



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

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 September 5, 2010

Cooler Weather Welcomed

Weather Summary: Average temperatures in Florida ranged between one degree above and below the normal with highs in the 90s and lows in the 60s and 70s. Rainfall varied for the State. Osceola and Polk counties received over two inches of rain with all other counties receiving lesser amounts. Areas in the central and southern parts of the State reported dry soil conditions.

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	1	0	1	0	1
Short	6	5	13	10	6	10
Adequate	80	79	79	77	75	83
Surplus	14	15	8	12	19	6

Field Crops: Heavy rains and lack thereof caused problems in particular counties for field crops. Previous heavy rains in Santa Rosa County caused cotton boll rot and decreased fiber quality. In Washington County, the cotton crop was stressed due to dry conditions. Also in the northern areas, soybean blooms dropped off in some fields due to excessive heat of the previous month. Concerns with armyworms in soybean fields have decreased. White mold on peanuts continued to be problematic. Peanut condition was reported as 2% poor, 14% fair, 71% good, and 13% excellent.

Vegetables: Vegetable growers in some parts of the State increased land preparation and were tilling cover crops for fall vegetables. Okra and avocados continued to move through the market in the south.

Livestock and Pastures: Pasture condition improved slightly over the previous week. Calves were moving to market. Pastures in the Panhandle and north began the seasonal decline in quality and quantity. In the Panhandle, most pasture was in good condition due to adequate to surplus moisture; however, some locations were beginning to get a little dry. Land preparation began for planting winter forage. Pasture in the northern areas was fair to excellent with most in good condition. The cattle condition was fair to excellent with most in good condition. In the central area, most of the pasture was mostly good, with some pasture in poor condition due to local dry conditions. The cattle condition was poor to excellent. In the southwestern areas, most pastures were in fair to excellent condition. Pasture at some locations had standing water from recent heavy rain and cattle waterholes were filling. Pasture grass production has been less than last year. Cattle in the southwest 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	2	2	3	2
Fair.....	13	10	12	10
Good	70	75	70	65
Excellent	15	13	15	23

Citrus: Highs this week were in the low to mid 90s, with early morning lows in the upper 60s to low 70s. Kenansville received the most precipitation with 2.39 inches. Four of the twenty-five stations reported more than an inch of rain, while five stations received no rain at all. The drought conditions on the east coast lessened, but remained abnormally dry to moderate, as per the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on August 31. Growing conditions continued to be good across the remainder of the citrus region. Cultural practices included limited fertilizations, 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.

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.