



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**Florida Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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September 11, 2017

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Adverse weather conditions experienced in Florida the last few days may not be fully reflected in this report because of reporting difficulties. Agricultural damage assessments will be made as it becomes safe to do so.

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 10, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from trace amounts of rain to 17.01 inches in Frostproof (Polk County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 73.9°F in Whiting Field Naval Air Station (Santa Rosa County) to 86.2°F in Miami (Miami-Dade County).

Citrus

From the first of the week and through Saturday, the citrus region had average temperatures ranging from the mid-80s to the mid-90s. Rainfall was limited to three inches or less in all citrus growing counties. Early Sunday, and throughout the early afternoon, the entire citrus area was inundated with heavy winds and excessive rainfall as Hurricane Irma approached the southern tip of the state. The hurricane made landfall late Sunday afternoon on Marco Island (Collier County) as a Category 3 storm. The hurricane skirted along the western portion of the citrus belt. Rainfall totals in citrus counties were between three and seventeen inches in a 24-hour period. Frostproof (Polk County) had 17.01 inches for the week, Vero Beach (Indian River County) had 14.43 inches of rainfall for the week. Sebring (Highlands County) had 11.01 inches. According to the September 5, 2017, U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus growing region is drought free.

Early in the week growers continued spray programs as weather permitted. Caretakers were herbiciding, spraying to combat citrus greening, and some were seen irrigating. Mowing was being conducted in well cared for groves.

The focus changed as early as Thursday and over the weekend. Owners ceased operations to prepare for the eminent approaching storms. Loose equipment was tied down or stored inside to protect it from the high winds. Roads that would normally flood during heavy rain were closed as precautionary measures. The effects of the storm were not yet realized by Sunday night, but most growers were prepared for the worst, and would survey their groves as soon as safe conditions permitted.

Fruits and Vegetables

Very few fall vegetable plantings were in the ground since most growers are still a few weeks away from traditional fall planting and Hurricane Irma discouraged activity. Much plastic has been blown away and vegetables that had already been planted are likely to be flooded, sandblasted, or blown away.

Livestock and Pastures

Overall, pasture quality remains in mostly good condition throughout the state. With the excess rains from Irma, many pastures are flooded. Cattle also remain in mostly good condition at this point.

Field Crops

Producers prepared as much as possible for the arrival of Hurricane Irma. Peanuts were harvested and hay was brought in where possible. Cotton producers fear there may be significant damage to the crop. Some sugarcane has blown over, lodged, and flooded.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 9/10/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	1	0	0
Short	4	5	8
Adequate	77	69	70
Surplus.....	18	26	22

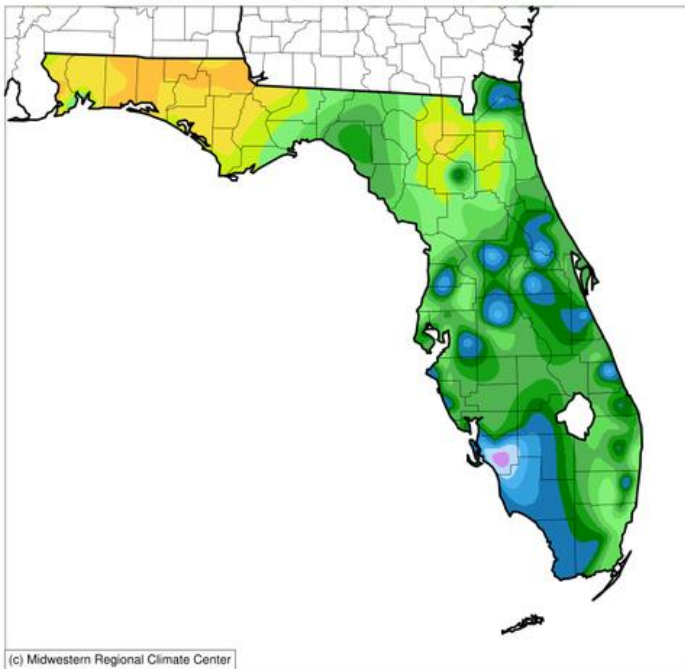
Crop Progress for Week Ending 9/10/17

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening...	52	42	NA	NA
Cotton - Harvested.....	0	NA	NA	NA
Peanuts - Dug.....	18	NA	NA	NA
Peanuts - Harvested.....	13	7	15	14

Condition for Week Ending 9/10/17

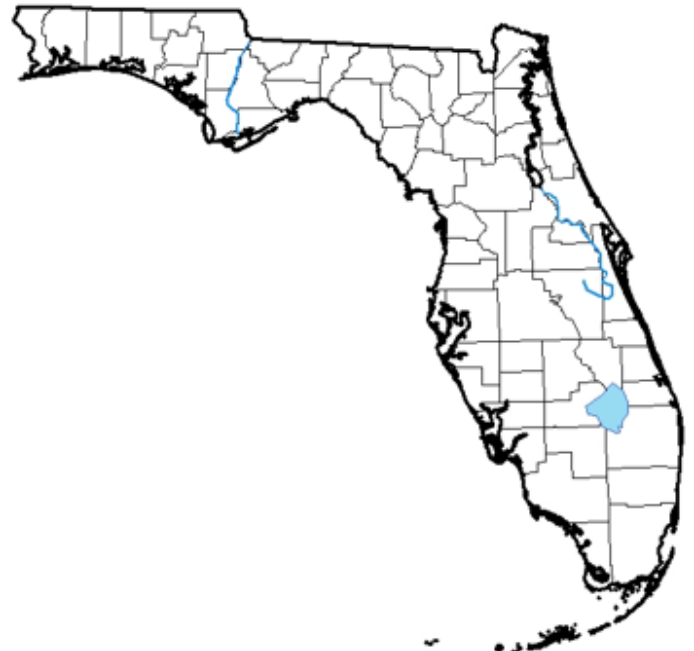
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	4	12	59	25
Cotton.....	2	10	28	42	18
Pasture & range....	0	1	7	64	28
Peanuts.....	1	7	16	50	26

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
September 04, 2017 to September 10, 2017



0.01 0.1 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4 5 6 8
[Mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE](http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE)

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

September 5, 2017 (Released Thursday, Sep.7, 2017)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>