



# WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending October 3, 2010

## Sugarcane Harvest Postponed by Tropical Storm Nicole

**Weather Summary:** Average temperatures in Florida ranged between one degree above to three degrees below normal with highs in the 80s and 90s and lows in the 50s and 60s. Varying precipitation fell upon the State. Broward, Miami-Dade, and Indian River counties received three inches or more of precipitation. Approximately half of the Florida Automated Weather Network stations reported less than an inch of rain. Over 65 percent of the soil moisture levels were reported 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 .....	10	0	3	6	0	2
Short .....	25	23	25	23	18	25
Adequate .....	63	67	68	66	68	66
Surplus .....	2	10	4	5	14	7

**Field Crops:** Peanut harvesting for the week was 49 percent complete up from 37 percent of the previous week. Digging was aided by recent rains which loosened the soil. Last year 29 percent of peanuts were harvested by this date while the five-year average was 33 percent. Peanut crop conditions was reported as 1 percent very poor, 22 percent poor, 20 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 12 percent excellent. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, cotton and soybean yields are believed to be lower than expected. Corn harvesting was complete in Gadsden County. Cooler weather and lack of rain has slowed forage growth in areas around Holmes, Santa Rosa, and Brevard counties. In Glades and Hendry counties, significant rains from the tropical depression postponed sugarcane harvesting.

### Peanut Progress for Week Ending: October 3, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested .....	29	33	49

**Vegetables:** Growers in Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Lee counties are preparing land for fall vegetables with planting on schedule. Growers in Flagler County are planting cabbage. Those in Bradford County are preparing to plant strawberries. Light harvesting of cucumbers and squash has begun. Vegetables moving through the market are avocados, cucumbers, okra, and squash.

**Livestock and Pastures:** In the Panhandle, pasture condition was very poor to excellent with most poor to fair. Recent rain was good for forage growth but the general pasture condition was low due to the previous long, dry spell. Summer pasture condition declined seasonally because of the cooler nighttime temperatures and shorter days. Small grains for winter forage planting activity increased, especially since rain fell. The cattle condition was poor to excellent with most fair to good. Hay was fed to some herds of cattle where pastures were short. In the northern areas, pasture was in fair to good condition with most in good condition. The cattle condition was mostly good. In the central areas, pasture was poor to excellent with most fair to good. There is some insect damage on pastures. The cattle condition was mostly good. In the southwestern areas, pastures were in poor to excellent condition with most good. The condition of the cattle was poor to excellent. Statewide, the condition of the cattle was 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	1	1
Poor.....	5	2	4	4
Fair.....	15	20	25	25
Good.....	55	55	50	55
Excellent.....	25	23	20	15

**Citrus:** Highs this week were in the low 90s, with early morning lows predominately in the lower 60s. Indian River received the most precipitation with 2.99 inches. Seventeen of the twenty-five stations reported less than an inch of rain. East Coast drought conditions remained severe in Indian River County, moderate in surrounding counties, as per the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on September 28. Growing conditions continued to be good across the remainder of the citrus region. Cultural practices included general grove work, tree removal, irrigation, ground spraying of fall miticide, and the care of young trees.

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.