



WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending September 12, 2010

Dry Fields in the North, Much Rain in the South

Weather Summary: Temperatures were a bit warmer when compared to this time last year with averages one to three degrees above normal. Highs were in the upper 80s and 90s and lows were in the upper 60s and 70s. The central and southern areas had multiple counties receiving two to three inches of rain. According to the Florida Automated Weather Network, Broward County had over six inches of rain; whereas, Jackson and Gadsden Counties received no precipitation. Extension agents in parts of the south reported five inches or more of precipitation. Seventy percent or more of the crop progress reports had soil moisture ratings of adequate or surplus. No flooding was reported despite copious rains in southern Florida.

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	3	1	0	2
Short	13	9	18	10	10	16
Adequate	79	67	72	83	64	76
Surplus	8	24	7	6	26	6

Field Crops: Peanut harvesting has begun with dry conditions in northern Florida making it difficult to dig peanuts in Jackson, Escambia, and Santa Rosa counties. Dry conditions and heat have adversely affected peanut yields. White mold was present in peanut fields. In Jackson County, some cotton needed rain. Some bottom bolls had rot problems. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, early planted cotton was being defoliated to prepare for harvesting. In Washington County soybeans were aborting pods and hay yields were down due to lack of rain. Peanut condition was reported as 10% poor, 16% fair, 63% good, and 11% excellent. Last year's peanut condition was 19% fair, 61% good, and 20% excellent. Fourteen percent of the peanuts were harvested compared to 20 percent last and the five year average was 11 percent.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: September 12, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	20	11	14

Vegetables: Okra and avocados continued to move through the market in the south.

Livestock and Pastures: The pasture condition declined as hot weather challenged grazing conditions. The pasture condition in the Panhandle and north declined seasonally. In the Panhandle, most pasture was in good to excellent condition but a small percentage of pasture was in very poor to poor condition due to drought. Land preparation for planting winter forage was active and planting of forage started. Pasture in the north area 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 weeds. The cattle condition was poor to excellent. In the southwest area, most pastures were in fair to excellent condition and the condition of the cattle fair to excellent. Statewide, the condition of the cattle varied from poor to excellent, with most 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	1
Poor.....	2	1	2	1
Fair.....	10	14	10	15
Good.....	75	70	65	55
Excellent.....	13	15	23	28

Citrus: Highs this week were in the low to upper 90s, with early morning lows predominately in the low 70s. Arcadia received 3.94 inches of precipitation. Citra recorded the least rainfall at 0.09 inches. Seventeen of the twenty-five stations reported more than an inch of rain. East Coast drought conditions remained abnormally dry to moderate, as per the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on September 7. Growing conditions continued to be good across the remainder of the citrus region. Cultural practices continued, including general grove work, tree removal, irrigation, and the care of young trees. Ground spraying of fall miticide applied as weather permits.

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.