



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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Week Ending: September 9, 2012

Rains Delayed Farming Activities

Weather Summary: Florida was back to normal with seasonal rainfall patterns. The least amount of rain was in North Port with only 0.03 of an inch while Palmdale had the most with 3.91 inches. Despite recent rains, many parts of Collier County’s wetlands remain completely dry. Minimum temperatures ranged from 61 degrees in Monticello to 71 degrees in Bronson, while the maximum temperatures were 88 degrees in Alachua to 94 degrees in Ocklawaha.

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	4	0
Short	2	17	4
Adequate	57	64	67
Surplus	41	15	29

Field Crops: Although soil moisture is good, frequent rainfall hindered hay harvesting in several northern counties. Cotton boll rot, due to wet weather in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Washington counties, was reported. Soybean growers reported the crop was in good condition. The peanut harvest has been delayed by daily rains for the past two weeks and white mold was widespread throughout Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Peanut harvesting should resume in a few days as soils begin to dry. Corn harvest in Washington County was almost complete and peanut harvest was about to start. Columbia County growers were harvesting peanuts and cutting hay.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	6	5	10

U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: September 4, 2012



Intensity:



Fruits & Vegetables: In the southern counties, vegetable growers continued to prepare land and planting increased seasonally. Flagler County growers were beginning to plant cabbage but were also hindered by rain.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the condition of pasture was mostly good with the condition limited by recent flooding of low lying pastures and disease pressure. The cattle condition was mostly good and slightly improved over the previous week. In the **Panhandle**, the pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most good to excellent. The pasture condition was better than it has been in recent years. Pastures were providing plenty of grass; however, there were concerns about the quality. Many cattlemen were weaning calves to allow the brood cow herd to put on flesh in preparation for the winter. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the **northern** areas, the pasture condition was fair to excellent with most in good condition. Cattle were in fair to excellent condition. In the **central** areas, the condition of pasture ranged from very poor to excellent with most in good condition. The cattle were in very poor to excellent condition with most in good to excellent condition. In the **southwestern** areas, the pasture condition was poor to excellent with most in good condition. Many parts of Charlotte and Glades counties remained wet with many low lying pastures still holding water. However, Collier and Lee counties remained dry. Most cattle were in good condition.

Citrus: Daily high temperatures remained in the low to mid-90s across the citrus region. All of the FAWN stations in the citrus growing region recorded some precipitation this week, with Palmdale receiving the most at 3.91 inches. Six stations received more than two inches and another six received more than an inch. North Port recorded the least with 0.03 of an inch recorded. The citrus region remains entirely drought free, per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated September 4, 2012. Application of fall miticide, young tree care, irrigation, and grove maintenance were the primary grove activities.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	1	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	3	3
Fair.....	12	13	15	12
Good.....	70	65	65	70
Excellent.....	16	20	16	14

NASS is currently conducting our annual September surveys on crops and livestock. In the first two weeks of September, NASS is surveying U.S. small grains growers for final production. We are also asking hog producers about their summer pig crop, next year's farrowing intentions, and current inventory. The responses will provide the foundation for 2012 production estimates. All participating farmers should respond. Your information matters!

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