



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.

May 20, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 19, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 7.2 inches in Niceville (Okaloosa County). The average mean temperature ranged from 72.6°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 88.6°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures continued their above average stretch in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs from the high 80's to the mid 90's. The hottest average readings were recorded in Sebring (Highlands County), hitting 95 degrees, followed by Winter Haven (Polk County) reaching 92 degrees, and Clermont (Lake County) reading 91 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread rainfall of highly variable amount during the reporting period, with individual grove locations feeling differing impacts from the passage of multiple low-pressure systems. The most rain fell in Auburndale (Polk County), reporting 2.77 inches of precipitation, followed by Mount Plymouth (Lake County) registering 2.47 inches, and Fellsmere (Indian River County) measuring 2.06 inches. According to the May 16, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the citrus region saw further degradation of drought conditions, with moderate drought advancing to the west coast of the peninsula and abnormal dryness increasing coverage to both the north and south. Small grove areas to the far north and south in the citrus belt remained drought free, however the vast majority of citrus cultivation in the state was operating under some degree of water shortage.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run frequently statewide. Field personnel reported next season's fruit between marble size and golf ball size.

Harvest of fruit for fresh and processed use had concluded for the season.

Crops

Most of the state received moderate to heavy rain with only parts of Miami-Dade County and Monroe County receiving little to no rain. Northern counties reported heavy rainfall and winds for the second straight week, which caused damage to field crops as well as the surrounding trees and fences. Producers in this region reported that cotton in low lying areas may need to be replanted due to minor flooding as newly planted peanuts and cotton were struggling to recover. Producers were continuing to assess field conditions and evaluate the damage. Field corn was noted to have better tolerated the poor weather conditions. Sweet corn harvest continued, and rice planting was nearing completion. Strawberry season wrapped up prematurely in Okaloosa County due to flooding and erosion from excess rainfall. Other crops planted and harvested included potatoes, okra, boniato, bitter melon, other Asian vegetables, and tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were in mostly good to fair condition. Pastures were improving with all the rain received throughout the week.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/19/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	45	32	50	44
Peanuts - Planted.....	59	55	72	68

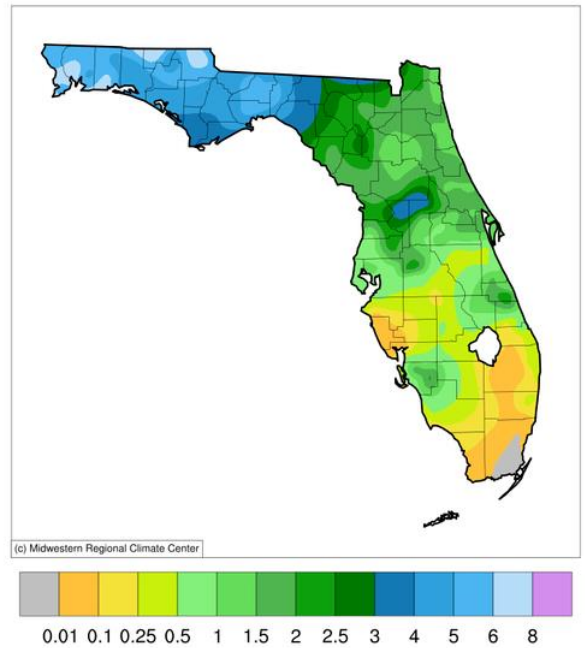
Conditions for Week Ending 05/19/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	2	3	30	54	11
Pasture and range.....	4	25	29	40	2
Peanuts.....	1	2	27	69	1

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/19/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very Short.....	5	4
Short.....	23	17
Adequate.....	71	59
Surplus.....	1	20

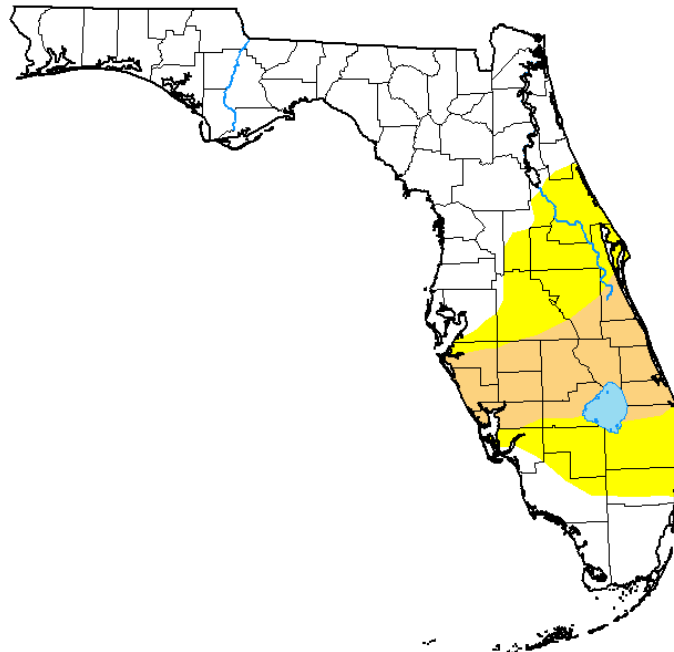
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 13, 2024 to May 19, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

May 14, 2024
(Released Thursday, May 16, 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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droughtmonitor.unl.edu