



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 · 851 Trafalgar Court Suite 310 E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013 · (855) 271-9801 FAX
www.nass.usda.gov

This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

September 21, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 20, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain in multiple locations to 22.3 inches in Pensacola 1.9 NE (Escambia County). The average mean temperature ranged from 72.8°F in Whiting Field (Santa Rosa County) to 86.3°F in Key West International Airport (Monroe County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region experienced seasonably warm temperatures, with daily highs in the high 80s and an occasional temperature in the low to mid 90s. The highest maximum temperature reading was in Clermont (Lake County), at 95°F. Hurricane Sally brought rain to the citrus growing regions, but no damage from winds was reported. The greatest rainfall was near Scottsmeer (Brevard County), at 7.7 inches, followed by Vero Beach (Indian River County), at 4.0 inches, and Lakeland (Polk County), at 2.6 inches. According to the September 17, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus growing region remained drought free.

Next season's fruit progressed well. Early oranges were about baseball size, while Valencia oranges were approximately tennis ball size to baseball size. Grapefruit were softball size or larger. Grove activities included mowing, spraying herbicides, spraying nutritionals, fertilizing, removal of dead trees, planting new trees, and general grove maintenance.

Crops

A variety of fruits and vegetables were planted and marketed. As weather permitted, vegetable growers prepared for fall planting in the southern peninsula. Some farmers reported fungal and bacterial disease in greens and small fruit as a result of the wet conditions.

The Panhandle took the brunt of slow-moving Hurricane Sally which brought strong winds and days of heavy rain. Early assessments pointed towards major damage to cotton and peanuts. Many farmers reported flooding and standing water in their fields. Wet field conditions prevented many farmers from digging and drying peanuts. Increased disease pressure from white mold and leaf spot could be an issue due to standing water. Continuously wet conditions pushed back hay harvest in the middle and southern parts of the peninsula as well. Sugarcane planting continued in south Florida with more expected to be planted before harvesting in the next few weeks.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. Wet conditions forced cattle to seek higher ground. Some farms reported that heifers were close to calving.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/20/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	0
Short.....	3	6
Adequate.....	68	57
Surplus.....	28	37

Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/20/20

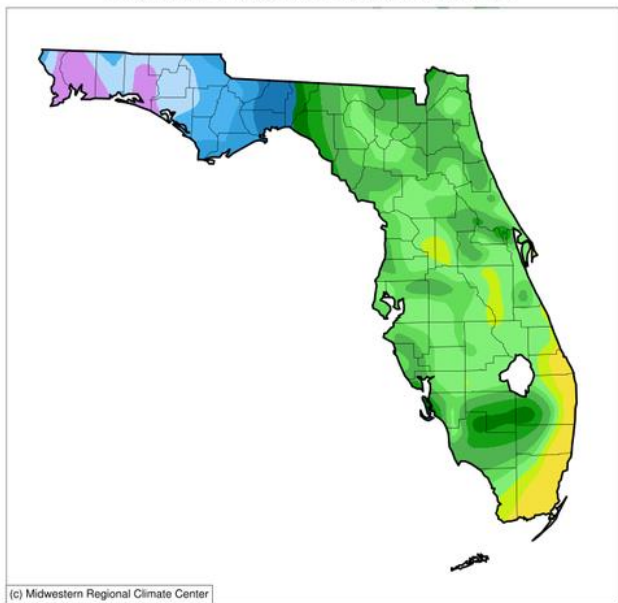
Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	59	33	44	54
Cotton - Harvested.....	1	0	0	1
Peanuts - Dug.....	49	27	35	40
Peanuts - Harvested.....	31	20	23	25

Condition for Week Ending 09/20/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	2	14	65	19
Cotton.....	31	11	48	10	0
Pasture & range	1	3	20	58	18
Peanuts.....	14	2	49	33	2

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

September 14, 2020 to September 20, 2020



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:



September 15, 2020 (Released Thursday, Sep. 17, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>