



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 26, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, August 25, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain to 5.7 inches at Mayport Pilot Station (Duval County). The average mean temperature ranged from 79.5°F in Chipley (Washington County) to 89.7°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were again slightly above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 90's. The hottest average readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County), hitting 94 degrees, followed by Winter Haven (Polk County) reaching 93 degrees, and Kenansville (Osceola County) reading 92 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with afternoon sea-breeze-generated thunderstorms augmented by increased atmospheric moisture from a stationary front. The most rain fell in Clermont (Lake County), reporting 3.85 inches of precipitation, followed by Kenansville (Osceola County) registering 2.49 inches, and Ruskin (Hillsborough County) measuring 2.17 inches. According to the August 22, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the thin strip of abnormal dryness present along the Indian River extended its reach north and south along the coast as a result of missing some recent storms. The rest of the citrus belt continued to be drought free.

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 on an as-needed basis statewide. Field personnel reported next season's fruit from golf ball to larger than baseball size.

Crops

The Panhandle area received little to no rain while the Peninsula area received localized showers. For some counties, the lack of rainfall was causing abnormally dry conditions. Cotton setting bolls was nearing completion, as bolls opening progressed slightly ahead of the five-year average. In Escambia County, spider mites were spotted in some cotton. Peanuts digging continued last week while some localized peanut harvesting started. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane planting was expected to begin in a few weeks. Rice harvest was over halfway completed but was delayed due to heavy rains received. In Hillsborough County, strawberry producers continued land preparation including laying plastic and fumigation for the winter strawberry season. Other crops planted and harvested included okra, boniato, long beans, bitter melon, and some tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were in mostly good to fair condition. In areas that received rain, the pastures were greening up and not as dry.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 08/25/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Setting Bolls	97	93	95	97
Cotton - Bolls Opening	19	14	18	16
Peanuts - Dug	13	2	6	6
Peanuts - Harvested	3	NA	1	2

(NA) Not Available.

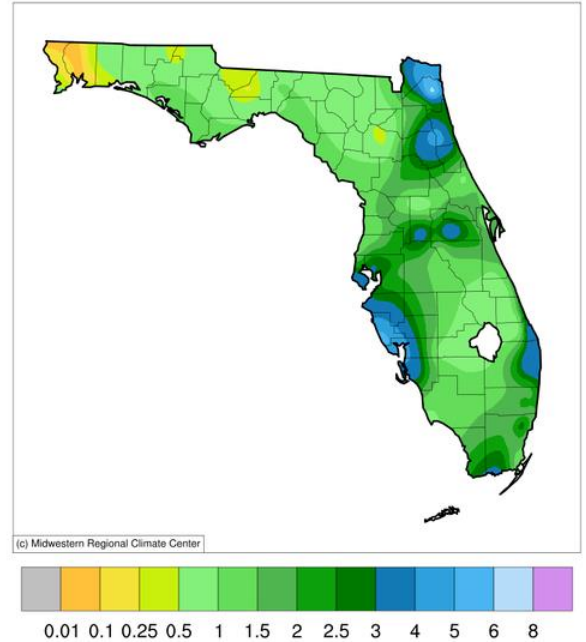
Conditions for Week Ending 08/25/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	0	2	13	63	22
Cotton.....	0	4	50	46	0
Pasture and range.....	0	3	14	56	27
Peanuts.....	0	2	30	66	2

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 08/25/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very Short.....		3
Short.....		17
Adequate.....		62
Surplus.....		18

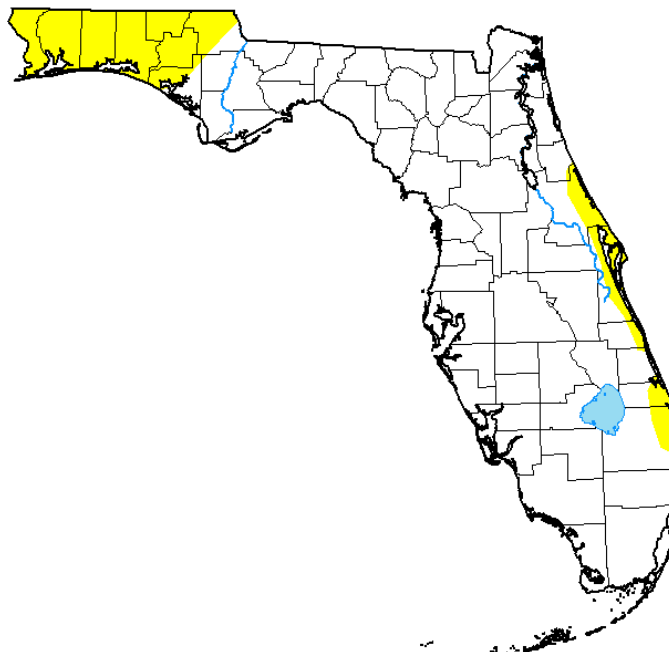
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 19, 2024 to August 25, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

August 20, 2024
(Released Thursday, Aug. 22, 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