



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
Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 851 Trafalgar Court Suite 310 E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (800) 253-4419 · (855) 271-9801 FAX
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 11, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 10, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 4.0 inches at Brooksville Airport (Hernando County). The average mean temperature ranged from 78.1°F in Hastings (St. Johns County) to 86.7°F at Naval Air Station Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures remained above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 90's. The hottest reading was recorded in Clermont (Lake County), reaching 94 degrees. The citrus belt received isolated light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with daily afternoon thunderstorm activity, with significant precipitation being reported at only a handful of weather stations across the citrus growing area. The most rain fell in Apopka (Orange County), reading 3.6 inches of precipitation, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) registering 1.5 inches, and Kenansville (Osceola County) measuring 0.7 inches. According to the September 7, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, the rainfall brought by Hurricane Idalia resulted in much-needed relief to drought conditions along the west coast of the peninsula, paring the coverage of extreme drought, severe drought, moderate drought, and abnormal dryness back toward the Gulf of Mexico. 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, installation of individual protective tree covers, 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 baseball to softball size. Color break on Fallglo tangerines and red grapefruit was also observed in some groves.

Crops

It was a dry week for most of the state as operators continued to assess damage from Hurricane Idalia, with only a few areas receiving an adequate amount of precipitation. Crop progress and condition improved from last week in parts of the panhandle that received precipitation. Unfortunately, many areas were still in need of additional rainfall and crop conditions were negatively impacted. Cotton boll opening had a strong week of progress and remained ahead of historical progress. Peanut digging and harvest had a slow week. Crops that were harvested last week included rice, okra, avocado, bitter melon, and other tropical fruits. Reporters noted that sugarcane planting started last week. Strawberry land preparation continued with plastic and fumigation activities.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were reportedly in mostly good to fair condition. Reporters noted livestock in certain areas were roaming due to damage to fencing from Hurricane Idalia. Reporters also noted damage to buildings that stored livestock feed and medicine.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 9/10/23

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening...	23	28	39	31
Peanuts - Dug.....	19	21	24	20
Peanuts - Harvested.....	8	7	10	10

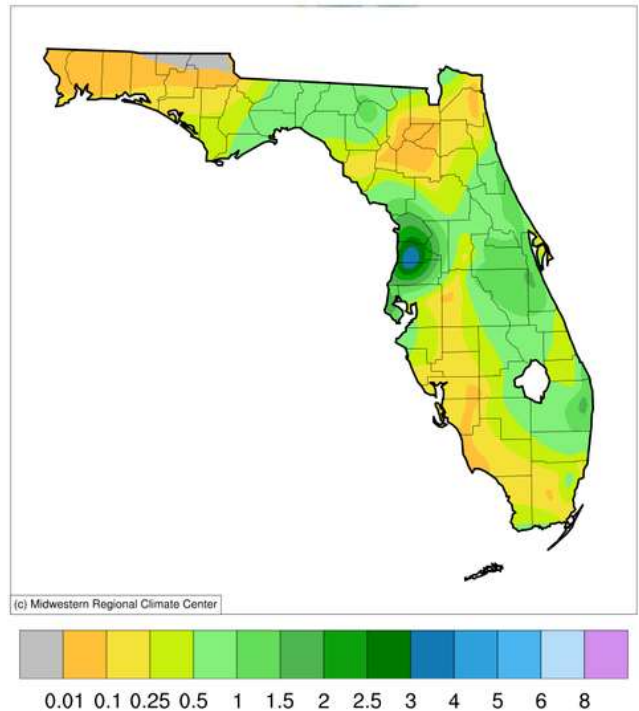
Conditions for Week Ending 9/10/23

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	27	59	11
Cotton.....	9	27	38	24	2
Pasture & range....	2	5	31	40	22
Peanuts.....	2	19	33	45	1

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 9/10/23

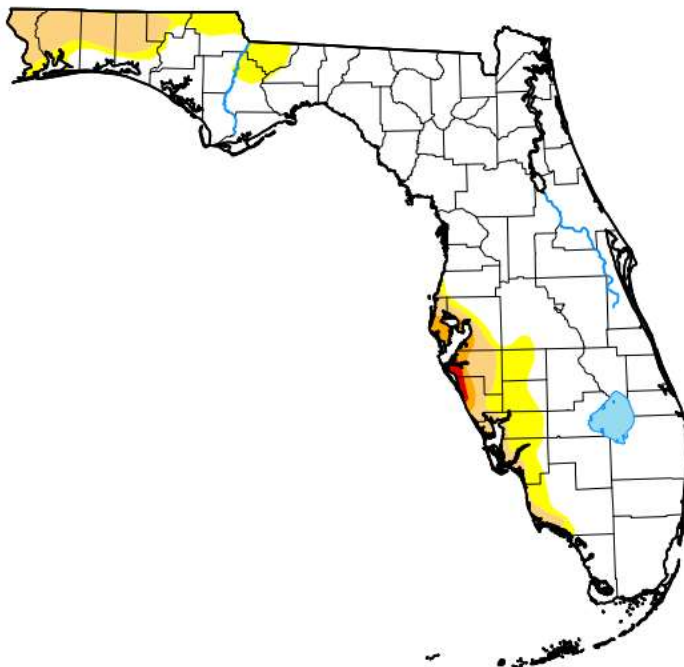
Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....		7
Short.....		11
Adequate.....		68
Surplus.....		14

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 04, 2023 to September 10, 2023



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



September 5, 2023
(Released Thursday, Sep. 7, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	82.12	17.88	8.94	1.27	0.32	0.00
Last Week 08-29-2023	68.29	31.71	23.00	3.19	0.48	0.00
3 Months Ago 06-06-2023	82.10	17.90	8.62	1.69	0.00	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 09-06-2022	79.50	20.50	2.55	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>

Author:

Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



droughtmonitor.unl.edu