



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT**



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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Week Ending: September 16, 2012

Harvesting Hay and Field Crops

Weather Summary: Rainfall across Florida was almost widespread. The north to mid-region was the driest based on data from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Okahumpka received only 0.01 of an inch of rain. The southern region received the most rainfall with a minimum of 1.05 inches at Clewiston to a maximum of 4.49 inches at Homestead. The State remained drought-free. Lake Okeechobee was over 14 feet high and rising. Normal temperatures to two degrees below were reported at major cities. Minimum temperatures ranged from 59 degrees in Monticello to 74 degrees in Fort Lauderdale, while the maximum temperatures ranged from 85 degrees in Indian River to 93 degrees in Immokalee.

U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: September 11, 2012



Intensity:



Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	4	0
Short	4	26	3
Adequate	67	62	71
Surplus	29	8	26

Field Crops: Due to drier weather, hay cutting had resumed in most counties. Union County producers were still unable to cut hay in some wetter areas. In some areas, peanut inverters were turning up peanuts. So far, the peanut crop appeared to be better than average in Santa Rosa and Escambia counties. There were some reports of soybeans experiencing pressure from deer and rust in Washington County. In Jackson County, cotton harvesting will begin soon.

Fruits & Vegetables: In the southern counties, vegetable growers continued to prepare land, plant and spray as necessary. Sugarcane planting had also begun after some delays due to muddy fields caused by the passing of Tropical Storm Isaac.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	14	9	18

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the condition of pasture was mostly good, with some pasture flooded. The quality of summer pasture began to decline seasonally. The cattle condition was mostly good. In the **Panhandle**, the pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most good to excellent. Pastures in some locations were poor due to drought. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent, with most in good condition. In Washington County, the cattle condition was good with an abundance of grass. In the **northern** area, the pasture condition was fair to excellent, with most in good condition. Cattle were in fair to excellent condition with most in good condition. In the **central** area, the condition of pasture ranged from poor to excellent, with most in good condition. The cattle were in fair to excellent condition, with most in good condition. In the **southwest** area, the pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Some pastures were very poor due to flooding. Most cattle were in good condition.

Citrus: Daily high temperatures were in the upper 80s to low 90s across the citrus region. All of the FAWN stations in the citrus growing region recorded some precipitation this week, with Palmdale receiving the most at 4.48 inches. Six stations received more than two inches, and another four received more than an inch. Ocklawaha recorded the least with 0.01 of an inch recorded. The citrus region remains entirely drought free, as per the U.S. Drought Monitor; last updated September 11, 2012. Application of fall miticide, young tree care, irrigation, and grove maintenance are the primary grove activities.

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	3	3
Fair.....	13	16	12	15
Good.....	65	60	70	70
Excellent.....	20	22	14	11

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

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