



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**Florida Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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August 13, 2018

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, August 12, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from 0.1 inches of rain in multiple locations to 7.0 inches in Miami (Miami-Dade County). The average mean temperature ranged from 79.6°F in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County) to 85.5°F in Marathon (Monroe County) and Dry Tortugas (Monroe County).

Citrus

Warm afternoons were notable all week in the citrus growing region. Average maximum temperatures ranged from 90°F in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County) to 93°F in Moore Haven (Glades County). Rainfall was much spottier this week with only a couple counties receiving more than two inches of rain. The heaviest rainfall was in Lake Placid (Highlands County) at 2.68 inches. According to the August 9, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region remained drought free.

Favorable conditions persisted across the citrus growing region all week. Caretakers were able to maintain normal spray schedules and conduct general grove maintenance. Fieldworkers reported oranges to be slightly larger than golf balls and grapefruit to be as large as baseballs. Irrigation was run on most days in the majority of counties. Some interior and western area counties that had excess rain recently were turning on irrigation less often. Reports on the health of the trees and progress of the fruit have been positive in well-cared-for groves.

Fruits and Vegetables

Vegetable growers across many southern counties began preparing land and laying plastic for the fall growing season. Some produces had to drain standing rainwater in their fields before they could begin land preparations. Tomato planting was underway in Collier and Manatee counties. Crops harvested included avocado, bitter melon, boniato, malanga, mango, and okra.

Livestock and Pastures

Afternoon thunderstorms caused low-lying areas in pastures to flood in many southern counties; however, pasture condition overall was mostly good in those counties. Cattle condition remained generally good across the state.

Field Crops

When breaks in the rain allowed, hay was cut in Walton, Suwannee, and Levy counties. Rain events hampered or delayed hay cutting in Columbia, Dixie, Lafayette and Volusia counties. Concerns grew over lower hay quality this year. Corn harvesting was underway in Suwannee County. Some cotton and peanut fields dried out from the previous week's heavy rains while low-lying areas in some fields stayed flooded. Rice harvest began in Palm Beach County. Sugarcane continued to thrive.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 8/12/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	3	1
Short.....	7	8	8
Adequate.....	76	73	71
Surplus.....	16	16	20

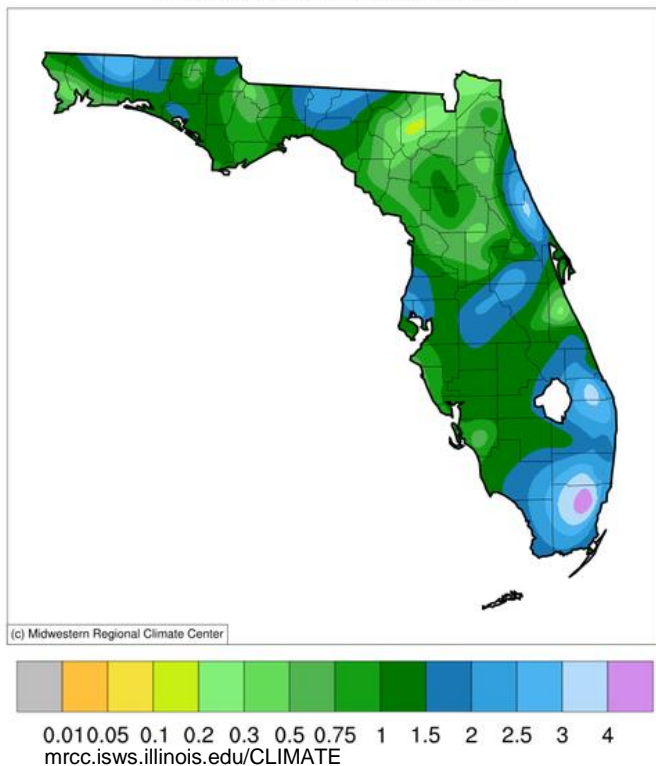
Crop Progress for Week Ending 8/12/18

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Squaring.....	96	92	97	NA
Cotton - Setting Bolls.....	89	83	87	NA
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	2	NA	1	NA
Peanuts - Pegging.....	93	89	97	98

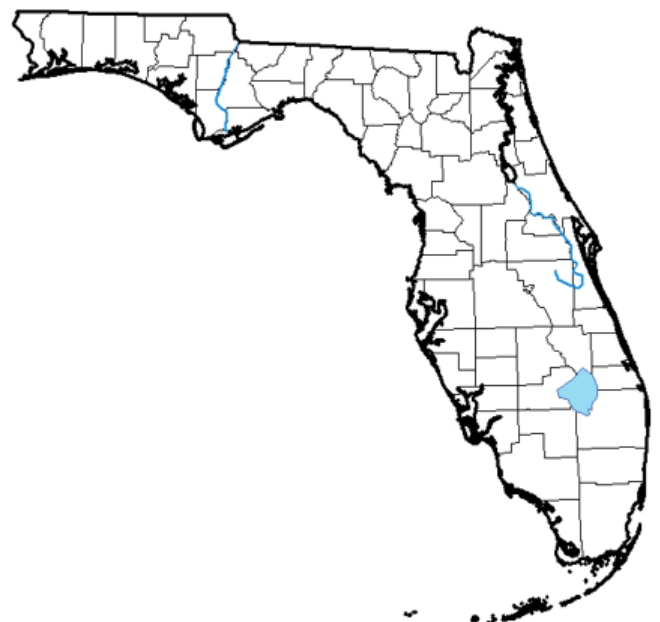
Condition for Week Ending 8/12/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	3	17	59	21
Cotton	1	1	24	51	23
Pasture & range....	0	4	20	55	21
Peanuts.....	1	2	19	51	27

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 06, 2018 to August 12, 2018



U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

August 7, 2018 (Released Thursday, August 9, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>