



WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending February 6, 2011

Rain in Northern, Central Florida

Weather Summary: Warmer temperatures and some rain in northern and central Florida characterized the weather for the reference week. According to the Florida Automated Weather Network, for the week ending February 6, Marianna, Alachua, Gadsden, and Santa Rosa counties reported two inches or more of rain, while Jefferson and Baker counties reported slighted over one inch. The south received half an inch to no rainfall. Dry conditions persisted throughout the State. Temperatures averaged mostly three to seven degrees above normal with the exception of the Pensacola area, which had temperatures below normal. Lows were mostly in the 40s and 50s and highs were in the 70s and 80s.

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	2	3	1	3
Short	22	15	19	26	16	21
Adequate	72	68	74	66	67	70
Surplus	6	16	5	5	16	6

Field Crops: Within the northern and central areas, soil moisture improved in Gadsden, Jackson, Columbia, and Polk counties. In Columbia County, soil preparation took place for spring crops. In Miami-Dade County, sweet potatoes have recovered from prior freezes. In the Everglades, sugarcane growers were harvesting fields as quickly as possible to mitigate losses. Warm weather following the freezes has caused some sugar to ferment in sugarcane stocks. Growers were able to replenish seed cane that was lost due to freezes in December and January.

Vegetables: Most locations in the winter vegetable production counties received no precipitation. In Suwannee County, field preparation was underway for watermelon. Reports from areas west of Lake Okeechobee stated that vegetable volumes remained low with post harvest concerns. Also within the same area, spring vegetable planting was nearly complete. In Miami-Dade County, farmers planted sweet corn and tomatoes. Market movement included: snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, endive, escarole, bell peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, and strawberries.

Livestock and Pastures: The condition of pasture **Statewide** improved slightly from the previous week. Feeding of hay to livestock was ongoing as 60 percent of the pasture was in poor condition. The condition of the cattle ranged from very poor to excellent with most in fair to good condition. In the **Panhandle** area, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in poor to fair condition. Winter grazing was growing, overcoming with difficulty the early challenges of cold and dry weather. Stock pond water levels were low. Hay and supplements were fed to livestock. In the **northern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most poor to fair. Cool season forage made some progress and most was being grazed. Hay usage was still strong. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in fair condition. In the **central** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good with most in poor condition. Warmer weather triggered some warm season forage growth. Some cool season annual pastures were being grazed. In the **southwestern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in poor condition. However, the condition was somewhat improved due to warmer weather and good soil moisture of the past weeks. The cattle condition ranged from poor to excellent with most in fair condition.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	0	5	5
Poor.....	20	20	65	60
Fair.....	40	50	25	24
Good.....	35	25	4	10
Excellent.....	4	5	1	1

Citrus: Temperature lows were in the 40s and 50s with highs in the 80s across most of the citrus area. This week, 21 of the 25 FAWN stations in the citrus area recorded some precipitation, with four of them recording more than a half-inch. Alachua County reported the most, with 2.64 inches of rainfall recorded. Overall, there were moderate to severe drought conditions in most of the citrus area according to the U.S. drought monitor, last updated on February 1st. Indian River, Brevard, and part of St Lucie counties were experiencing extreme drought conditions. Forty-eight packinghouses and 18 processors have opened. Harvest of early and midseason oranges and grapefruit continued, with processing plants running early and midseason oranges at full capacity. Cultural practices continued, including irrigation and application of lime.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	January 23, 2011	January 30, 2011	February 6, 2011
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid oranges.....	5,771	5,348	6,000
Navel oranges.....	79	46	18
Valencia.....	0	0	4
Grapefruit.....	720	698	720
Temples.....	21	17	35
Tangelos.....	97	56	68
Early tangerines.....	95	15	11
Honey tangerines.....	153	119	153
Total.....	6,936	6,299	7,009

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.