-90s. Temperatures ranged from average to three degrees above normal. Rainfall varied throughout the State. The majority of locations collected between half an inch and two inches. The highest rain totals were in Collier, Glades, and Alachua counties receiving 3.11, 5.03, and 5.70 inches respectively.

FIELD CROPS: Peanut pegging continued with 85% complete compared with 98% last year and a five year average of 96%. Peanut condition rated 1% poor, 15% fair, 66% good, and 18% excellent. Peanuts made progress as scattered showers continued across most of the Panhandle. Cotton fields in Okaloosa County were treated for insects. Corn was harvested in Hamilton County, but was delayed by rain in Escambia County. Hay was baled in northern fields when rain could be avoided. Soil moisture was mostly adequate in all areas; however, some parts of the Big Bend remained dry while fields in Clay County had standing water.

Peanut Progress – Week Ending August 9, 2009			
Stage	2009	2008	5-yr Average
	<i>Percent</i>		
Pegged	85	98	96

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	1	3	4	1	3	4
Short	17	13	14	17	15	16
Adequate	70	65	72	71	64	77
Surplus	12	19	10	11	18	3

VEGETABLES: Okra and avocados continued to be marketed last week. Land preparations for fall vegetables were increasing, especially in the southern Peninsula. Growers laid plastic in Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Lee counties. Columbia County fields in the Big Bend were also prepped for fall vegetables. Tomatoes were planted in Gadsden and Hamilton counties.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: Pastures were in good condition and livestock was doing well on the abundant pasture grass. In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture was fair to excellent with most in good condition. Pastures were holding steady and the cattle was generally in good condition. The condition of the pasture varied in part depending on how much fertilizer was applied earlier in the season. In the central areas, pasture was mostly in good condition but some locations suffered from drought while other locations had standing water due to recent heavy rain. In the southern areas, range condition varied from poor to excellent. Localized flooding in low lying areas affected the pasture condition. Statewide, cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	0	1	0	1
Poor	2	4	0	1
Fair	23	25	20	23
Good	65	55	60	55
Excellent	10	15	20	20

CITRUS: Florida’s entire citrus belt recorded some rainfall for the week. Amounts ranged from one-half an inch to just over two inches. Citrus trees in well-maintained groves were in good to excellent condition as a result of short summer rains and lots of sunshine. Groves receiving little or no care are declining quickly due to citrus tristeza virus, young tree decline, and canker. Daily highs reached the low to mid-90s in all monitored areas. The warmest temperatures were in Sebring at over 96 degrees, followed by Ona at 95 degrees. Caretakers were very active mowing, chopping, and discing cover crops. Summer fertilizations, herbicide treatments, and sprays on fresh fruit crops were applied in all areas. Dead trees were removed and burned. Some resets were planted in various areas across the State.

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