General
According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 1, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from 0.3 inches at the Usher Forestry Tower (Levy County) to 5.10 inches in Tradition (St. Lucie County). The average mean temperature ranged from 79.7°F in Whiting Field Naval Air Station (Santa Rosa County) to 86.6°F in Naples (Collier County).

Citrus
Daily high temperatures across the citrus growing region were normal for this time of the year, ranging from the upper 80s to mid 90s. Significant rainfall was received only two or three days during the week in most counties. The heaviest rainfall was in the upper half of the citrus belt and in a few outlying areas on the east coast. Tradition (St. Lucie County) received 5.10 inches of rainfall. Lakeland (Polk County) had 4.72 inches of rainfall. According to the August 29, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus region remained drought free.

Grove activities followed normal horticultural practices. Growers were fertilizing, pushing dead and dying trees, mowing, and cleaning ditches. In groves where regular spraying took place, the trees and fruit looked good. Citrus businesses were replanting trees as they became available. Some were experimenting with high density planting to increase yield.

Caretakers were preparing for harvest of the early variety fruit. Both oranges and grapefruit appeared to have good sizes, and average fruit sets. No significant movement of early oranges or tangerines has been reported.

Fruits and Vegetables
A variety of fruits and vegetables continued to be planted while others were harvested and brought to market this week. Uncertainty surrounding Hurricane Dorian’s path and timing caused many vegetable growers in the central and southern peninsula to delay laying plastic and planting.

Livestock and Pastures
Forage plantings were ongoing in DeSoto County. Water continued receding from low lying areas in many pastures in the southern peninsula. Cattle herds in Brevard and Indian River counties continued to be thinned out. Cattle condition remained mostly good throughout the state.

Field Crops
Growers in Dixie County were unable to dig peanuts or cut hay due to severe flooding. Disease pressures continued to be observed on peanuts in Lafayette County. Peanuts harvested in Washington County continued to be for the green/boiling market. Corn harvesting activities were reported in Jackson and Walton counties. Tobacco harvesting was completed in Lafayette County. Hay harvesting reported in Jackson County. Producers in Levy County reported armyworms and loopers in hayfields. Sugarcane planting was delayed by wet conditions again in Glades and Hendry counties.
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