



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.

July 24, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, July 23, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts to 5.8 inches at Punta Gorda Airport (Charlotte County). The average mean temperature ranged from 82.9°F at Cross City Airport (Dixie County) to 91.1°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 90's. The hottest readings were recorded at the Central Florida weather station (Lake County) reaching 96 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reading 94 degrees, and Winter Haven (Polk County) hitting 93 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with both the passage of low-pressure systems and afternoon convective-heating-generated storm activity. The most rain fell in Lake Placid (Highlands County), measuring 3.8 inches of precipitation, followed by Ruskin (Hillsborough County) reading 3.8 inches, and Muse (Glades County) registering 2.3 inches. According to the July 20, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, beneficial rains helped pare back the coverage of abnormally dry conditions in the northern reaches of the citrus area, however continued above normal temperatures mitigated any other significant improvement to drought conditions. As such, the impacts of abnormally dry conditions, moderate drought, and severe drought along the west coast of the peninsula remained mostly status quo from

the previous week, while the rest of the citrus growing region remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, skirting tree canopies, removal of dead trees, replanting young 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 to larger than tennis ball size, while grapefruit were about tennis ball to baseball size.

Crops

Most of the state received an adequate amount of rain last week, with the southwestern region of the state receiving the most precipitation. Despite the rain, temperatures were extremely high throughout the week. The heat wave and the rain prevented some operators from being able to conduct the amount of field work desired. Cotton squaring neared completion, while boll setting continued to make strong progress. Peanut pegging made modest progress and neared completion by the end of the week. Crops that were harvested last week included okra, peas, squash, avocados, rice, and melons. Reporters noted that sugarcane was progressing well and in the grand growth phase of development.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were reportedly in mostly fair to good condition.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 7/23/23

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Squaring.....	85	76	93	80
Cotton - Setting Bolls.....	41	28	51	45
Peanuts - Pegging.....	93	88	94	87

Conditions for Week Ending 7/23/23

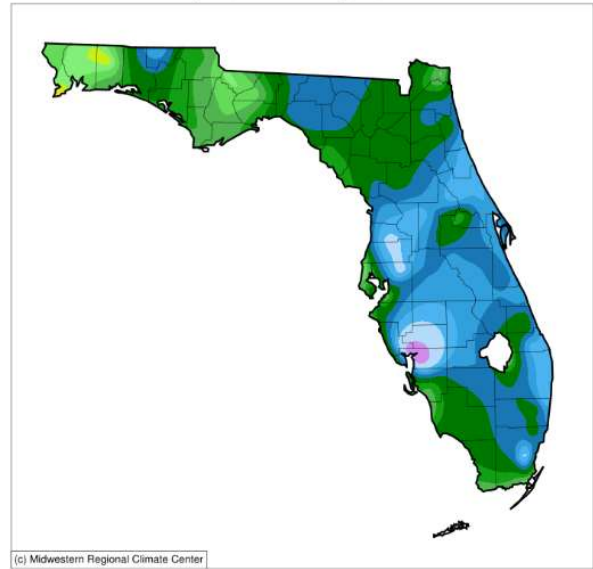
Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	2	3	27	61	7
Cotton.....	1	5	20	71	3
Pasture & range....	3	5	28	45	19
Peanuts.....	0	3	11	83	3

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 7/23/23

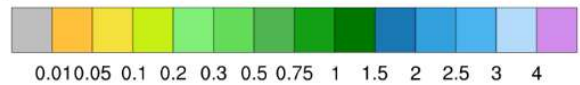
Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	3	3
Short.....	8	12
Adequate.....	69	73
Surplus.....	20	12

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

July 17, 2023 to July 23, 2023



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

July 18, 2023

(Released Thursday, Jul. 20, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	90.08	9.92	5.43	2.97	0.00	0.00
Last Week 07-11-2023	86.19	13.81	5.36	2.73	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 04-18-2023	19.01	80.99	67.37	45.77	4.71	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 07-19-2022	90.15	9.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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

