



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending November 1, 2009

Wet in Panhandle, Dry Elsewhere

Weather Summary: For the week of October 26-November 1, high temperatures were mostly in the high 80s and low 90s. Lows were in the 40s, 50s, and 60s. In major cities temperatures averaged 1 to 2 degrees above normal. Rain was mostly light across the State with only two Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) locations reporting more than an inch. Jay in Santa Rosa County received 2.82 inches and Putnam Hall in Putnam County reported 1.42 inches.

Field Crops: Peanut harvesting was 74% complete compared to 89% at this time last year, and 5-year average of 90%. Growers continued to harvest peanut, cotton, and soybean fields that were dry enough. Condition of un-harvested peanuts, cotton, and soybeans continue to decline. Operators reported that they were expecting low yields and that some fields will be abandoned. A few growers continued to bale the last cuttings of hay. Sugarcane harvest remained active. Planting of winter forage progressed in areas where fields had dried enough to plant. In some areas outside of the Western Panhandle, planted small grains were in need of moisture.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: November 1, 2009

Stage	2008	5-yr average	2009
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested.....	89	90	74

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.....	3	5	6	1	7	2
Short	34	22	41	28	23	29
Adequate.....	58	62	47	66	61	63
Surplus.....	5	11	6	5	9	6

Vegetables: Harvesting of vegetables was increasing seasonally with light volumes of cucumbers, eggplant, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelons, and specialty items coming to market. Growers in Gadsden County reported harvest delays of tomatoes due to wet conditions. Planting of winter season vegetables continued. Avocados, okra, and some greens moved through the market.

Livestock and Pastures: Pasture condition declined in quality and quantity as days were getting shorter and nights were getting cooler. Winter forage planting was active. In the Panhandle, pasture condition was fair to excellent. In the northern areas, pasture was in poor to good condition with most fair. Permanent pasture had gone into dormancy. Planting of ryegrass and winter wheat for winter forage continued. Cattle condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the central areas, pasture was in very poor to excellent condition with most fair. Forage growth has been hurt by drought, armyworms, and seasonally cooler weather. Cattle condition was poor to good with most in good condition. In the Southwest, pasture condition was very poor to excellent with most in good condition. The condition of pasture grasses decreased due to another week of drought and hot weather. The fall calving season was underway. Statewide, the condition of cattle was poor to excellent with most 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	1	1
Poor	5	5	4	4
Fair.....	20	25	40	45
Good	65	60	50	45
Excellent	10	10	5	5

Citrus: A cool front on Sunday brought relief from record highs, but had no impact on Florida’s citrus. High temperatures for the week were mostly in the low 90s, with weekend lows reaching the upper 50s or lower 60s for most of the citrus region. Rainfall continued to be light for the week across the citrus belt. Putnam Hall received over an inch of rain, but proved to be the exception, with all other stations in the citrus growing areas receiving a half-inch or less. Grove activity included limited harvesting, herbiciding, and mowing. Scouting for greening and removal of affected trees continued. Thirty-nine packinghouses have opened and have begun shipping fruit, with only a few left that could open. Varieties being packed included early oranges (Navels, Ambersweet, and Hamlin), white and colored grapefruit, and early tangerines (Fallglo and Sunburst). Seven processors have opened and were accepting fruit.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	October 18, 2009	October 25, 2009	November 1, 2009
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	56	59	94
Navel oranges	77	80	85
Grapefruit	186	275	333
Tangelos	2	4	3
Fallglo tangerines	87	92	101

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.