



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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September 10, 2018

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### General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 9, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from 0.2 inches in multiple locations to 12.6 inches in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa County). The average mean temperature ranged from 77.7°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 84.7°F in Palm Coast (Flagler County).

### Citrus

Daily temperatures were typically warm in the citrus growing region, with afternoons in the mid 80s to low 90s all week. Winter Haven (Polk County) had one day reaching 94°F. Clermont (Lake County) reached 93°F. Tropical Storm Gordon moved parallel to the west coast of Florida, dumping moderate rainfall and causing intermittent showers. Isolated areas had more than two inches of rainfall, but most totals were less. According to the September 6, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region remained drought free.

Grove owners and operators sprayed regularly to combat greening. Caretakers put down fall miticide sprays for citrus rust mite and spider mite control. Irrigation ran two to three times a week in most areas. Early oranges began to show slight color break in the southern citrus area. Fieldworkers reported early oranges were about tennis ball size, and grapefruit were as large as baseballs.

### Fruits and Vegetables

Due to standing water from Tropical Storm Gordon, growers ran pumps to remove excess water from vegetable fields. In several southern counties, producers continued to prepare fields for fall planting and started planting a wide range of vegetables. Producers planted snap beans in Lafayette County. Crops harvested included avocado, bitter melon, boniato, malanga, and okra. Watercress and other water crops neared harvest in St. Lucie County.

### Livestock and Pastures

Regular rains slowed grass growth in Okeechobee County. Pastures were low, but lush, in many southern counties. Farmers in Volusia County cut grass as a means of weed control because daily rains prevented them from spraying pesticides. Cattle condition remained mostly good.

### Field Crops

Frequent showers interrupted agronomic crop harvests across the state, especially hay and peanuts. Flooding in low-lying areas was widespread. In Columbia County, hay quality was concerning. Producers dug peanuts in Suwannee, Columbia, Levy, and Lafayette counties when soil moistures allowed. The corn harvest concluded in Jackson County. An initial post-storm inspection of Okaloosa County revealed that crops fared pretty well overall; however, some cotton was blown down or twisted. Sugarcane was growing nicely in St. Lucie County. In Glades and Hendry counties, producers planted sugarcane.

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 9/9/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	0	0	NA
Short.....	2	2	NA
Adequate.....	72	76	NA
Surplus.....	26	22	NA

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 9/9/18

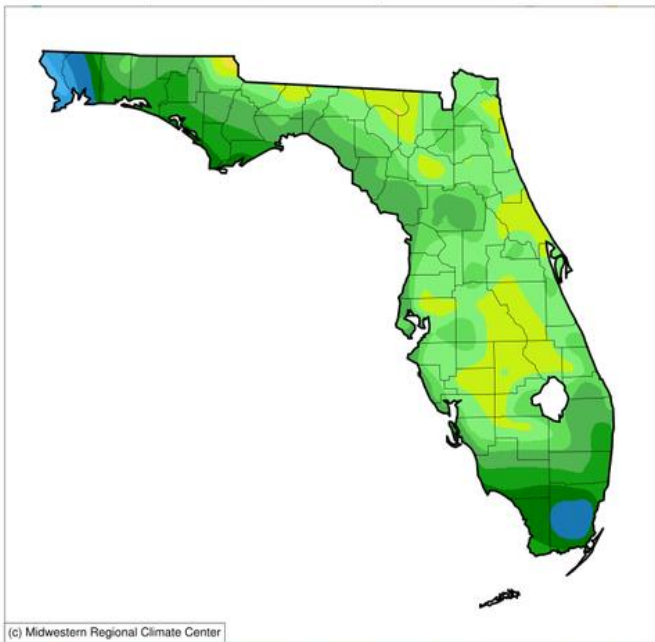
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	36	23	51	NA
Cotton - Harvested.....	0	NA	0	NA
Peanuts - Dug.....	13	6	NA	NA
Peanuts - Harvested.....	5	4	12	14

### Condition for Week Ending 9/9/18

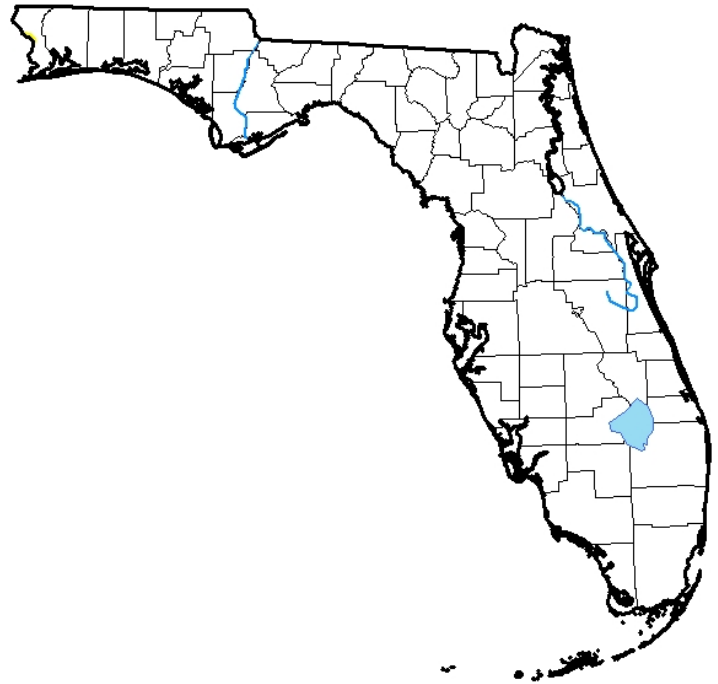
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	2	12	62	24
Cotton.....	0	1	28	45	26
Pasture & range....	0	4	14	55	27
Peanuts.....	1	1	21	54	23

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
September 03, 2018 to September 09, 2018



0.01 0.1 0.5 1 1.5 2 3 4 5 7.5 10 12.5 15  
mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE



#### Intensity:

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

September 4, 2018 (Released Thursday, September 6, 2018)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>