



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Week ending September 11, 2011

Peanut Harvesting Underway

Weather Summary: Daily showers persisted during the week of September 5 through 11. Some stations received over one to two inches of rainfall. Okahumpka, Pensacola, and Tallahassee reported over three inches of precipitation. Various areas in central and southern Peninsula localities recorded over four inches of rain. Temperatures for the week averaged from eight degrees below normal to one degree above normal. Daytime highs were in the upper 80s and 90s. Evening lows were in the 50s, 60s, and 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	3	3	4	3	2	3
Short	19	17	16	23	15	15
Adequate	67	73	63	70	77	62
Surplus	11	7	17	4	6	20

Field Crops: Peanut digging was underway with 6 percent of the crop harvested. Peanut crop condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 11 percent poor, 39 percent fair, 45 percent good, and 4 percent excellent. Field crop growers in Jackson County needed more rain to aid with crop development. Peanut harvesting will begin next week for growers in Washington County. Cotton bolls continued to open and growers prepared for harvesting in the Panhandle. In Washington County, cotton defoliating has been scheduled to begin in some fields next week. Rains aided sugarcane maturity in the Everglades region.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: September 11, 2011

Stage	2010	5-year average	2011
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	12	9	6

Vegetables: Fall crop planting and land preparation continued in between showers. Vegetable farmers were busy pumping water out of some low lying fields due to heavy rains. Avocado harvesting continued in southern Florida. Light supplies of okra were harvested and some replanting took place in Miami-Dade County. Growers in the Quincy area were preparing for tomato harvesting which is anticipated to start shortly. Vegetable growers in Highlands County were busy plowing the fields to plant cabbage and watermelons. Harvesting of fall watermelons was in progress in Suwannee County.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with 62 percent in good condition. Summer pasture condition and quantity declined seasonally. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent with 70 percent in good condition. In the **Panhandle**, pasture condition varied from very poor to excellent with drought being the first limiting factor, followed by the seasonal decline in summer pasture. Cattlemen were preparing land for planting winter forage. Most cattle were in good condition. In the **northern** areas, pasture ranged from poor to excellent condition with most in good condition. Cattle were in fair to excellent condition, with most in good condition. In the **central** areas, pasture ranged from poor to excellent condition, with most in good condition. In the **southwest**, range and pasture ranged from fair to excellent condition, with most in good condition. Adequate moisture and growing temperatures led to good pasture and cattle conditions. The condition of the cattle was fair 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	1	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	2	4
Fair.....	20	23	12	20
Good.....	65	70	65	62
Excellent.....	13	5	20	13

Citrus: Temperatures were in the upper 60s to the lower 70s at night and the lower to mid 90s during the day for the majority of the week. This week there was heavy, but scattered rainfall, with all 25 Florida Automated Weather Network stations receiving some rainfall. Amounts received ranged from 0.30 inch in Pierson, to 3.13 inches in Okahumpka. Drought conditions ranged from drought-free in the western half of the citrus region to severe conditions, found in small parts of Okeechobee, Martin, St Lucie, and Palm Beach counties, along the eastern and north-eastern shore of Lake Okeechobee. Drought conditions were per the U.S. Drought Monitor; last updated September 6, 2011. Next season's oranges were almost baseball size and next season's grapefruit were softball size. Grove activity included resetting new trees, young tree care, applying herbicides, hedging and topping, brush removal, and fertilizer application.

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