



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

Week ending November 29, 2009

Cooler Temperatures; Rain in Central and Southern Florida

Weather Summary: Most rain fell in the central and southern regions of the State last week. Miami-Dade, Levy, and Broward counties reported 4.04, 3.33, and 2.29 inches, respectively. Locations in the Big Bend and Panhandle collected only traces of rain. Most other Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) stations recorded between 0.50 and 1.90 inches. High temperatures were in the 70s and 80s. Lows were in the 30s, 40s, and 50s. In major cities, temperatures were average to 3 degrees below average. Patchy frost was reported in several Big Bend counties.

Field Crops: Peanut harvesting was 98% complete compared to 100% at this time last year and a 5 year average of 99%. Sugarcane harvest continued. Cotton was picked in the Panhandle, with varied yields being reported. Soybean harvest remained active. Harvest was delayed in some fields that were still too wet. Winter forages continue to grow, but some planted fields needed rain. Caladiums will be harvested soon in Highlands County. Soil moisture levels were adequate to surplus in the Panhandle, while other areas had short to adequate levels.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: November 29, 2009

Stage	2008	5-yr average	2009
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested.....	100	99	98

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.....	12	9	6	8	6	6
Short	46	34	36	43	39	33
Adequate.....	39	55	54	45	53	56
Surplus.....	3	2	4	4	2	5

Vegetables: Growers harvested light volumes of strawberries, broccoli, and cabbage. Fields were prepped for potato planting in Putnam County. Sweet corn, watermelons, radishes, snap beans, cucumbers, eggplants, okra, peppers, squash, tomatoes, and avocados moved through the market. Vegetable volumes from southern Florida were reduced significantly due to unfavorable weather conditions in previous weeks.

Livestock and Pastures: The condition of the pasture improved slightly last week, but freezing temperatures burned some forage in the Panhandle and northern areas. Pasture in the northern counties ranged from poor to excellent condition with most in good condition. Cool night temperatures slowed forage growth, with some forage burned by frost. Cool season forage planting is declining. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Supplemental hay was being fed. In the central areas, pasture ranged from very poor to excellent, with most in fair condition. Drought continues to hamper grass growth at many locations. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the Southwest, the pasture condition ranged from poor to excellent, with most pasture in good condition. Some damage from armyworms. Statewide, the condition of the cattle ranged from poor to excellent, with most fair to good.

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	10	5	9	9
Fair.....	35	30	50	40
Good	45	60	35	45
Excellent	10	5	5	5

Citrus: High temperatures for the week were mostly in the lower 80s, with lows reaching the upper 30s in many areas. Rainfall this week was highly variable, with amounts ranging from zero in Citra to 1.85 inches in Frostproof. Most of the citrus producing areas received at least one half inch, which was not enough to relieve the mild drought conditions being experienced in eastern portions of the citrus producing area. Forty-four packinghouses have opened and have begun shipping fruit. Shipment of fresh fruit has been slow, but is expected to increase slightly with fundraising programs starting. Varieties being packed included early oranges (Navel and Hamlin), white and colored grapefruit, and early tangerines (mostly Sunburst and a few Fallglo, which are almost finished). Ten processors have opened and were accepting fruit. Early and midseason oranges and grapefruit comprise the majority of fruit going to the plants.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	November 15, 2009	November 22, 2009	November 29, 2009
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	414	760	654
Navel oranges	86	151	131
Grapefruit	354	382	295
Tangelos	16	17	27
Tangerines	158	136	147

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.