



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.

October 28, 2024

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, October 27, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 1.6 inches in Wellington (Palm Beach County). The average mean temperature ranged from 69.4°F in Chipley (Washington County) to 82.6°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were seasonable to slightly above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the mid to upper 80s. The warmest average readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) and Winter Haven (Polk County), both hitting 88 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reaching 86 degrees. The citrus belt received little to no rainfall during the reporting period, with small, isolated storms swiftly drifting inland from the Atlantic coast. The most rain fell in Fellsmere (Indian River County), reporting 1.06 inches of precipitation, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) registering 0.36 inches, and Muse (Glades County) measuring 0.14 inches. According to the October 24, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the entirety of the citrus belt remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, installation of individual protective tree covers, construction of screenhouses, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run regularly statewide. Field personnel reported next season's fruit from tennis ball to softball size. Color break was observed in groves across the state for the following varieties: Navel, early, and midseason oranges, and red and white grapefruit.

Limited harvesting had been initiated for the fresh market, comprising small amounts of Fallglo and Early Pride tangerines; Navel and early oranges; and red and white grapefruit. One processing plant was accepting packinghouse eliminations.

Crops

The Peninsula area received light rain while the rest of the state remained dry. Due to the mostly dry conditions, many producers were able to make progress with farm operations, specifically crop harvests in the Panhandle. Cotton defoliation and harvesting were in full swing and made great progress throughout the week. Peanuts continued to be dug, and harvest neared completion in some counties. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane planting continued throughout the week. Producers started harvesting some sugarcane earlier in the week. Other crops planted and harvested included cabbage, broccoli, green beans, squash, tomatoes, ethnic vegetables, and tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle was in mostly good to excellent condition, with pastures in mostly good to fair condition. With the warmer and drier weather, producers supplied drinking water tanks for cattle.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/27/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening.....	96	90	93	93
Cotton - Harvested	30	28	34	24
Peanuts - Dug.....	92	78	91	92
Peanuts - Harvested	81	65	78	82

(NA) Not Available.

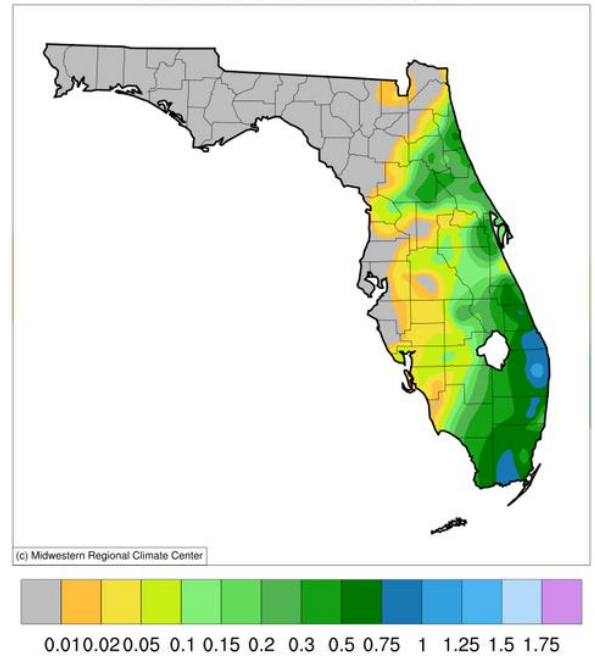
Conditions for Week Ending 10/27/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	19	58	20
Cotton.....	2	11	60	27	0
Pasture and range.....	2	7	24	48	19

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/27/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very Short.....		4
Short.....		16
Adequate.....		63
Surplus.....		17

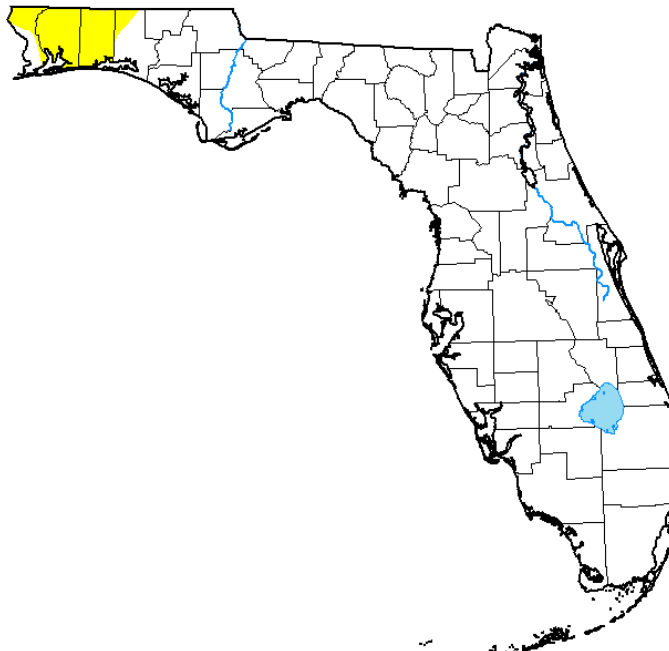
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 21, 2024 to October 27, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

October 22, 2024
(Released Thursday, Oct. 24, 2024)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



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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