June 4, 2018   *Media Contact: Mark Hudson*

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, June 3, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from 0.1 inches in Garden Key (Monroe County) to 8.6 inches in Jacksonville (Duval County). The average mean temperature ranged from 75.7°F in Naples (Collier County) to 82.1°F in Punta Gorda (Charlotte County).

Citrus

Weather continued to be positive for the citrus growing region. Daily high temperatures were in the mid 80s to low 90s, while nighttime lows were mostly in the low 70s. Rainfall associated with subtropical storm Alberto resulted in the removal of abnormal dryness from the whole state of Florida. Rainfall totals in citrus producing counties were between one and seven inches. The central and western areas received the most rainfall. In the central area, Lakeland (Polk County) had 6.94 inches of rainfall, and in the western area, Wauchula (Hardee County) had 5.06 inches. According to the May 31, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region remained drought free.

Valencia harvest is relatively over for the season. Growers are concentrating on next year's crop. Fruit is holding well and progressing well on the citrus trees. Oranges are golf-ball size and larger. Grapefruit are about as large as tennis balls. Irrigation has been cut back some because of rainfall on several days. Spraying picked up toward the end of the week. Caretakers and grove owners are putting down herbicides, summer oils, and fertilizers. They are taking care of young trees, cleaning ditches, and performing general grove maintenance.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	May 20, 2018	May 27, 2018	Jun 3, 2018	Jun 4, 2017
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges......	370	87	45	284
Total	**370**	**87**	**45**	**284**

www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

Fruits and Vegetables

With the spring vegetable season wrapping up, many vegetable growers were cleaning up and fallowing fields or planting cover crops in prepartion for the fall planting season. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, malanga, and okra. Crops harvested included bitter melon, boniato, malanga, mango, sweet corn, and watermelons.

Livestock and Pastures

Due to an abundance of rain in northern counties, pastures were overly saturated, making conditions difficult for cattle. In southern counties, pasture conditions improved dramatically with the onset of the rainy season. Cattle condition remained unchanged, despite changes in weather and pasture conditions.

Field Crops

Daily rains in the Panhandle made fields too muddy for fieldwork, thus delaying row crop planting. The prolonged wet conditions will likely result in replanting of some row crop acres. Over half of the potato harvest is complete in Flagler and Putnam counties. Sugarcane is doing well with the hot, wet conditions.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 6/3/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short..........	0	0	4
Short..................	2	3	26
Adequate...........	74	75	63
Surplus	24	22	7

Crop Progress for Week Ending 6/3/18

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	75	61	82	NA
Cotton - Squaring	0	NA	5	NA
Peanuts - Planted..........	88	80	92	86

Condition for Week Ending 6/3/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle………………	1	6	21	60	12
Cotton	1	7	41	50	1
Pasture & range….	1	9	22	58	10
Peanuts……………	1	2	9	84	4

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 28, 2018 to June 03, 2018
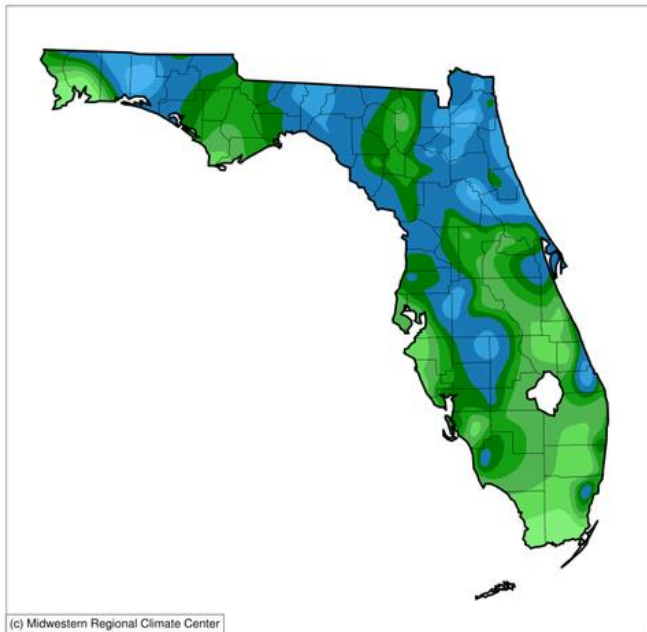
(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center

0.01 0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4 5 6 8
mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida

Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry   D3 Extreme Drought

D1 Moderate Drought   D4 Exceptional Drought

D2 Severe Drought
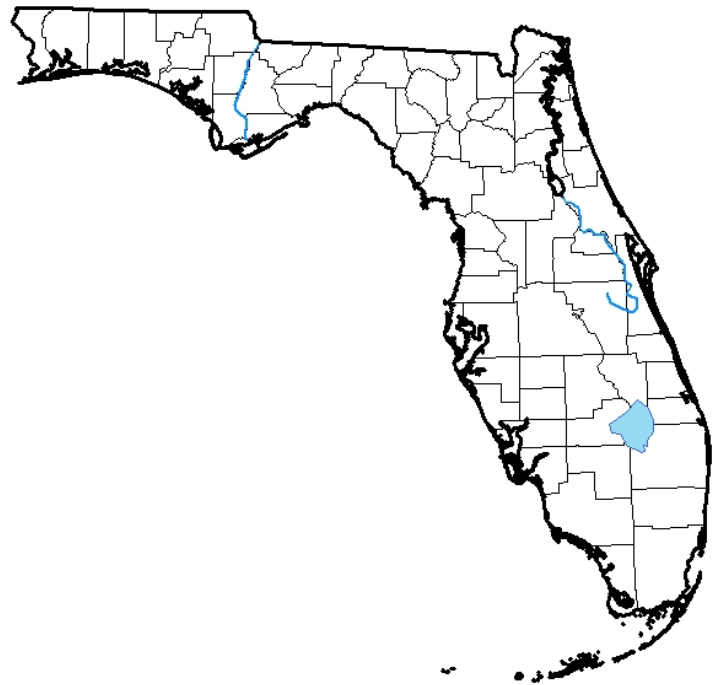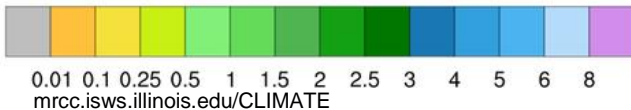
May 29, 2018 (Released Thursday, May 31, 2018)
http://droughtmonitor.unl