



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.

August 21, 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, August 20, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts to 6.6 inches at Miami Executive Airport (Miami-Dade County). The average mean temperature ranged from 82.7°F at Fort Pierce St. Lucie County Airport (St. Lucie County) to 87.9°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures remained above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the mid to upper 90's. The hottest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) reaching 97 degrees, followed by Kenansville (Osceola County) reading 95 degrees, and Sebring (Highlands County) hitting 94 degrees. The citrus belt received scattered light rainfall during the reporting period associated with daily afternoon thunderstorm activity. The most rain fell in Clermont (Lake County), measuring 2.6 inches of precipitation, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reading 1.5 inches, and Muse (Glades County) registering 1.5 inches. According to the August 17, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, continued notably elevated temperatures combined with an ongoing lack of adequate rainfall resulted in additional deterioration of drought conditions along the west coast of the peninsula, with extreme drought, severe drought, moderate drought, and abnormal dryness all expanding coverage from the core drought-affected area further into the interior citrus cultivating counties. The rest of the citrus growing region remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, 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 baseball size, while grapefruit were about tennis ball to softball size.

Crops

Most of the state received an adequate to moderate amount of rain last week, with the panhandle being the only region that experienced little to no precipitation. Temperatures cooled slightly last week from the previous week, but record temperatures are expected this upcoming week. Some reporters noted crop damage due to high temperatures. Cotton boll setting had a slow week, but still neared completion. Peanut digging began to pick up some steam and jumped out ahead of early historical progress. Corn for grain was reported to be in good to excellent condition in the panhandle as harvest ramps up. Early feedback considering yield potential was very positive. Crops that were harvested last week included rice, okra, mango, avocado, bitter melon, and other tropical fruits. Reporters noted that fields continued to be prepared for sugarcane planting, which was expected to start in a few weeks. Reporters also noted that the first crop of tomatoes were planted last week.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reportedly in mostly good to fair condition, while pastures were reportedly in good to excellent condition. Reporters noted that fields in some areas were growing slowly due to the lack of rain and high temperatures.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 8/20/23

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Setting Bolls.....	95	94	96	94
Cotton - Bolls Opening...	10	5	13	12
Peanuts - Dug.....	3	4	9	2

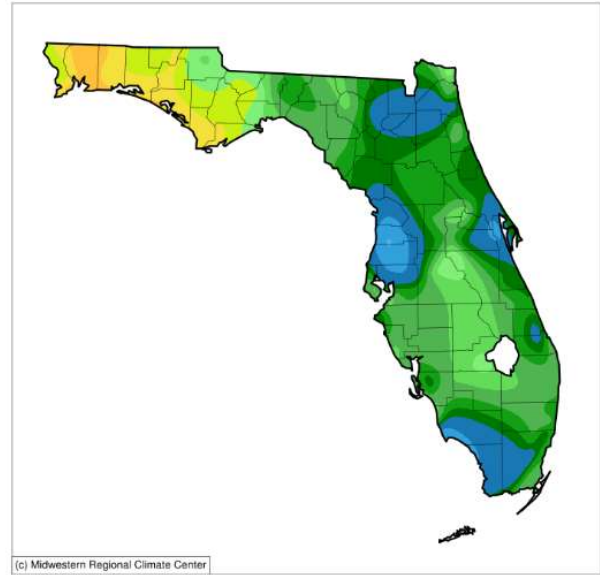
Conditions for Week Ending 8/20/23

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	23	61	13
Cotton.....	0	12	40	48	0
Pasture & range....	2	4	19	46	29
Peanuts.....	0	7	26	67	0

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 8/20/23

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	6	8
Short.....	17	20
Adequate.....	69	67
Surplus.....	8	5

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 14, 2023 to August 20, 2023



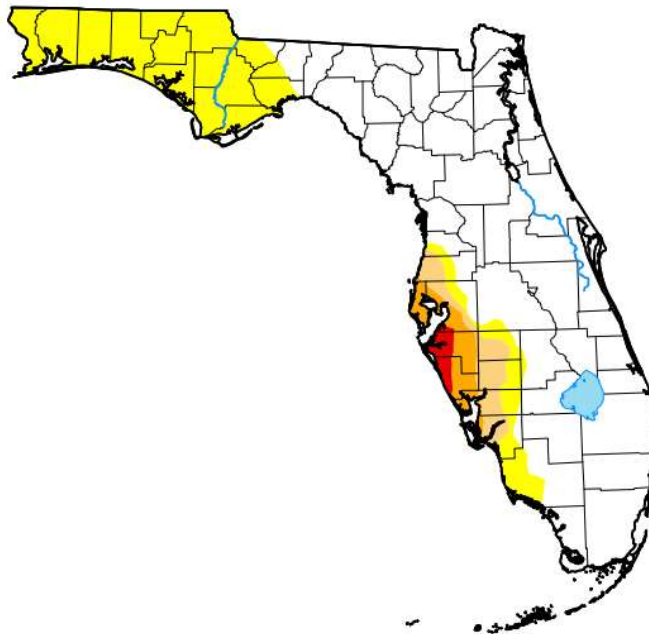
(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



0.01 0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4 5 6 8

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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



August 15, 2023

(Released Thursday, Aug. 17, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	69.95	30.05	7.52	3.95	1.00	0.00
Last Week 08-08-2023	89.86	10.14	6.14	3.60	0.92	0.00
3 Months Ago 05-16-2023	42.01	57.99	44.36	14.28	8.93	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 08-16-2022	88.56	11.44	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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