



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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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://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 19, 2022

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 18, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts to 8.1 inches in Melbourne (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 75.8°F in Chipley (Washington County) to 88.8°F at Naval Air Station Key West (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures were seasonably warm in the citrus growing region last week, with highs in the high-80s to the low-90s. The hottest reading was recorded in Clermont (Lake County), with 92 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall, with some locally heavy totals, during the reporting period; the normal wet-season pattern of afternoon thunderstorms formed by the collision of sea breezes continued unbroken. The most rain fell in Kenansville (Osceola County), receiving 5.86 inches of precipitation, followed by Muse (Glades County) reporting 4.63 inches. According to the September 15, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions persisted broadly, covering all of the citrus producing counties surrounding the Indian River, Lake Okeechobee, and roughly half of the central interior citrus growing counties. The pocket of moderate drought along the Indian River continued to cover citrus acreage in Saint Lucie County but did not otherwise grow larger. The rest of the citrus producing region remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, limited mowing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance, including canal dredging. Irrigation was being run as needed in all areas. Next season’s crop progressed as normal, with oranges about tennis ball to baseball size and grapefruit larger than softball size. Field personnel reported color break on most early fruit varieties.

**Crops**

The central and southern regions of the state received a significant amount of rain while the rest of the state experienced mostly dry weather. Reporters in the northern part of the state noted that the dry weather helped hay and peanut harvest progress, while reporters in the southern part of the state noted the heavy rain disrupted vegetable harvest.

Cotton bolls continued to open across the state, while cotton harvest started and is expected to pick up speed in the next few weeks. Peanut digging gained momentum, especially in the northern part of the state. Reporters noted that rice harvest and sugarcane planting were slowed by the heavy rains.

A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested throughout the state last week including okra, bitter melons, and avocados. Tomato and watermelon planting continued in the west central and southern parts of the state. Farmers continued to prepare for fall strawberry and vegetable production.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle conditions as well as pasture and range conditions remained mostly good to excellent. Some areas of the state were concerned about limited pasture growth heading into the winter months.

**Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/18/22**

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton – Bolls Opening.	30	24	36	45
Cotton – Harvested.....	0	NA	1	0
Peanuts – Dug.....	25	20	35	33
Peanuts – Harvested....	16	9	14	20

(NA) Not Available

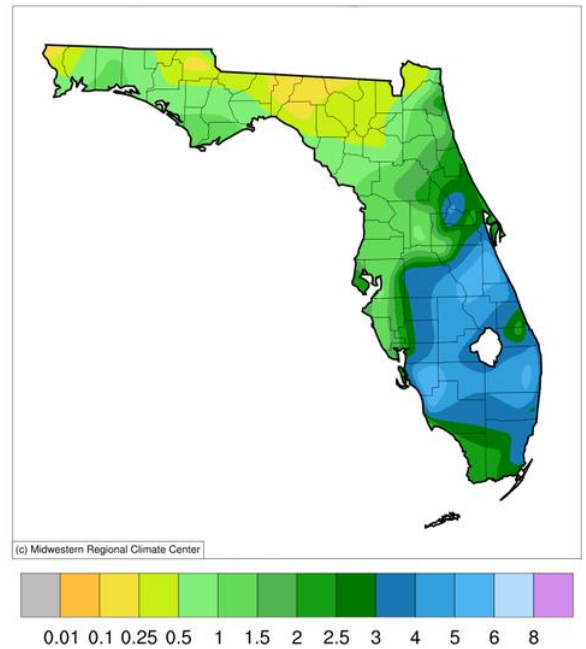
### Conditions for Week Ending 09/18/22

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	3	12	60	24
Cotton.....	2	4	34	59	1
Pasture & range...	1	4	18	48	29
Peanuts.....	2	2	33	62	1

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/18/22

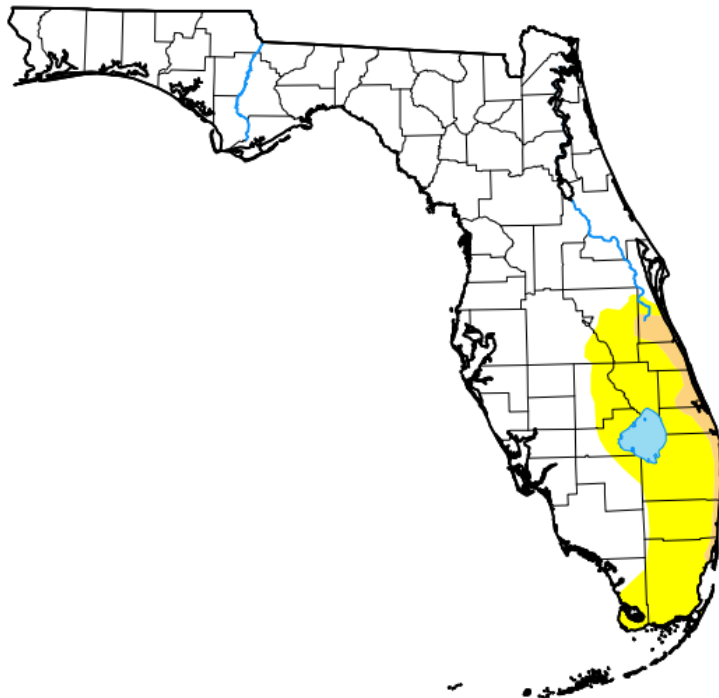
Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	0	1
Short.....	9	9
Adequate.....	80	74
Surplus.....	11	16

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
September 12, 2022 to September 18, 2022



<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



### September 13, 2022

(Released Thursday, Sep. 15, 2022)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	79.50	20.50	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 09-06-2022	79.50	20.50	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 06-14-2022	89.13	10.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-04-2022	76.97	23.03	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-28-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 09-14-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Intensity:**

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)