



**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 28, 2013 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: October 27, 2013

**Dry Fall Weather**

**Weather Summary:** The week was relatively rain free, and temperatures dipped into the 30's in the Panhandle. Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN) showed Balm in Hillsborough County received the most rain with 0.97 inches, Hastings (St. Johns County) received 0.67 inches, and Fort Lauderdale (Broward County) received 0.57 inches. Most other locations received a trace of rain or no rain at all. The highest temperature was reported in Sebring (Highlands County) at 92.28 degrees and the next highest reading was in Avalon (Orange County) at 91.94 degrees. The lowest temperature was 35.80 degrees in Monticello (Jefferson County).

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

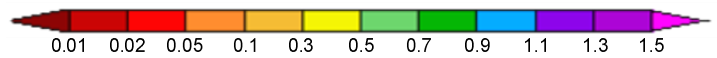
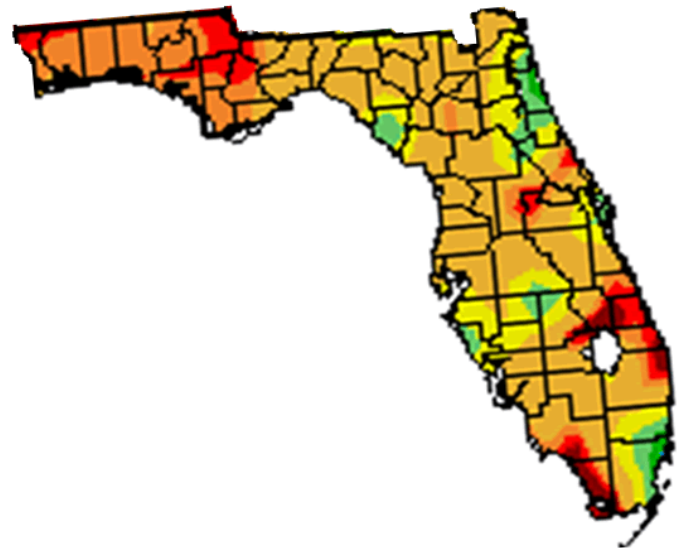
| Moisture Rating  | Topsoil       |               |              |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
|                  | Previous week | Previous year | Current week |
|                  | (percent)     | (percent)     | (percent)    |
| Very short ..... | 2             | 4             | 1            |
| Short .....      | 25            | 14            | 24           |
| Adequate .....   | 70            | 61            | 74           |
| Surplus .....    | 3             | 21            | 1            |

**Field Crops:** Peanut harvest was 79 percent complete, behind the 5-year average of 81 percent and behind last year's progress of 88 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 but farmers in Jackson County reported poor yields due to saturated soil. Winter grazing planted in Jefferson County was struggling due to the lack of rain. Hay was being cut in the southern counties. Sugarcane planting and harvesting was ongoing in Palm Beach County and all sugar mills were in operation.

**Peanut Crop Harvest Progress**

| Stage           | 5-year average | Previous year | Current week |
|-----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
|                 | (percent)      | (percent)     | (percent)    |
| Harvested ..... | 81             | 88            | 79           |

**Precipitation (in)—Florida: Oct. 21-27, 2013**



Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

**U.S. Drought Monitor—Florida: Oct 22, 2013**



**Intensity:**

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

**Fruits & Vegetables:** Vegetable harvest was increasing for cucumbers, squash, eggplant, herbs, and fall watermelons in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties. In Miami-Dade County farmers were harvesting green beans, sweet corn, and winter vegetables. Vegetables and fruits being marketed included eggplant, cucumbers, squash, fall watermelons and some specialty items.

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide,** the cattle condition was mostly good. Pasture condition across the State ranged from fair to good condition. Water levels in the wetlands, ponds, and ditches were dropping due to the lack of rain. Pastures in the Panhandle and north Florida were declining seasonally due to cooler weather.

**Cattle and Pasture Condition**

| Condition      | Cattle        |              | Pasture       |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                | Previous week | Current week | Previous week | Current week |
|                | (percent)     | (percent)    | (percent)     | (percent)    |
| Very poor..... | 0             | 0            | 0             | 0            |
| Poor.....      | 1             | 2            | 5             | 5            |
| Fair.....      | 15            | 23           | 25            | 30           |
| Good.....      | 70            | 65           | 65            | 60           |
| Excellent..... | 14            | 10           | 5             | 5            |

**Citrus:** Rain was very light for the fourth consecutive week in the citrus growing region. Only Balm (Hillsborough County) and North Port (Sarasota County) recorded a half inch or more of rain. Several stations reported no rainfall for the week. Temperatures were warm all week, low 90s early in the week, dropping to 80s over the weekend. Trees looked good due to rainfall early in the season and irrigation was run by growers and caretakers. As of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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, mowing, fertilizing, and psyllid control. Thirty of the 44 packinghouses have opened and begun shipping small quantities of fruit. Seven of nineteen processing plants were open.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

| Crop                     | Oct 13, 2013 | Oct 20, 2013 | Oct 27, 2013 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                          | (boxes)      | (boxes)      | (boxes)      |
| Early & mid oranges..... | 17           | 41           | 39           |
| Ambersweet.....          | 16           | 29           | 28           |
| Navel oranges.....       | 16           | 37           | 51           |
| White Grapefruit.....    | 1            | 8            | 26           |
| Colored Grapefruit.....  | 80           | 188          | 237          |
| Fallglo tangerines.....  | 71           | 88           | 95           |
| Total.....               | 201          | 391          | 476          |

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