



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



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013 · (855) 271-9801 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

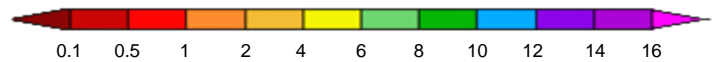
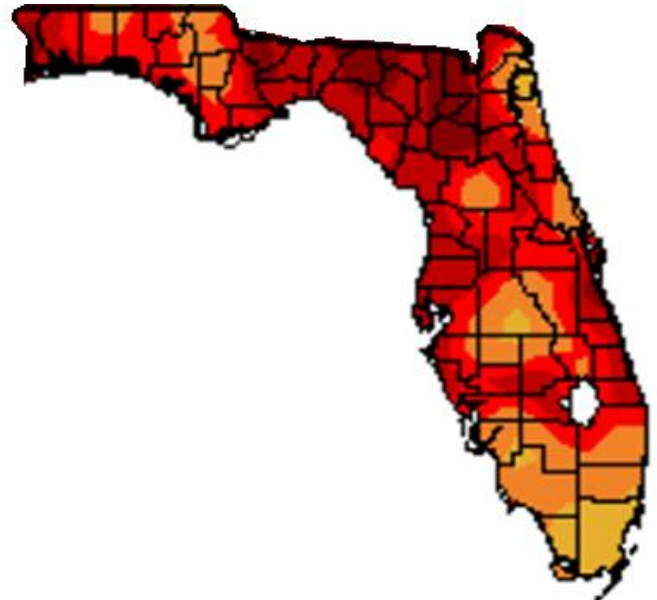
Released: September 28, 2015 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: September 27, 2015

Dryer Week for Florida

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from no rainfall in Alachua (Alachua County) to 5.34 inches at Belle Glade (Palm Beach County). Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, Florida was 73 percent drought free the week of September 22-28, 2015. Temperatures ranged from 59 degrees for night time lows to 93 degrees for daytime highs. The daytime high temperatures ranged from 86 degrees in Defuniak Springs (Walton County) to 93 degrees in Lake Alfred (Polk County), Sebring (Highlands County), Frostproof (Polk County), and Palmdale (Glades County). The lowest temperature in the State was 59 degrees in Monticello (Jefferson County).

Precipitation (in)–Florida: Sept. 21-27, 2015

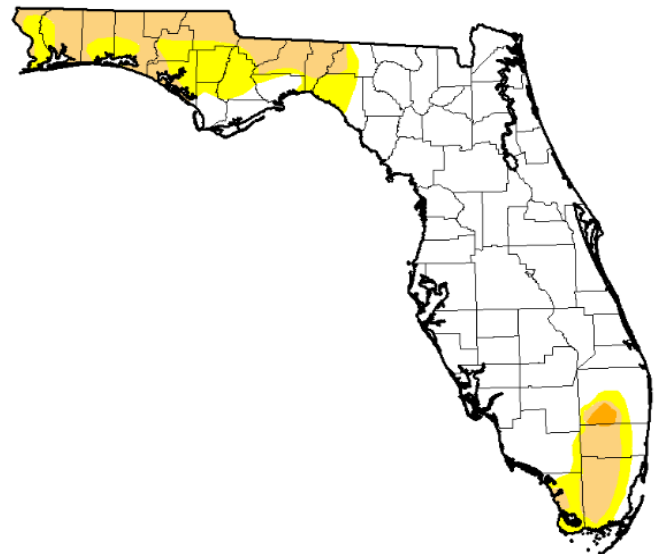


Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	1	1
Short	10	9	7
Adequate	68	64	66
Surplus	22	26	26

U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: Sept. 22, 2015



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Field Crops: There was an average of 6.3 days suitable for field work this past week, up from the previous week. Peanut harvesting continued this past week with completion at 47 percent. Rainfall this past week slowed harvest in Jefferson County but improved conditions for planting winter grazing. Cotton was five percent harvested in Walton County. Flagler and Putnam county farmers are short on hay due to missing one to two cuttings because of wet conditions. Rain has delayed corn harvesting in Flagler and Putnam counties.

Peanut Progress

	Current week	Previous year	5-year average
Harvested	(percent) 47	(percent) 18	(percent) 29
Condition	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Poor.....	1	3	2
Poor.....	5	6	6
Fair.....	23	24	31
Good.....	62	61	52
Excellent.....	9	6	9

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Current week	Previous week	Current week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	0	0	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	3	4
Fair.....	13	14	26	24
Good.....	66	65	52	52
Excellent.....	20	20	18	19

Fruit and Vegetables: Cabbage and leafy greens were being planted in Flagler and Putnam counties this past week. Drier weather in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties allowed vegetable growers to get back on schedule with planting and land preparation. Water levels decreased in ditches and wetlands. A wide range of vegetables were planted including: sweet corn, beans, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, squash, eggplant, herbs and a large selection of specialty items. In western Palm Beach County planting was behind schedule due to rain and wet field conditions. Water was draining nicely and crops were planted including sweet corn, beans, leafy greens, and peppers. Crops being planted in Miami-Dade County were okra, boniato, malanga, and bitter melon. Miami-Dade County farmers were harvesting okra, boniato, malanga, bitter melon, mango, avocado, and other tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures: Pastures in Flagler and Putnam counties were showing signs of nutrient loss due to standing water. Pastures in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties were in good condition. In St. Lucie County, stock trailers with calves in them were headed to the Okeechobee Stock Market this past week. Statewide, the cattle and pasture condition was mostly good.

Citrus: Temperatures were seasonably warm, reaching the upper 80s on most days and into the lower 90s on some days in all citrus producing counties. Rainfall was very scattered across the citrus producing region. Seven of seventeen monitored stations had two inches or more of rainfall, and seven stations had less than an inch. The most recorded rainfall was in Sebring (Highlands County) at 4.18 inches; the least was in Arcadia (Desoto County) at 0.23 inches. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated September 22, 2015, the complete citrus producing region is drought free.

Canals and ditches are at normal levels in most citrus producing areas. Trees and fruit look good in well cared for groves. Early oranges are as large as baseball size, while grapefruit are running as large as softball size. Fallglo tangerines and colored grapefruit have begun to break color in most areas. Growers are mowing in preparation for early tangerine and grapefruit harvesting. Grove activity including caretakers spraying and treating trees for greening, fertilizing, mowing and irrigating.

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, send e-mail message to listserv@newsbox.usda.gov and in the body, type "subscribe to Florida crop weather." The drought monitor index used in this report originates from the U.S. Drought Monitor website. Visit <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu> maintained by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Visit <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information Technologies.