



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 2, 2012

Florida Drought-Free due to Tropical Storm Isaac

Weather Summary: Areas of south Florida picked up five inches of rain from Tropical Storm Isaac as it passed just south of Key West. From August 27 through September 2, rainfall ranged from 0.34 of an inch in Clewiston to 4.94 inches in Lake Alfred. Since January 1, the Miami International airport has recorded 68 inches of rain compared to a normal of 39 inches. For the first time since June 29, 2010, Florida had no abnormally dry areas according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Rainfall from Tropical Storm Isaac helped refill Lake Okeechobee to rise three-quarters of a foot in two days. As of September 3, elevation at Lake Okeechobee was 14.24 feet compared 10.74 feet the previous year and an average of 14.30 feet during the 1965-2007 period of record. West Palm Beach recorded the soggiest August on record with 22.28 inches of rainfall that broke the 1995 record of 20.12 inches. Minimum temperatures ranged from 67 degrees in Brooksville to 76 degrees in Fort Lauderdale. While the maximum temperatures were 90 degrees in Carrabelle to 96 degrees in Bronson.

U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: August 28, 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	0	3	0
Short	3	19	2
Adequate	71	69	57
Surplus	26	9	41

was looking good, also peanuts were starting to be harvested in Columbia County. There were a few reports of delayed planting of sugarcane and cane that had lodged due to wind in Collier, Glades, and Hendry counties.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	0	2	7

Field Crops: Hay harvest is on hold because of rain in Gadsden County. Santa Rosa and Escambia counties had rainfall for the past two weeks and have generated some problems for peanut and cotton growers. Cotton boll rot and white mold have been the most common complaints. Peanuts fields were too wet to dig. Corn harvest was almost complete and seems to be a very good crop in Washington County. There is a concern of the effects of rust in soybeans and disease and nutritional deficiencies in cotton and peanuts. More worm pressure on crops is anticipated as they move from corn fields to other hosts, especially grass hay fields. Corn has been harvested and

Fruits & Vegetables: Collier, Glades, and Hendry counties growers delayed planting schedules for some vegetables. Later during the week, vegetable growers resumed land preparation and planting. Sweet potato (boniato) growers in Miami-Dade County were concerned for the crop due to standing water. Nurseries and small tropical fruit orchards in Loxahatchee and

The Acreage areas were the hardest hit by TS Isaac in Palm Beach County. Some seedling vegetables may have sustained some damage in some areas in St. Lucie County.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the pasture condition was mostly good, down slightly due to flooding throughout the State. The condition of the cattle was mostly good. In the **Panhandle**, the pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most good to excellent. Cattle have ample pasture and continue to improve in general body condition if their calves have been weaned. In the **northern** area, the pasture condition was poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Continued precipitation after Tropical Storms Beryl and Debby left many forage areas in good condition. Cattle were in good condition. In the **central** area, the condition of pasture ranged from poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Forage growth was very good. The cattle were in very poor to excellent condition with the vast majority in good condition. In the **southwestern** area, the pasture condition was very poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Extensive flooding of low lying pastures occurred in Collier, Glades, and Hendry counties. Considerable pasture in Okeechobee County had standing water. 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 Lake Alfred receiving the most at 4.9 inches. Eight stations received more than three inches and another thirteen received more than an inch. Clewiston recorded the least with 0.3 of an inch recorded. Rainfall from TS Isaac continued to affect the citrus region during the beginning of the week. The citrus region is now entirely drought free, as per the U.S. Drought Monitor; last updated August 28, 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.....	0	1	1	1
Poor.....	1	1	1	3
Fair.....	14	12	14	15
Good.....	75	70	70	65
Excellent.....	10	16	14	16

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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