



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 November 28, 2010

Field Crops End, Vegetables Begin

Weather Summary: Dry conditions continued throughout the reference week with light precipitation. All of the Florida Automated Weather Network stations reported under an inch of rain. Temperatures during the past week averaged two to six degrees above normal. Highs were in the 80s and lows were mostly in the 30s, 40s, and 50s. Jefferson, Baker, and Santa Rosa counties had at least one nighttime low below freezing during the week.

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	12	7	9	11	6	11
Short	37	37	40	37	34	37
Adequate	50	52	50	50	55	50
Surplus	1	4	1	2	5	2

Field Crops: Field activity was minimal due to the holiday. In Flagler County, growers were preparing to plant potatoes, but planting may be delayed due to low soil moisture. Rice harvesting has ended. Sugarcane harvest continued.

Vegetables: The winter vegetable season is promising. Harvesting increased in correspondence with the holiday. Light harvesting of endive and escarole has begun. Some tomato growers in west Florida completed harvesting for the season. In the central region, tomato harvesting is expected to increase. Sweet corn harvesting is expected to increase as growers begin the season. Amicable weather is aiding strawberry development with light harvesting continuing. Vegetable movement included sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, okra, bell peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries, tomatoes, and avocados.

Livestock and Pastures: Pastures were short and supplemental hay feeding was active. Cows were calving. In the Panhandle, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most poor to fair due to drought and seasonal cold temperatures. Winter grazing was behind due to the lack of moisture. The cattle condition ranged from fair to excellent with most fair. Supplemental hay was being fed. In the northern areas, the pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most fair. Cool season forage planting was limited due to dry soil conditions, and less field activity due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Most of the cattle were in fair to good condition. In the central areas, pasture ranged from very poor to excellent condition with most poor to fair. Cattlemen were feeding hay. Most of the cattle were in fair to good condition. In the southwestern areas, pasture condition ranged from fair to excellent with most in good condition. Lack of moisture was the first limiting factor on forage growth. Cattlemen were feeding hay and molasses. The cattle condition varied from poor to excellent with most in good condition. Statewide, the condition of cattle ranged from 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	2	5	3
Poor.....	4	3	20	20
Fair.....	35	35	35	35
Good.....	55	55	35	39
Excellent.....	5	5	5	3

Citrus: Highs were in the 80s, with early morning lows ranging from the upper 40s to the lower 50s. Nineteen of the 25 stations recorded some precipitation. The station reporting the most precipitation was Ona, with 0.52 inch of recorded rainfall. Overall, there were abnormally dry conditions in all of the citrus area according to the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on November 23. Indian River and Brevard counties were experiencing extreme drought conditions, while surrounding counties were experiencing severe conditions. Moderate to extreme drought conditions extend over a third of the citrus area. Forty-three packinghouses and nine processors have opened, with a few more scheduled to open soon. Cultural practices included herbicide and fertilizer application, tree removal, and irrigation.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	November 14, 2010	November 21, 2010	November 28, 2010
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	56	164	289
Ambersweet.....	10	16	4
Navel oranges.....	82	186	96
Grapefruit.....	329	394	238
Tangelos.....	8	31	21
Tangerines.....	124	204	113
Total.....	609	995	761

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.