



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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December 10, 2018

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, December 9, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 7.21 inches in Tallahassee (Leon County). The average mean temperature ranged from 50.1°F in Crestview (Okaloosa County) to 77.4°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were about average last week in the citrus growing region with highs in the low to mid 70s in most places. Sebring (Highlands County) had the warmest temperature at 79°F. Most of the citrus belt received some rainfall with Plant City (Hillsborough County) getting the largest amount at 2.16 inches. According to the December 6, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, the Indian River District was completely under moderate drought conditions. With the exception of Charlotte and Lee counties, the entire southern area was showing abnormally dry conditions or moderate drought. The central area was experiencing abnormally dry conditions in portions of all counties with further deterioration into moderate drought in parts of Highlands County. Some counties in the northern area remained in abnormally dry conditions while the western area was still drought free.

Fieldworkers reported spraying and mowing in several groves. Irrigation ran in all areas with observations of ditches being low.

Volume of fruit harvested continued to run behind last season on all varieties. Early oranges and grapefruit were picked for fresh and processed use while tangerines were picked for the fresh market. Processing plants were open and running packinghouse eliminations and field-run fruit.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Nov 25, 2018 (Preliminary)	Dec 2, 2018 (Preliminary)	Dec 9, 2018 (Preliminary)	Dec 10, 2017
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	46	852	*	1,941
Navel oranges	32	56	*	72
White grapefruit..	7	24	*	44
Red grapefruit	82	117	*	189
Tangerines and Tangelos	20	31	*	56
Total	187	1,080	*	2,302

* not available at the time of publication
www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

Fruits and Vegetables

Pest pressure was noted in Manatee and Palm Beach counties. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, green beans, herbs, malanga, peppers, pole beans, squash, tomatoes and watermelon. Crops harvested included avocado, bitter melon, boniato, eggplant, green beans, herbs, malanga, onions, peppers, pole beans, squash, sweet corn, and tomatoes.

Livestock and Pastures

Rain delayed planting of winter grazing in the Panhandle. Cool season forages were off to a good start in Levy County. Breeding season began in Okeechobee County. Overall, pasture condition improved slightly, and cattle condition remained mostly good.

Field Crops

Another week of rain in the Panhandle kept the cotton harvest behind schedule. The soybean harvest was delayed as well. In Okaloosa County, cotton was rotting in the field. Sugarcane planting and harvesting continued on schedule.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 12/9/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	4	5	NA
Short.....	24	29	NA
Adequate.....	59	49	NA
Surplus.....	13	17	NA

Crop Progress for Week Ending 12/9/18

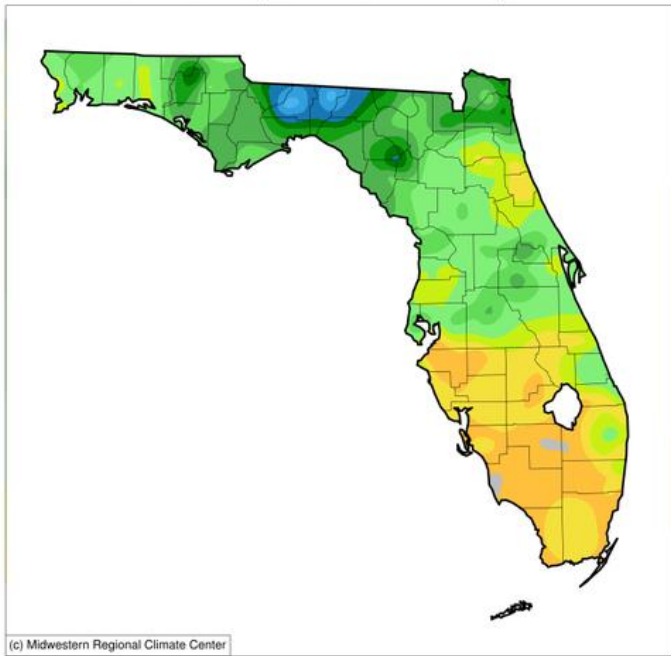
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Harvested.....	77	54	94	NA

Condition for Week Ending 12/9/18

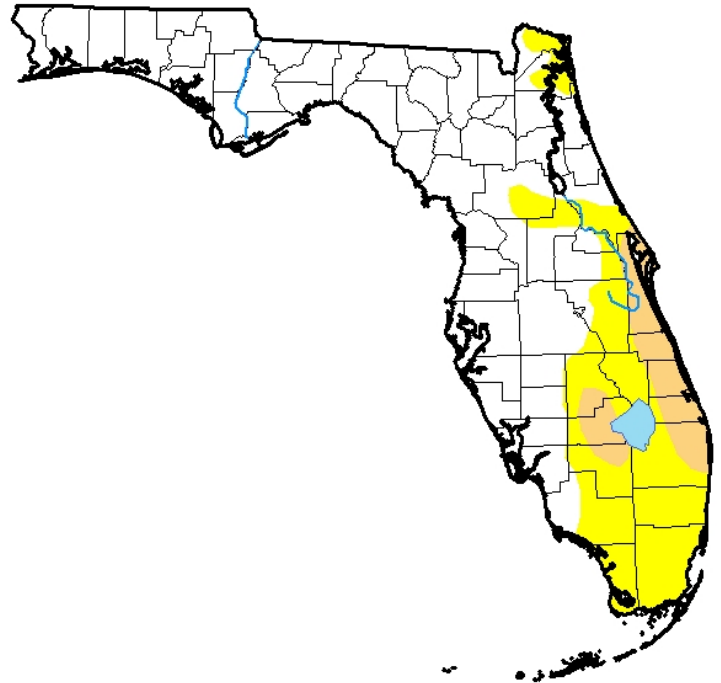
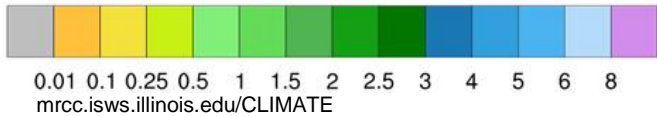
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	2	20	65	13
Pasture & range	2	13	35	44	6

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

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



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



Intensity:

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

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