



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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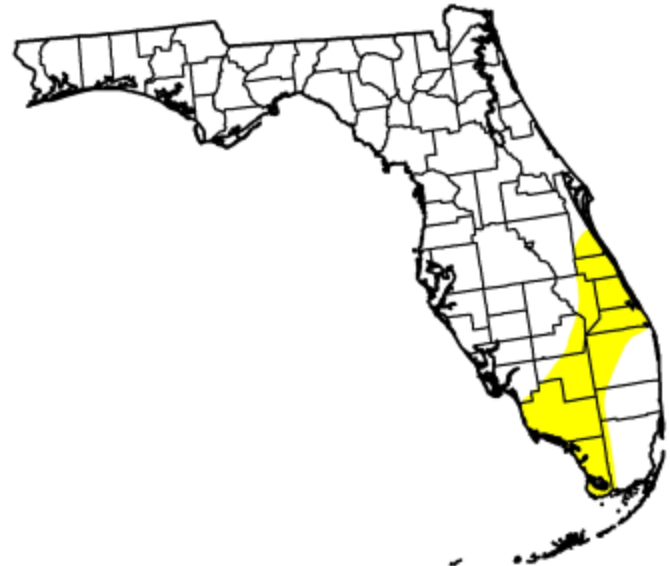
Released: August 27, 2012 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: August 26, 2012

**Rain Increased Pest Pressure, Hinders Fieldwork**

**Weather Summary:** On Sunday, the center of Tropical Storm Isaac passed just south of Key West with strong winds and rain; no damages have been reported thus far. South Florida had power outages from the effects of feeder bands. Almost fifteen percent of Florida was abnormally dry compared to 77.4 last year according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Rainfall ranged from 0.07 of an inch at Homestead to 6.64 inches at Belle Glade. The majority of the State had rainfall between two to five inches. Water levels in cypress and wetlands have risen in many low areas in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties. Maximum temperatures varied from 86 degrees in Alachua to 95 degrees in Immokalee while the minimum temperatures were between 63 degrees in Live Oak to 74 degrees in Homestead.

**U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: August 21, 2012**



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	1	3	0
Short .....	12	21	3
Adequate .....	72	71	71
Surplus .....	15	5	26

**Fruits & Vegetables:** Some vegetable growers in southwestern areas of the state have activated throw-out pumps to control high water levels. Rain has also disrupted some land preparations and planting schedules around Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, and Lee counties. In Miami-Dade County producers have started land preparations for vegetables, and were continuing to harvest avocados, okra, and sweet potatoes. Fertilizing vegetables has been hindered by rainfall and may damage the quality of the crops.

**Field Crops:** Some peanut fields had white mold in Jackson and Santa Rosa counties. In Jefferson County, controlling increasing numbers of pests was hindered by rainfall. Gulf, Flagler, and Putnam counties producers have halted harvesting hay due to rain almost every day.

**Peanut Progress**

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested .....	0	0	5

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide**, the condition of pastures ranged from very poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Recent rainfall improved pasture conditions but some flooding now exists from Tropical Storm Isaac. The condition of the cattle was poor to excellent, with most in good condition. In the **Panhandle**, conditions of pasture and cattle were poor to excellent with drought limiting the condition of some pastures. In the **northern** areas, pasture conditions were mostly good with some pastures in poor condition due to flooding. Cattle were in fair to excellent condition, with most in good condition. In the **central** areas, the condition of pastures varied from poor to excellent, with most pasture in good condition. The cattle were in fair to excellent condition with most in good condition. In the **southwestern** areas, the pasture and cattle were in very poor to excellent condition, with most in good condition. Some pastures were hurt by recent heavy rain that caused flooding. 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 Belle Glade receiving the most at 6.63 inches. Fourteen stations received more than three inches and another nine received at least an inch. Ft. Pierce’s FAWN station recorded the least for the fifth consecutive week with 0.10 of an inch recorded. Rainfall from Tropical Storm Isaac has begun to affect the citrus region. Fruit drop from this event was expected to be minimal. The majority of the citrus region was still drought free, with the exception of an area northeast and southwest of Lake Okeechobee still experiencing abnormally dry conditions, as per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated August 21, 2012. Fertilizer application, 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	0	1	1
Poor .....	1	1	1	1
Fair.....	25	14	15	14
Good .....	55	75	58	70
Excellent .....	18	10	25	14

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