



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending July 18, 2010

## Warm Temperatures and Widespread Showers

**Weather Summary:** For the week ending July 18, high temperatures were in the mid 90s. Nighttime lows were in the upper 60s and low 70s. Temperatures in the major cities averaged one to two degrees above normal. All Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) stations recorded some precipitation during the week. Santa Rosa and Jefferson counties both recorded rainfall in excess of three inches. Marion, Miami-Dade, and Volusia counties received more than two inches of rain. Orange, Osceola, and Highlands counties reported only trace amounts of precipitation. Soil moisture was mostly favorable with 88 percent of respondents reporting subsoil moisture as adequate or surplus.

## 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 .....	1	1	1	0	1	0
Short .....	17	15	25	11	17	12
Adequate .....	59	66	67	64	67	78
Surplus .....	23	18	7	25	15	10

**Field Crops:** Recent rain in the Panhandle was beneficial for row crop growth, but caused challenges for weed management. Rainfall frequency was problematic for hay baling and corn drydown. Hot, humid conditions were ripe for fungus and disease growth, but no outbreaks were reported. Armyworm pressure was significant. Peanut condition was rated 1 % poor, 14 % fair, 67 % good, and 18 % excellent. Peanuts were 55 % pegged compared with 61 % last year, and the five-year average of 71 %. In Central Florida, Pasco County reported large numbers of grasshoppers. In Palm Beach County, early-planted rice was almost ready for harvest. Rice fields were showing infestations of rice weevils and were being drained as a means to control the pest. Once the weevils are controlled the fields will be re-flooded.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending: July 18, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pegged .....	61	71	55

**Vegetables:** Spring tomato harvest ended in Gadsden County and growers were planting the fall crop. In Manatee County and the Lake Okeechobee area, producers were preparing fields and laying plastic for fall vegetables. Watermelon harvest was nearly complete. Light supplies of avocados and okra moved through the market.

**Livestock and Pastures:** Statewide, pastures were growing well, but armyworms and grasshoppers caused damage and equine encephalitis was reported. In the Panhandle and northern areas, the condition of pasture was poor to excellent with most good. Armyworms have caused damage to many hayfields. Some producers cut seed and hay on some pastures due to the surplus of forage. The cattle condition was poor to excellent with most good. In the central areas, the pasture was in good condition with some damaged by grasshoppers. The cattle were in fair to excellent condition with most good. There were grasshoppers in large numbers in some locations. In the southwestern areas, the range condition was poor to excellent with most good. Statewide, most of the cattle were 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 .....	2	1	0	1
Fair.....	25	25	15	19
Good .....	70	64	60	60
Excellent .....	3	10	25	20

**Citrus:** Highs this week were in the low to mid 90s, with early morning lows in the upper 60s to lower 70s. Citra received the most precipitation with 2.32 inches. Fort Pierce received the least, with 0.03 inches recorded. Growing conditions continued to be good across the citrus region. Citrus producers were fertilizing, hedging, and resetting young trees. Some summer sprays were applied as rainfall permitted. Now that the harvesting season has ended, growers were focused on psyllid control using both aerial and ground spraying. Early-mid and Valencia oranges were golf-ball sized and in good condition throughout the citrus growing region. Grapefruit were reported to be in good condition as well.

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.