



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
Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 2290 Lucien Way Suite 300 · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013
www.nass.usda.gov

October 22, 2018

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, October 21, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 3.22 inches in Federal Point (Putnam County). The average mean temperature ranged from 72.6°F in Milton (Santa Rosa County) to 84.5°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Daily maximum temperatures were average or above in the citrus growing region. Highs were in the mid 80s to low 90s on all days. Mostly dry weather prevailed across the citrus belt this past week. Only a few weather stations recorded more than a tenth of an inch of rainfall. The large majority of stations recorded traces of rain to no rain. According to the October 18, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the drought analysis was unchanged. Abnormally dry conditions covered much of the Indian River District and eastern portions of its adjacent counties.

Caretakers sprayed for canker and greening, performed limited mowing before harvest, and put out fertilizer. Irrigation ran on a regular basis across the citrus belt. Packinghouses opened and ran early season varieties. Types included Fallglo and Early Pride tangerines, Navel oranges and other early oranges, and red grapefruit. Only one or two processing plants opened and accepted packinghouse eliminations.

Fruits and Vegetables

Minimal rain led to irrigation being run in many counties. High temperatures in Palm Beach County negatively impacted the germination of cool-loving leafy greens. Crops planted included beans, bitter melon, boniato, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, green beans, leafy greens, malanga, okra, tomatoes, and squash. Crops harvested included avocado, bitter melon, boniato, cucumbers, eggplant, herbs, malanga, okra, squash, and tomatoes.

Livestock and Pastures

The last of the hay crop was harvested in several counties. Fields were being prepared for winter cover crops. Abnormally dry conditions in Brevard and Indian River counties led to producers bringing in water for cattle. In Columbia County, pasture grass was hardening off, and cattle condition was following the nutrient decline. Some producers had to put out supplements or supply hay. Overall, cattle condition remained mostly good.

Field Crops

After a week of additional inspection in the Panhandle of cotton crop damage from Hurricane Michael, expected losses remained between 10-90%, depending on the county and the crop's developmental stage. Cotton that was defoliated at the time of the hurricane sustained greater damage than cotton that was not yet defoliated. Fairly dry conditions benefited field crop harvesting as a whole. Sugarcane harvest continued in Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach counties.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/21/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	6	4	NA
Short.....	28	17	NA
Adequate.....	55	62	NA
Surplus.....	11	17	NA

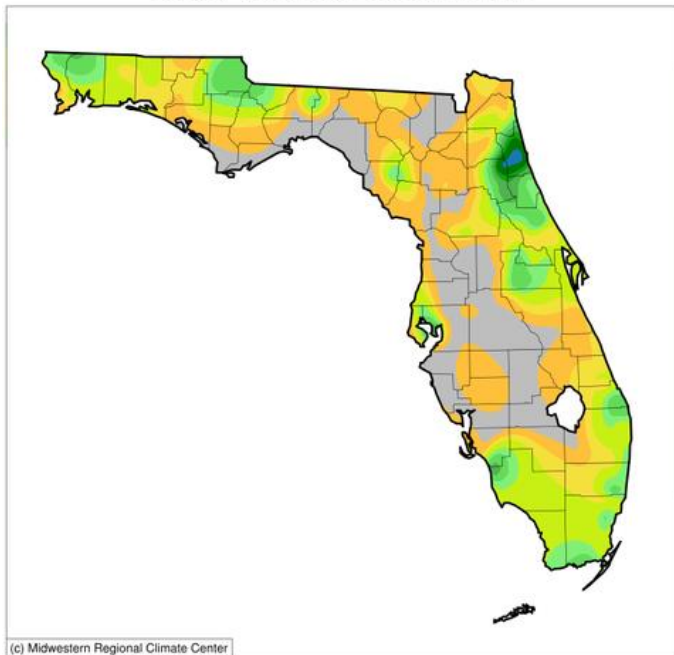
Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/21/18

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	95	93	88	NA
Cotton - Harvested.....	10	5	21	NA
Peanuts - Dug.....	89	84	91	NA
Peanuts - Harvested.....	76	69	82	80

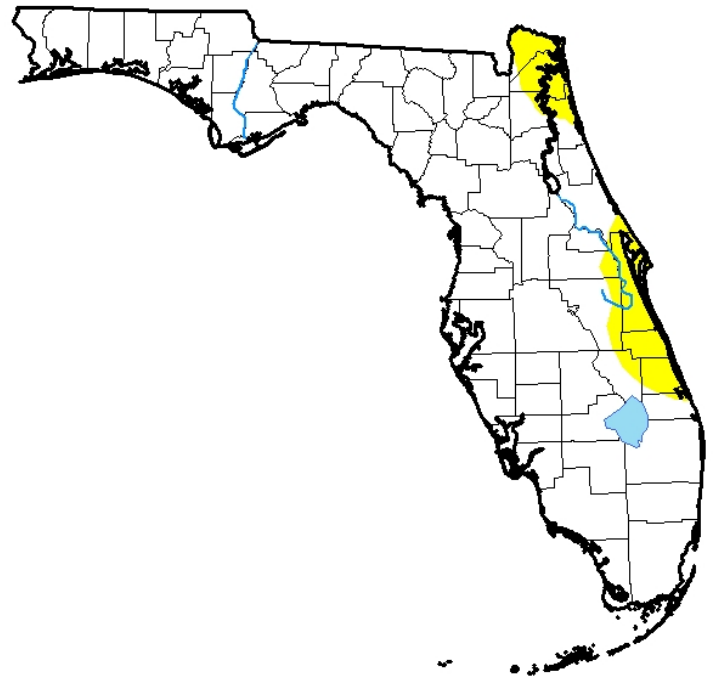
Condition for Week Ending 10/21/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	2	17	66	15
Cotton	28	5	32	23	12
Pasture & range	1	6	31	51	11

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 15, 2018 to October 21, 2018



U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

October 16, 2018 (Released Thursday, October 18, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>