



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Revised November 17, 2009 – Corrected the Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested table.

Week ending November 15, 2009

## Rain Brought to Panhandle by Tropical Storm Ida

**Weather Summary:** Last week’s high temperatures reached the 70s and 80s. Nightly lows were in the 40s, 50s, and 60s. Precipitation was received throughout Florida, with larger amounts recorded in the Panhandle. During the week, Santa Rosa, Jefferson, Jackson, and Franklin counties each collected 5.2, 1.87, 1.63, and 1.57 inches, respectively. Most other Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) locations reported less than an inch for the week.

**Field Crops:** Peanut harvesting was 93% complete compared to 97% at this time last year, and a 5 year average of 98%. Rain from Tropical Storm Ida caused delays to cotton, peanut, and soybean harvesting. The quality of cotton lint and seed continued to decline due to prolonged exposure to moisture. Planting of cool season forages remained active, but more rain was needed for growth in the Big Bend and central Peninsula. Soil moisture levels in the Panhandle remained adequate to surplus, but short to adequate for all other regions.

### Peanut Progress for Week Ending: November 15, 2009

Stage	2008	5-yr average	2009
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested.....	97	98	93

### 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.....	8	5	8	3	7	4
Short .....	43	36	42	37	30	38
Adequate.....	45	55	46	56	59	54
Surplus.....	4	4	4	4	4	4

**Vegetables:** Strawberries and greens were planted in Bradford County. Growers in Putnam County planted cabbage and broccoli. Potato fields in Flagler County were prepped and cabbage planting continued. Windy conditions in the southern Peninsula caused blooms to be blown off and scarring of some crops. Soils in that region were still in need of rain. Around the State, growers harvested light volumes of sweet corn, radishes, and watermelon. Also being marketed were snap beans, cucumbers, eggplants, okra, peppers, squash, tomatoes, and avocados.

**Livestock and Pastures:** Rain from Tropical Storm Ida improved pasture soil moisture in the Panhandle and northern areas. Central and southwest areas were hurt by drought. In the Panhandle and northern areas, the pasture was in poor to excellent condition, but most was in fair to good condition. Tropical Storm (TS) Ida provided welcome moisture for winter pastures. Planting of cool season forages continued and some small grain winter forage was up and may be ready for grazing by Thanksgiving. Perennial pastures were in decent condition but growth has almost stopped due to cool nights. Some cattlemen were feeding supplemental hay. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the central areas, pasture was very poor to excellent with most fair to good. Rain from TS Ida improved pasture soil moisture and pasture growth; however, cooler night temperatures have slowed growth of grasses. The cattle condition was poor to excellent. In the southwest, the pasture condition was poor to excellent with most pasture in fair to good condition. Armyworms still causing damage, though less than previous weeks. Some spraying to control the worms continues. Statewide, the condition of the cattle was poor to excellent with most in good condition. The calving season was underway.

**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	9	10
Fair.....	30	35	40	45
Good .....	55	50	45	40
Excellent .....	10	10	5	4

**Citrus:** High temperatures for the week were mostly in the mid to upper 80s, with lows in the 40s for most of the citrus region. A cool front towards the end of the week brought the average temperatures down to the 60s, but temperatures returned to normal by the weekend. Rainfall increased very slightly, with a few stations receiving an entire half inch. This did little to relieve the mild drought conditions still being experienced in the northern and Indian River districts. Growers applied supplemental sprays and fertilizers to maintain healthy citrus trees. Other grove activity included limited mowing, irrigation, and general maintenance. Forty 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). Nine processors have opened and were accepting fruit.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	November 1, 2009	November 8, 2009	November 15, 2009
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	94	116	414
Navel oranges .....	85	83	86
Grapefruit .....	333	326	*354
Tangelos .....	3	10	16
Tangerines .....	101	119	158

\* Corrected

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](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.