



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 21, 2013 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: October 20, 2013

Dry Fall Weather

Weather Summary: The week was relatively rain free, and temperatures dipped into the 50's in the Panhandle. Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), showed Hastings in St. John County received the most rain with 1.33 inches, Putnam Hall (Putnam County) received 0.86, and Okeechobee (Okeechobee) received 0.54 inches. Most other locations received a trace of rain or no rain at all. The highest temperature was reported in Immokalee (Collier County) at 93.31 degrees and the next highest reading was in Lake Alfred (Polk County) at 93.02 degrees. The lowest temperature was 53.55 degrees in Jay (Santa Rosa County).

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	NA	1	2
Short	NA	11	25
Adequate	NA	62	70
Surplus	NA	26	3

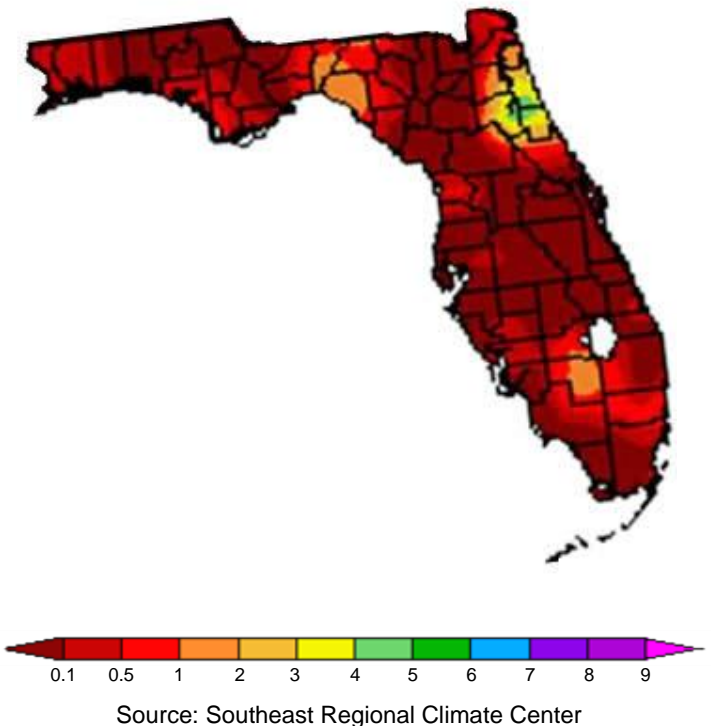
NA Not available due to the Federal government shutdown

Field Crops: Peanut crop condition was 1 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 30 percent fair, 50 percent good, and 10 percent excellent. Peanut harvest was 73 percent complete, ahead of the 5-year average of 71 percent but behind last year's progress of 77 percent. Peanut harvest was complete or near complete in several locations, though some later planted fields were yet to be harvested. Cotton harvest was in full swing facilitated in most locations by clear weather. Planting of winter forage had begun in Jackson and Levy counties. Hay was being cut in the Panhandle and central counties. Soybean harvest was active. Sugarcane harvest was ongoing and cane planting continued in Glades County.

Peanut Crop Harvest Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Harvested	71	77	73

Precipitation (in)—Florida: Oct. 14-20, 2013



U.S. Drought Monitor—Florida: Oct 15, 2013



Intensity:

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

Fruits & Vegetables: Strawberries were being planted in Bradford and DeSoto counties. Tomatoes and peppers were being planted in DeSoto County. Spraying, staking, and tying field work continued in vegetable fields. Plastic mulch for tomatoes was being laid in Martin County in preparation for planting. In Palm Beach County, vegetable planting is behind schedule due to frequent rainfall in September. Vegetables and fruits being marketed included eggplant, cucumbers squash, fall watermelons and some specialty items.

Livestock and Pastures: Statewide, the cattle and pasture conditions were mostly good across the State. Some pastures were flooded in several locations. Flooding was the first limiting factor for pasture condition.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	NA	0	NA	0
Poor	NA	1	NA	5
Fair.....	NA	15	NA	25
Good	NA	70	NA	65
Excellent	NA	14	NA	5

NA Not available due to the Federal government shutdown

Citrus: Rain was very light for the third consecutive week in the citrus growing region. Only Okeechobee (Okeechobee County) recorded up to a half an inch of rain. Several stations in the Indian River growing area and Southern growing area reported no rainfall for the week. Temperatures were warm all week, and reached the low 90s over the weekend. Trees still look good due to rainfall early in the season and irrigation being run by growers and caretakers. As of October 15th, the complete citrus growing area was drought free.

Fruit size appears to be inconsistent with some areas reporting oranges slightly larger than golf balls and other areas closer to baseball size. Grapefruit is typically running larger than oranges. Grove activity included resetting of new trees in active groves, pushing of dead groves and replanting new citrus, mowing, fertilizing and psyllid control. Twenty eight of 48 packinghouses have open and begun shipping small quantities of fruit. Only seven processing plants are open so far this season.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	Oct 6, 2013	Oct 13, 2013	Oct 20, 2013
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges.....	7	17	41
Ambersweet.....	13	16	29
Navel oranges.....	7	16	37
White Grapefruit.....	0	1	8
Colored Grapefruit.....	32	80	188
Fallglo tangerines.....	50	71	88
Total.....	109	201	391

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