



WEATHER CROP

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

Week ending August 15, 2010

Summer Showers and Mushrooms

Weather Summary: Temperatures in Florida averaged one to two degrees above normal with highs reaching the upper 90s and low 100s. Nighttime temperatures had lows in the upper 60s and low 70s. Scattered rains persisted throughout the reference week. Miami-Dade County had over four inches of rain with Broward, Baker, Franklin, and Orange counties recording over two inches of rain. Twenty-three percent or less of the reported soil moisture levels was short or very short.

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	0	1	2	1	1
Short	22	22	22	18	20	23
Adequate	60	65	76	73	67	74
Surplus	15	13	1	7	12	2

Field Crops: Rainfall during the latter part of the week relieved stress on crops and forage. Growth regulators were applied to cotton fields in Okaloosa County. Some operations in the Panhandle combined corn. White mold in peanut fields in the north continued to be problematic. Hay cutting was delayed due to moisture. Peanut digging took place for green peanuts. Ninety-seven percent of the peanuts had pegged, above the 92% from the previous week, 94% from last year, and the five-year average of 96%. Peanut condition was reported as 3% poor, 12% fair, 67% good, and 18% excellent.

Peanut Progress for Week Ending: August 15, 2010

Stage	2009	5-year average	2010
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Pegged	94	96	97

Vegetables: Producers prepared fields for fall vegetables and laid plastic mulch. In south Florida, avocados and okra were moving through the market.

Livestock and Pastures: In the Panhandle and northern areas, the condition of the pasture was slightly lower than the previous week, but most continued in good condition. Pasture suffered from extended high temperatures and insufficient showers. Armyworms have caused some damage. Some iron clay peas were being planted for fall forage. The cattle condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition. Heat and humidity challenged animal performance. Ranchers were marketing calves and some were culling herds in anticipation of reduced fall hay supplies. In the central areas, the pasture condition was poor to excellent relatively unchanged from the previous week. Forage growth was hampered by drought. The cattle condition was fair to excellent with most in good condition. In the southwestern areas, the range and cattle were in fair to excellent condition with most in good condition. Statewide, cattle were in poor to excellent condition 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.....	0	0	0	0
Poor.....	10	10	10	10
Fair.....	15	10	15	10
Good.....	60	60	55	65
Excellent.....	15	20	20	15

Citrus: Highs this week were in the lower to mid 90s, with early morning lows in the low to mid 70s. Avalon received the most precipitation with 2.42 inches. Twelve of the twenty-five stations reported less than an inch of rain. Umatilla received the least, with 0.11 inches of precipitation recorded. The drought condition worsened to moderate in Indian River County and the surrounding counties remained in a mild drought condition. Growing conditions continued to be good across the remainder of the citrus region. Cultural practices continued, including limited fertilizations, hedging, irrigation, and the resetting of young trees. Some summer sprays were applied as rainfall permitted. Growers continued using both aerial and ground spraying for citrus psyllid control.

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