



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 26, 2022

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 25, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 6.1 inches at Merritt Island (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 77.2°F in Lake City (Columbia County) to 88.9°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 mid to high-90s. The hottest reading was recorded in Plant City (Hillsborough County), with 97 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 Merritt Island (Brevard County), receiving 6.1 inches of precipitation, followed by Orlando (Orange County) reporting 5.4 inches. According to the September 25, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, most of the citrus producing counties were drought free except for a pocket of abnormally dry area around Lake Okeechobee and St Lucie County.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritional applications, fertilizing, applying herbicides, selective mowing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance, including canal dredging. Irrigation was being run as needed in some areas. Next season’s crop is progressing 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 as well as some harvesting of Fallglo tangerines.

**Crops**

The central and southern regions of the state received a significant amount of rain while the rest of the state experienced mostly hot and dry weather. Reporters in the southern part of the state noted the heavy rain disrupted progress in the fields. Reporters across the state reported that operators were busy preparing for Hurricane Ian, which is expected to impact the western part of the state the most.

Cotton bolls continued to rapidly open across the state, while cotton harvest started in some areas and is expected to pick up speed in the next few weeks. Peanut digging and harvest continued to make strong progress across the state. Reporters noted that producers are bailing hay before the hurricane arrives.

A variety of fruits and vegetables were seen growing throughout the state last week including okra, eggplants, and boniato potatoes. Farmers continued to prepare for fall strawberry production.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle conditions remained mostly good to excellent. Some areas of the state saw a slight decrease in crop and soil conditions due to the lack of rain.

**Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/25/22**

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton – Bolls Opening.	36	36	53	54
Cotton – Harvested.....	1	1	2	2
Peanuts – Dug.....	35	35	50	45
Peanuts – Harvested....	26	14	34	32

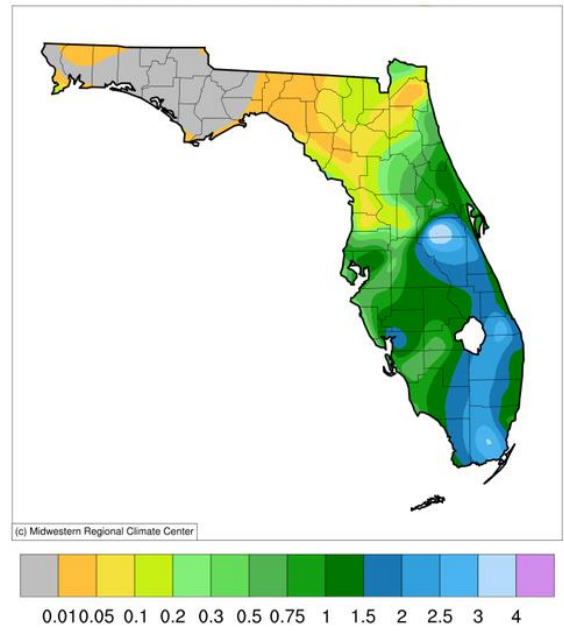
### Conditions for Week Ending 09/25/22

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	14	68	15
Cotton.....	0	10	29	60	1
Pasture & range...	1	4	21	54	20
Peanuts.....	0	4	26	68	2

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/25/22

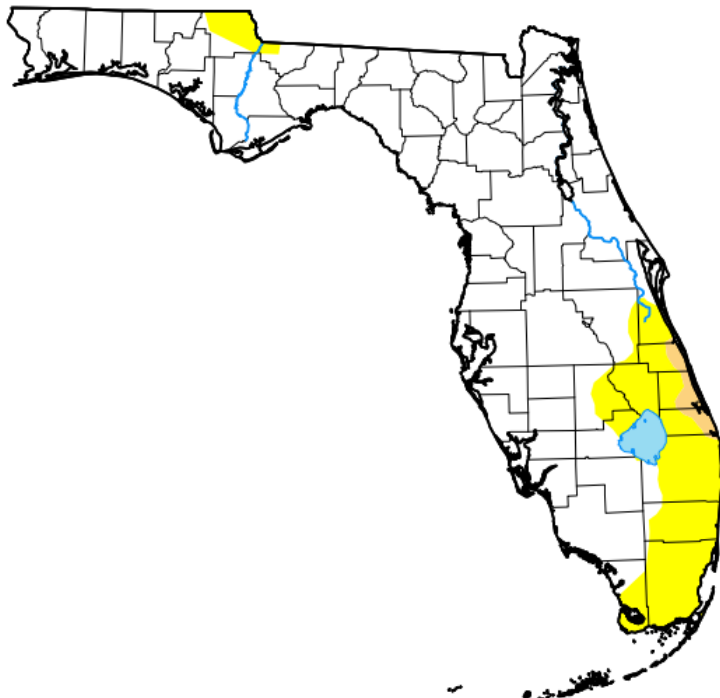
Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	1	2
Short.....	9	17
Adequate.....	74	69
Surplus.....	16	12

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
September 19, 2022 to September 25, 2022



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



**September 20, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 22, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	81.48	18.52	1.19	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 09-13-2022	79.50	20.50	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 06-21-2022	82.98	17.02	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> 09-26-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 09-21-2021	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)