



WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending July 10, 2011

Rain Improving Field Crop Conditions

Weather Summary: Cumulative rains from the past two weeks slightly improved drought conditions. Areas rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having extreme to exceptional drought have decreased by three percent (47% to 44%). Drought ratings continue to be exceptionally high, with 85 percent of the State experiencing drought; whereas, this time last year, only five percent of the State had drought. Recorded weekly rain totals for Florida increased by 13 percent from the previous week (78.63 in. to 88.67 in.). Thirteen of the 36 Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) stations had rain levels of three to five inches. Balm (5.10), MacClenny (4.87), and Clewiston (4.64) stations had the greatest amounts. Topsoil and subsoil moisture levels estimated as adequate or surplus increased from 56 percent to 76 percent and 51 percent to 65 percent, respectively. The Lake Okeechobee water level, monitored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, remained similar to prior levels and is currently at 9.91 feet. Average temperatures ranged from one degree below to three degrees above normal. Highs were in the 90s. Lows were in the mid 60s to lower 70s.

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	9	1	11	15	0	13
Short	35	16	13	34	11	22
Adequate	52	60	68	47	64	58
Surplus	4	23	8	4	25	7

Field Crops: Frequent rains helped improve field crop conditions, but row crops continued to show stress from drought. In parts of Washington County, rains helped peanut and cotton crop progress; whereas, in some parts of Washington and Jackson counties, peanuts were not developing due to drought. Peanut conditions improved from the previous week with ratings of 2 percent very poor, 25 percent poor, 44 percent fair, and 29 percent good. The five-year average for peanut condition is 7 percent very poor, 10 percent poor, 26 percent fair, 44 percent good, and 14 percent excellent. Peanut pegging increased to 50 percent, and is in line with the five-year average progress. In south Florida, rains sustained sugarcane affected by drought.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: July 10, 2011

Stage	2010	5-year average	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pegged	44	50	50

Vegetables: In South Florida, okra and avocado harvesting continued as mango season wound down. The last of the tomato shipments took place in west Florida; however, supplies were insufficient to establish a market. In Gadsden County, preparation of tomato fields for the fall season began. USDA, AMS market movement consisted of avocados and okra.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, pasture condition was mostly fair to good, an improvement from the previous week due to improved soil moisture. Most of the cattle were in fair to good condition, unchanged from the previous week. In the **Panhandle**, pastures ranged from very poor to good condition, with most in very poor to poor condition. Pastures have not had enough time to improve following recent rains. The condition of cattle ranged from poor to good with livestock needing to be fed hay as the pastures had dried up. In the **northern** areas, pasture and cattle ranged from poor to good condition, with most in fair condition. In the **central** areas, pastures and cattle ranged from poor to good condition, with most in fair to good condition. In the **southwestern** areas, pasture and cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent condition, with most fair to good. Pastures were looking green and lush in most places. Livestock were suffering from flies and mosquitoes in many locations. Pasture grasses were recovering quickly except where they had been overgrazed during the drought.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	1	1	3
Poor.....	9	6	20	8
Fair.....	45	45	35	40
Good.....	40	45	41	45
Excellent.....	5	3	3	4

Citrus: Temperatures were in the upper 60s and lower 70s at night and the mid to lower 90s during the day for the majority of the week. Heavier rainfall continued during the week, with all of the stations receiving some rainfall. Amounts ranged from 0.61 inches in Belle Glade, to 5.10 inches in Balm. Exceptional drought conditions exist in the southeastern portion of Palm Beach County. Extreme drought conditions existed in Martin, St Lucie, and Indian River counties and parts of Collier, Okeechobee, Hendry, and Glades counties. Drought conditions were per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated July 5, 2011. Grove activity included resetting new trees, young tree care, applying herbicides, hedging and topping, brush removal, and fertilizer application.

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