



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: October 1, 2012 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: September 30, 2012

Fall Vegetable Season Started

Weather Summary: According to the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN) nearly all of the State had some rainfall compared to 46 percent of the State under drought condition last year. Except for Dover and MacClenny, there were 27 stations with less than an inch of rain and the remainder had between one to two inches of rain with Jay at 2.3 inches. Water levels remain below normal in some areas around Immokalee and Corkscrew in Collier County. Minimum temperatures ranged from 51 degrees in Marianna to 74 degrees in Fort Lauderdale, while the maximum temperatures ranged from 86 degrees in Carrabelle to 93 degrees in Bronson.

Soil Moisture Ratings

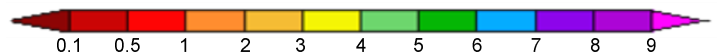
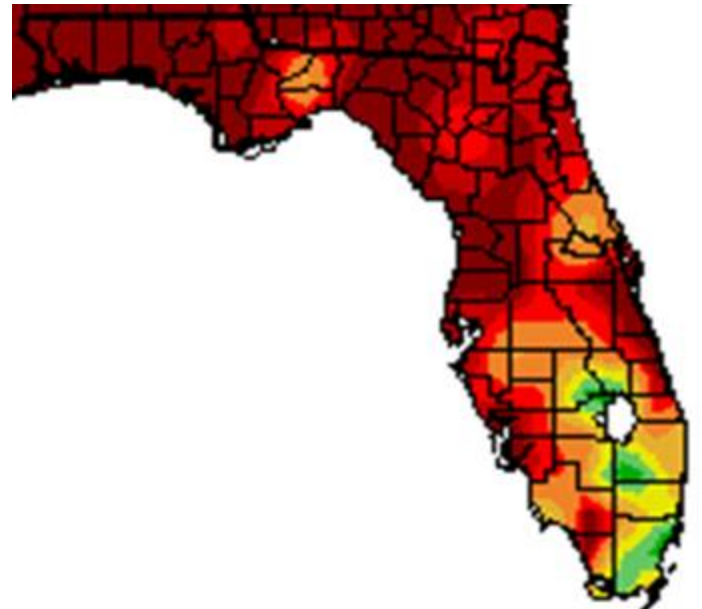
Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	4	1
Short.....	2	18	7
Adequate.....	72	70	80
Surplus.....	25	8	12

Field Crops: Pecans were beginning to fall with harvest expected in the next few weeks in Washington County. Some growers in Jackson and Escambia counties reported superior yields for peanuts. In Columbia County, some peanut fields have been lost due to flooding. The peanut condition was rated 1 percent very poor, 1 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 53 percent good, and 22 percent excellent. Cotton defoliation has started in Escambia County. In Jackson County, the cotton crop has been affected adversely due to fungal disease caused by extended periods of wet weather. Sugarcane planting began in south Florida.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested.....	34	34	39

Precipitation (in) –Florida: Sept. 23-29, 2012



Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: Sept. 25, 2012



Intensity:

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

Fruits & Vegetables: A mostly hot, dry week allowed vegetable growers to catch up on land preparation and planting. Tomato harvest began in Gadsden County. Growers in Hillsborough County started planting strawberries. Okra, cucumbers, and tomatoes were being marketed.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the condition of pasture ranged from very poor to excellent with most good. Flooding and drought limited pasture condition. Pasture condition is declining seasonally. The cattle condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in good condition. In the **Panhandle**, the pasture and cattle conditions were very poor to excellent. Winter forage was being planted. Fall pasture decline has begun with shorter days and cooler nights. Cattle condition began to decline as the quality of pasture condition degraded. In the **northern** areas, the pasture and cattle conditions were fair to excellent with most in good condition. In the **central** areas, the pasture and cattle conditions ranged from poor to excellent, with most in good condition. Water level was lower but some pasture had standing water. Pasture grass started to lose protein. In the **southwestern** areas, the pasture and cattle were in poor to excellent condition. Most cattle were in good condition. A hot, dry week allowed standing water in pastures to recede in some areas. Growth of pasture grass started to slow down due to shorter daylight hours.

Citrus: Daily high temperatures were in the upper 80s to low 90s across the citrus region. All but one of the FAWN stations in the citrus growing region recorded some precipitation this week, with Ona receiving the most at 2.26 inches. Six stations received more than an inch. Dover recorded no rainfall. The Brooksville station was decommissioned and Dade City was added to the FAWN network. The citrus region remained entirely drought free per the U.S. Drought Monitor; last updated September 25, 2012. Harvest of Fallglo tangerines has begun. Application of fall miticide and herbicide, young tree care, harvest preparations for Navels and grapefruit, and general 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	2	2
Fair.....	17	13	15	20
Good.....	60	60	68	62
Excellent.....	21	25	14	15

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