



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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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 30, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 5.9 inches in Mary Esther (Okaloosa County). The average mean temperature ranged from 78.9°F in Milton (Santa Rosa County) to 87.0°F in Key West (Monroe County) and North Miami Beach (Miami-Dade County).

Citrus

Daily temperatures were above average in the citrus growing region, with afternoons reaching the low to mid 90s all week. Rainfall was scattered and intermittent, with most stations recording less than an inch of rainfall. A few isolated areas recorded over two inches for the week. Bradenton (Manatee County) had 2.57 inches of rainfall, and Wauchula (Hardee County) had 2.16 inches. According to the September 27, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus region remained drought free.

Caretakers were spraying, pulling vines, and taking care of resets. Irrigation was run on a regular basis. Generally, groves that were being well maintained looked good, with good fruit sets and healthy trees. Owners were testing maturity levels for harvest of early oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines. Packinghouses were setting up, getting ready to run early variety fruit.

Fruits and Vegetables

Vegetable field preparations for winter plantings continued in several counties. Producers planted a wide variety of vegetable crops; many of which needed regular irrigation because of hot, dry weather. Crops harvested included avocado, bitter melon, boniato, malanga, and okra.

Livestock and Pastures

Ranchers in several counties planted winter forages. Limited precipitation in central Florida resulted in a decline in overall pasture and range condition. Cattle condition remained mostly good.

Field Crops

Heavy showers delayed fieldwork in the westernmost portion of the Panhandle. Drier conditions in Levy County allowed the harvest of hay and peanuts to begin wrapping up in some areas while other areas were flooded from localized, heavy rain. Sugarcane continued to look very good. The crop was nearing harvest in St. Lucie County.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 9/30/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	3	NA
Short.....	20	19	NA
Adequate.....	58	59	NA
Surplus.....	12	19	NA

Crop Progress for Week Ending 9/30/18

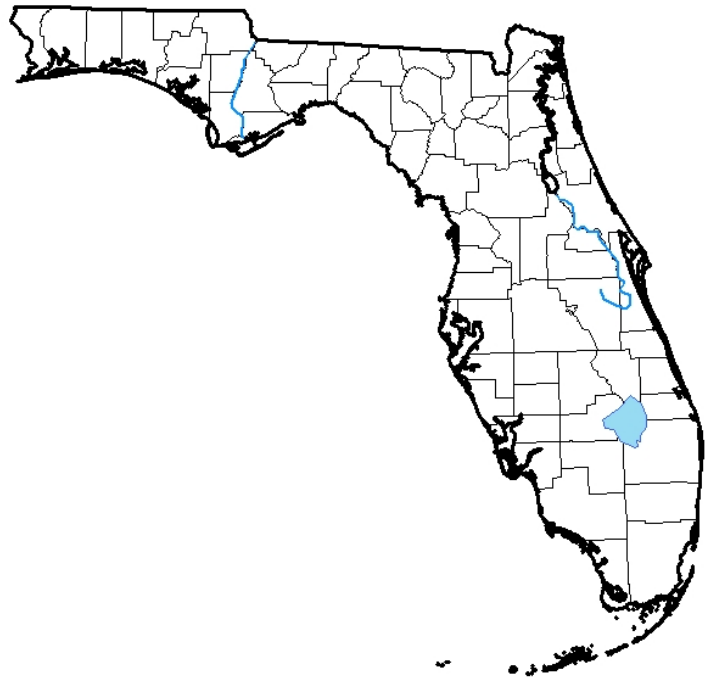
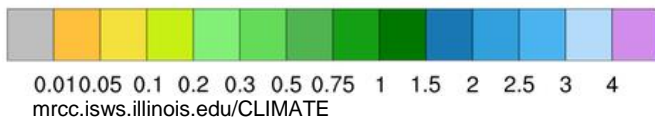
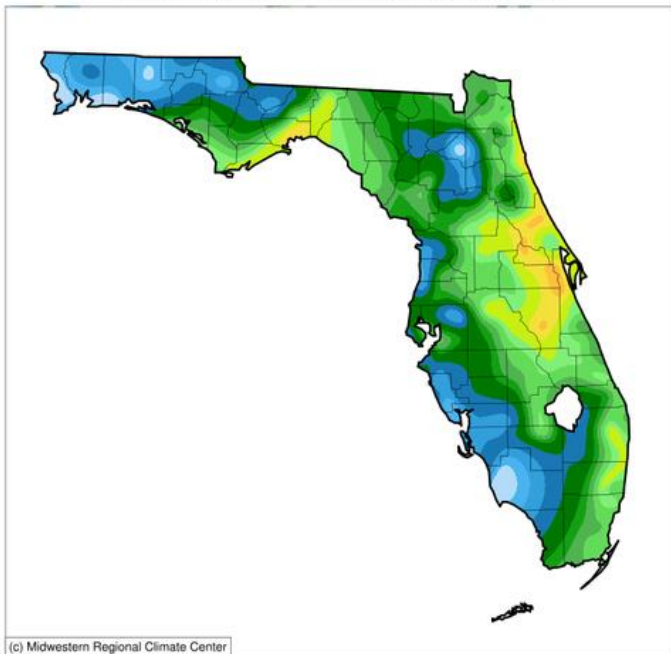
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	68	59	68	NA
Cotton - Harvested.....	2	1	4	NA
Peanuts - Dug.....	58	44	57	NA
Peanuts - Harvested.....	41	29	40	40

Condition for Week Ending 9/30/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	4	17	56	23
Cotton.....	1	8	31	39	21
Pasture & range....	1	6	30	45	18
Peanuts.....	0	2	12	70	16

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 24, 2018 to September 30, 2018



Intensity:

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

September 25, 2018 (Released Thursday, September 27, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>