



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 9, 2019

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 8, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 5.84 inches in Palm Coast (Flagler County). The average mean temperature ranged from 80.2°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 87.6°F in Punta Gorda (Charlotte County).

Citrus

Maximum temperatures across the citrus growing region ranged from the mid 80s to the mid 90s. The highlight of the week was Hurricane Dorian that stalled Sunday over the Bahamas as a category 4 and 5 storm. Throughout Monday and Tuesday, Hurricane Dorian weakened to a category 2 storm and proceeded parallel to the state, but remained 70-100 miles east of the shoreline. Rain bands from Dorian dropped 1-3 inches of rain along Florida's eastern citrus growing area. Sustained winds were limited to 30-35 mph, with gusts as high as 50 mph. Early reports from growers and fieldworkers noted that the citrus crop sustained little to no damage. According to the Florida Citrus Mutual Triangle, dated September 6, 2019, "Some grapefruit was blown off trees on the East Coast but it could have been MUCH, MUCH worse." Rainfall over the past several weeks was average or above for this time of the year. According to the September 5, 2019, U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus growing region was drought free.

Due to Hurricane Dorian, grove activities halted for the first half of the week until normal weather conditions returned. Grove activities included mowing, applying herbicide under the trees, spraying nutritionals and insecticides, fertilizing, irrigating, and general grove maintenance.

Caretakers prepared for harvest of early variety fruit. Both oranges and grapefruit appeared to have good sizes and average fruit sets. No significant movement of early oranges or tangerines has been reported at this time.

Fruits and Vegetables

A variety of fruits and vegetables continued to be planted while others were harvested and brought to market this week. Uncertainty surrounding Hurricane Dorian's path and timing led to many vegetable growers prioritizing hurricane preparations over tending to their crops for the first half of the week.

Livestock and Pastures

Forage plantings were ongoing in DeSoto County. Water continued receding from low lying areas in many pastures in the southern peninsula. Cattle herds in Brevard and Indian River counties continued to be thinned out. Cattle condition remained mostly good throughout the state.

Field Crops

Hurricane Dorian caused no damage to row crops. Due to severe flooding in Dixie County during the week ending September 1, 2019, much of the county's peanut crop later rotted in the field. Hay cutting was underway in Levy County, but in several other counties, conditions were too wet for cutting hay. Hurricane Dorian caused minor disturbances to the sugarcane and rice crops. Some sugarcane acreage was blown over, but yields were not expected to be impacted.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/08/19

Topsoil	This week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	0	0
Short.....	13	14
Adequate.....	77	59
Surplus.....	10	27

Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/08/19

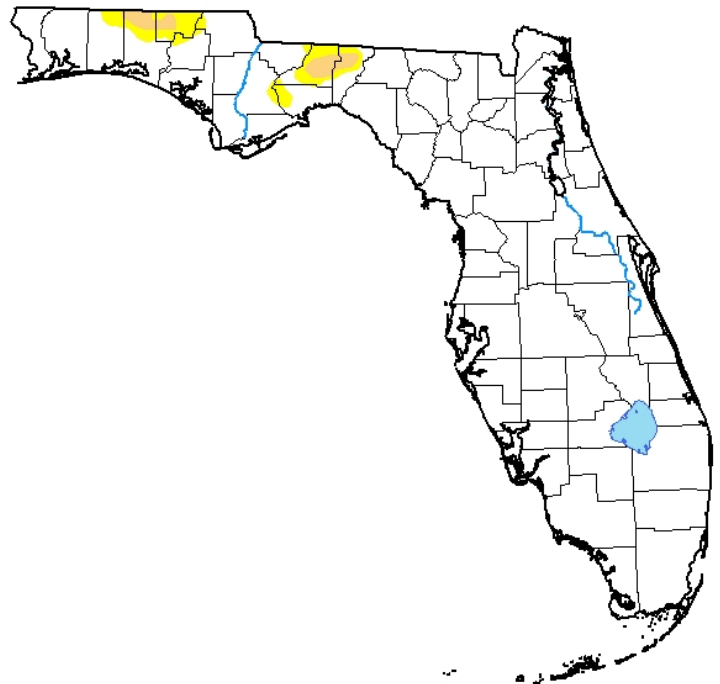
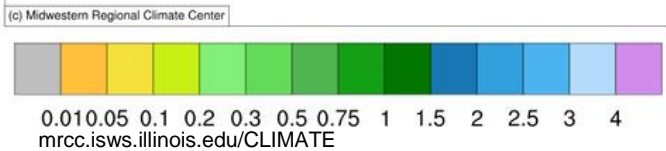
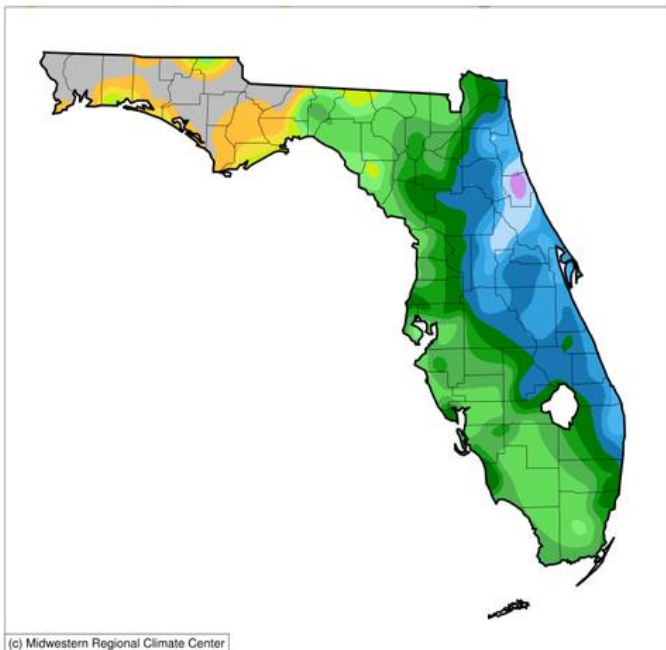
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	38	24	34	NA
Cotton - Harvested.....	0	NA	0	NA
Peanuts - Dug.....	15	3	12	NA
Peanuts - Harvested.....	3	2	5	9

Condition for Week Ending 09/08/19

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	2	18	59	21
Cotton.....	0	9	30	61	0
Pasture & range	1	6	23	49	21
Peanut.....	3	3	24	62	8

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 02, 2019 to September 08, 2019



Intensity:

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

September 3, 2019 (Released Thursday, September 5, 2019)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>