



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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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 28, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 27, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 8.1 inches in Apalachicola (Franklin County). The average mean temperature ranged from 72.8°F in Chipley (Washington County) to 85.7°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 Mount Plymouth (Lake County), at 93°F. The greatest rainfall was near LaBelle (Hendry County), at 7.4 inches, followed by Sebring (Highlands County), at 5.4 inches. According to the September 24, 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. Field workers reported that crops are looking full with less droppage compared to last season. 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. Vegetable growers prepared for fall planting in the southern peninsula. Many farmers in the Panhandle reported loss of cotton due to the heavy rains and wind brought by Hurricane Sally. More rainfall this week compounded the effects of Hurricane Sally by preventing farmers from going into their fields this week. Boll rot was noted by many farmers in cotton as a result of the hurricane. Peanuts were unable to be dug in the Panhandle, and farmers noted fungal disease and rotting that will affect the quality of the harvest. Hay was cut in the middle part of the state. Sugarcane harvest began this week in the southern part of the peninsula.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. Excess rainfall the last few weeks left pastures with plentiful grass and gave cattle room to roam. Farmers reported early calving has begun in some herds.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/27/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	0	0
Short.....	6	2
Adequate.....	57	77
Surplus.....	37	21

Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/27/20

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening ...	66	44	50	60
Cotton - Harvested.....	6	0	0	3
Peanuts - Dug.....	61	35	42	50
Peanuts - Harvested.....	43	23	31	41

Condition for Week Ending 09/27/20

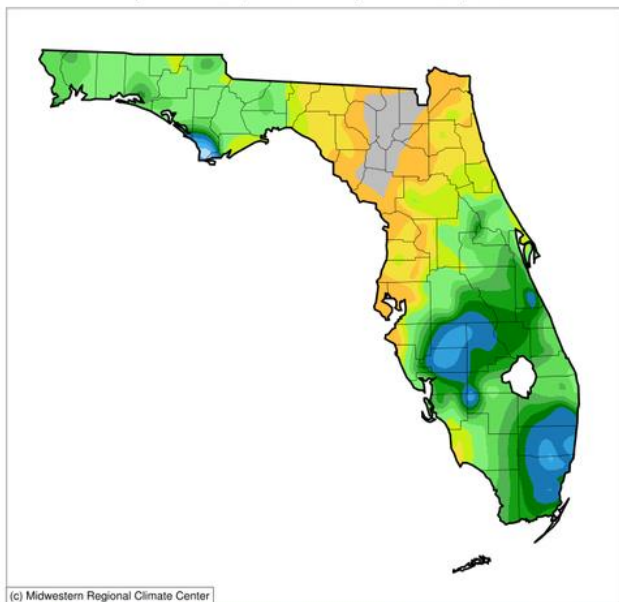
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	2	20	57	21
Cotton.....	32	19	37	12	0
Pasture & range	1	4	21	55	19
Peanuts.....	14	11	26	48	1

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Accumulated Precipitation (in)

September 21, 2020 to September 27, 2020



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



0.01 0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4 5 6 8
mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

Intensity:



September 22, 2020 (Released Thursday, Sep. 24, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>