



# WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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Week ending November 14, 2010

## Record Season Lows, Continuous Dry Weather

**Weather Summary:** Cooler than normal weather persisted during the week of November 8 through 14. A cold front brought below freezing temperatures to a few localities which set new record lows. Temperatures in the major cities averaged four to seven degrees below normal. Pleasant, daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s. Chilling, evening lows were in the 30s, 40s, and 50s. MacClenny, Monticello, and Quincy recorded temperatures below freezing with Alachua recording at least one low in the upper 20s. Several areas across the State continued to experience drought conditions while the fire index remained high. Rainfall reports ranged from none to minimal traces in a few stations.

## 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	8	15	8	4	10
Short .....	35	42	40	38	38	35
Adequate .....	54	46	44	52	54	53
Surplus .....	1	4	1	2	4	2

**Field Crops:** Sugarcane harvesting remained active in the Everglades area. Statewide, peanut harvesting was 98 percent complete, compared to 92 percent last year, and the five-year average of 96 percent. Peanut harvesting is complete in Washington County. Santa Rosa cotton growers were about 95 percent finished while growers in Washington County expect to conclude next week. Planting of wheat started in Jackson County.

## Peanut Progress for Week Ending: November 14, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested .....	92	96	98

**Vegetables:** Vegetable harvesting gained momentum as growers try to meet the Thanksgiving Day demand. Tomato picking gained momentum in the Palmetto-Ruskin, Immokalee, and East Coast areas. Tomato growers in the Quincy area continued picking as the volume decreased as the season neared the end. Potato field preparation was in full swing in St. Johns County. Three nights of heavy frost coupled with unseasonably cold temperatures ended late vegetable production in Washington County. Avocado harvesting continued to decrease seasonally. Growers marketed light supplies of sweet corn, eggplant, and radishes. Endive and escarole was expected to begin in two weeks in south Florida. Vegetables available included snap beans, cucumbers, okra, bell peppers, squash, and tomatoes.

**Livestock and Pastures:** Near freezing temperatures and short soil moisture slowed the growth of warm weather grasses. Cattlemen were feeding hay in the Panhandle and northern areas. In the Panhandle, pasture condition varied from very poor to excellent, with most poor to fair. Drought and cooler than normal temperatures have decreased forage growth and increased hay feeding needs. Some winter forage emerged while other fields of forage had not germinated due to drought. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent, but most were in fair to good condition. Supplemental hay was being fed until winter forage is ready. In the northern areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most in fair condition. Some of the pasture was very poor due to frost damage. Winter forage planting was active. The cattle were in very poor to good condition with most in fair condition. In the central areas, pasture ranged from very poor to excellent with most poor to fair. Planting of small grains for winter forage was ongoing where there was adequate soil moisture. Some locations were too dry for planting ryegrass forage. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the southwestern areas, pasture condition ranged from fair to excellent with most in good condition. The cattle were in poor to excellent condition with most in good condition. Statewide, the condition of the cattle was very 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.....	1	5	2	5
Poor.....	4	5	20	30
Fair.....	35	35	35	30
Good.....	55	50	40	30
Excellent.....	5	5	3	5

**Citrus:** Highs were in the 80s, with early morning lows ranging from the mid 30s to the mid 40s. Rainfall decreased significantly this week, with 20 of the 25 stations recording no precipitation. The five stations reporting precipitation (Sebring, Indian River, Arcadia, Lake Alfred, and Balm) recorded 0.14 in total rainfall. Overall, there were abnormally dry conditions in all of the citrus areas according to the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on November 9. Indian River County was still experiencing extreme drought conditions, while surrounding counties were experiencing severe conditions. Moderate to extreme drought conditions extend over a third of the citrus area. Thirty-nine packinghouses and eight processors have opened, with a few more scheduled to open soon. Cultural practices included harvesting of early and midseason oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines, herbicide and fertilizer application, tree removal, and irrigation.

### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	October 31, 2010	November 7, 2010	November 14, 2010
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	43	35	56
Ambersweet.....	20	8	10
Navel oranges.....	85	94	82
Grapefruit.....	308	326	329
Tangelos.....	0	4	8
Tangerines.....	97	106	124

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.