



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending October 11, 2009

Above Normal Temperatures, Hit and Miss Showers

Weather Summary: Last week's high temperatures averaged 3 to 8 degrees above normal. Most stations reported highs in the low to mid-90s. Lows were in the upper 60s and 70s. Precipitation was mostly light, with many Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) stations reporting either no rain or only trace amounts. Widely scattered showers brought rainfall above an inch at a few locations in the State. Reporting FAWN sites in Santa Rosa, Osceola, and Lake counties received 1.66, 1.61, and 1.08 inches, respectively.

Field Crops: Peanut condition was rated 6% poor, 27% fair, 50% good, and 17% excellent. Peanut harvesting was 41% complete compared to 64% last year, and a 5 year average of 53%. Peanut and cotton harvest was delayed in parts of the Panhandle, and condition was declining due to wet conditions. Farmers bailed their third and final cutting of hay, cooling nighttime temperatures limited grass growth. Sugarcane producers in the Everglades area were expected to begin some cutting this week. Winter forages were being planted.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: October 11, 2009

Stage	2008	5-yr average	2009
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested.....	64	53	41

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	0	4	1	0	4	0
Short.....	25	27	31	20	26	27
Adequate.....	66	57	63	68	58	67
Surplus.....	9	12	5	12	12	6

Vegetables: Collier County reported some specialty vegetables were marketed. In Columbia County, growers harvested sweet corn, eggplant, and southern peas. Seminole and Orange counties reported harvesting of cucumbers. Cabbage planting progressed in Flagler, Orange, and Seminole counties. Blueberry picking reported in Duval County. Putnam County growers planted broccoli, cauliflower, beets, cilantro, kale, and cabbage. Lafayette County vegetable growers harvested snap beans and cucumbers. Tomatoes, okra, squash, and avocados were marketed.

Livestock and Pastures: In the Panhandle and northern areas, the pasture was poor to excellent with most in good condition. Summer pasture condition declined seasonally. Shorter days decreased summer pasture growth. Producers planted small grains for winter forage. Fields already prepared were aided by recent rain, although some fields in Holmes County were too wet to work. Cattle condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition. The feed value of some pasture was low due to the heavy rains of previous weeks. In the central areas, pasture was poor to excellent with an increase of pasture in poor condition due to drought. In the southwest, pasture condition was poor to excellent with drought hurting some of the pasture. Winter forage was being planted. Most pasture and cattle in the southwest were in good condition. Statewide, the condition of the cattle was poor to excellent with most cattle in good condition.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	0	0	0
Poor.....	5	10	5	10
Fair	15	15	20	20
Good	65	65	65	65
Excellent.....	15	10	10	5

Citrus: A moderate heat wave gripped Florida. Highs were in the mid-90s in all areas. Lows dropped to the 70s during the evenings. Rainfall was light and scattered, only two stations received more than an inch, and the majority of stations received less than one-half inch. Kenansville received the most rainfall at 1.60 inches, while Frostproof recorded no precipitation. Grove activity included limited irrigating, herbiciding, and mowing. Canker and greening surveys by growers and caretakers continued. Twenty-four packinghouses opened and began shipping fruit. Four processing plants began running fruit in small quantities. Varieties being packed included early oranges (Navel, Ambersweet, and Hamlin), white and colored grapefruit, and Fallglo tangerines.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	September 27, 2009	October 4, 2009	October 11, 2009
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)
Early and mid oranges	7	25	56
Navel oranges	9	21	47
Grapefruit	31	48	81
Fallglo tangerines.....	26	53	102

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp. To set-up this free subscription, select Florida Crop-Weather; enter your name and your email address, click on Subscribe. This report will be sent automatically each week; or call us at 800/344-6277 and we will enter the subscription for you. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Data for individual reporting stations is available at: <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information Technologies.