United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending August 29, 2010

Showers Elevated Soil Moisture

Weather Summary: Scattered showers brought varying amounts of rain to the State during August 23 through 29. Rainfall for the week ranged from traces in Marianna to nearly six inches in North Port. Several areas across Florida received over one inch of precipitation. Localities receiving over three inches of rain included Frostproof, Lake Alfred, Tampa, and Sebring. Bronson received nearly four and a half inches while Avalon as well as Tampa recorded nearly five inches. Temperatures in the major cities averaged from one degree below normal to three degrees above normal. Daytime highs were in the low to upper 90s. Evening lows were in the 70s.

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	0	0	0	0	1
Short	20	12	6	23	12	10
Adequate	63	74	80	58	74	77
Surplus	17	14	14	19	14	12

Field Crops: Peanut condition was reported as 1% poor, 13% fair, 70% good, and 16% excellent. Prior drought conditions caused some minor damage to cotton and peanuts in Escambia as well as Santa Rosa counties. White mold infestation was significant in some peanut fields in Washington County. Deer, armyworms, and grasshoppers were becoming an issue in some soybean fields. Peanut harvest was underway for early-planted peanuts in Columbia County, with some yields reduced by white mold. Most peanut fields were anticipated to reach maturity within three weeks.

Vegetables: Fall crop planting was underway between rain showers in the southern Peninsula areas. Producers continued to market avocados. Miami-Dade County growers marketed light supplies of okra.

Livestock and Pastures: The pasture condition generally improved over the previous week. In the Panhandle, the pasture condition was poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Most of the pasture had adequate moisture but some locations suffered from drought. Rain showers alleviated heat stress on stock. Pasture in the northern areas was fair to excellent. Cattle condition was fair to good with most in good condition. In the central areas, pasture was mostly good with some pasture in poor condition due to local flooding or damage from armyworms. The cattle condition was fair to excellent. In the southwestern areas, most pastures remained in good shape. Some pasture had standing water from recent heavy rain. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent. Statewide, most 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	10	2	5	3
Fair	10	13	10	12
Good	70	70	75	70
Excellent	10	15	10	15

Citrus: Highs this week were in the low to mid 90s, with early morning lows in the low to mid 70s. North Port received the most precipitation with 5.94 inches. Eighteen of the twenty-five stations reported more than an inch of rain, five of which had more than three inches. Citra received the least, with 0.63 inches of precipitation recorded. Growing conditions continued to be good across the remainder of the citrus region. Cultural practices included limited fertilization, hedging, irrigation, and the resetting of young trees. Some summer sprays were applied as rainfall permitted. Growers continued using both aerial and ground spraying for citrus psyllid control.

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