



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Florida Crop Progress  
and Condition Report**



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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.

July 17, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

## General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, July 16, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 9.9 inches in Pensacola (Escambia County). The average mean temperature ranged from 80.6°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 91.4°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

## Citrus

Temperatures were seasonably warm in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 90's. The hottest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) and Sebring (Highlands County), both reaching 94 degrees, followed by Kenansville (Osceola County) hitting 93 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light rainfall during the reporting period, though some moderately heavy rains were experienced in a few locations. The most rain fell in Fellsmere (Indian River County), measuring 2.6 inches of precipitation, followed by Ruskin (Hillsborough County) reading 2.2 inches, and Winter Haven (Polk County) registering 2.0 inches. According to the July 13, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, the continued high heat paired with below normal rain intensity led to a further deterioration in moisture levels along the west coast of the peninsula, resulting in an expansion of abnormally dry conditions and moderate drought, along with the reintroduction of severe drought south of Tampa Bay. Though various levels of dryness and drought had expanded to the northern and southern extents of the citrus belt along with west coast while also advancing further

into the interior of the state, the rest of the citrus growing region remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run as needed. Field personnel reported next year's fruit sizing well, with oranges approximately golf ball size and larger, while grapefruit were as large as tennis ball size.

## Crops

Most of the state received a light to moderate amount of rain last week. The panhandle part of the state was the exception as it received a significant amount of precipitation. Reporters noted instances of field flooding due to the heavy rains. Despite the inconsistent precipitation levels, cotton squaring and boll setting continued to make strong progress. Peanut pegging continued to advance at a good rate and neared completion by weeks end. Crops that were harvested last week included okra, peas, squash, melons, mango, hot peppers, and other tropical fruits.

## Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reportedly in mostly fair to good condition, while pastures were reported to be in mostly good to excellent condition.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 7/16/23

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Squaring.....	68	60	76	65
Cotton - Setting Bolls.....	27	15	28	25
Peanuts - Pegging.....	82	66	88	77

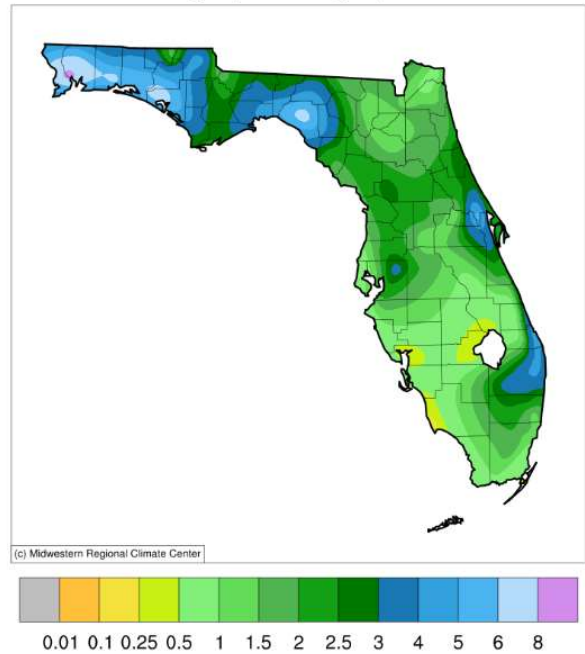
### Conditions for Week Ending 7/16/23

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	26	61	10
Cotton.....	0	3	30	59	8
Pasture & range....	2	3	22	43	30
Peanuts.....	1	1	23	70	5

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 7/16/23

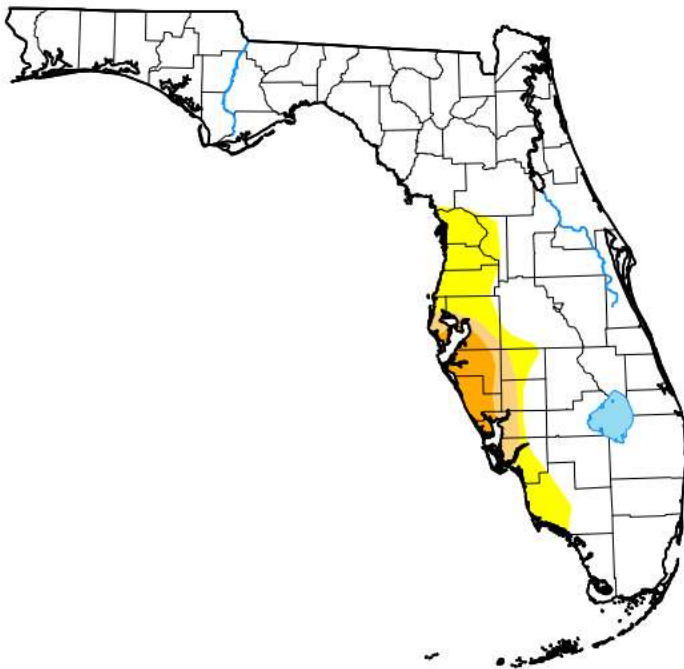
Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....		3
Short.....		15
Adequate.....		74
Surplus.....		8

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
July 10, 2023 to July 16, 2023



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



July 11, 2023

(Released Thursday, Jul. 13, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	86.19	13.81	5.36	2.73	0.00	0.00
<b>Last Week</b> 07-04-2023	87.98	12.02	4.37	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>3 Months Ago</b> 04-11-2023	14.00	86.00	64.82	53.39	0.96	0.00
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
<b>Start of Water Year</b> 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>One Year Ago</b> 07-12-2022	89.63	10.37	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)