



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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This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

October 11, 2022

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, October 9, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 2.7 inches at North Perry Airport (Broward County). The average mean temperature ranged from 67.3°F in Cross City (Dixie County) to 86.4°F at Naval Air Station Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were notably cooler in the citrus growing region last week, with highs in the mid-80s. The warmest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County), with 86 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County), registering 85 degrees. The citrus belt received negligible rainfall during the reporting period, as the departure of Hurricane Ian drew a large mass of more stable, drier air across the peninsula. The most rain fell in Clermont (Lake County), receiving 0.3 inches of precipitation. According to the October 6, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, the entire citrus growing region was drought free.

Field personnel completed a damage assessment of grove conditions, finding hurricane effects were highly variable across the state. While some groves appeared relatively unscathed upon initial review, continued assessment and observation will uncover the full nature of any damage or storm effects going forward. Field reports include various levels of tree damage, ranging from percentages of leaf loss and downed limbs through split trees and trees leaning or uprooted; there were some observations of grove crews attempting to reposition uprooted young trees to a more vertical orientation. Due to excessive rainfall, there were multiple reports of grove flooding and numerous farm access issues, with personnel reporting several paved and unpaved roads flooded or completely washed out. Grove infrastructure damage was also reported, with instances of washed-out bridges, some

observations of downed powerlines within groves leaving certain pumps and outbuildings without electricity, and various levels of pumphouse damage.

In less affected areas, normal grove operations included spraying pesticides, herbicides and nutritionals, fertilizing, mowing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run as needed in areas that received the least rainfall. Sizing on next season's crop was as follows: oranges about tennis ball to baseball size and grapefruit larger than softball size. Field personnel reported color break continuing on early fruit varieties and beginning to show on some midseason fruit varieties.

Crops

A week after Hurricane Ian hit the state, impacts to the state's crops are still being measured. Some areas received over 20 inches of rain, causing field flooding, crop, livestock, and structural damage.

Mostly dry conditions in the northern part of the state and Panhandle allowed producers to continue to dig and harvest peanuts. Some precipitation would be welcomed to help finish peanut digging. Cotton bolls were mostly open and harvest was starting to ramp up.

Although some planted vegetable, strawberry, tomato, and watermelon fields suffered damage and loss, many producers delayed planting until after the Hurricane passed. Sugarcane harvest kicked off mid-week after being delayed a few days from the hurricane.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pasture condition remained mostly fair and good. Many pastures in the southern part of the state were flooded which forced cattle producers to relocate or sell their cattle. Reporters noted dry conditions in the northern part of the state limiting growth in pastures.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/9/22

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton – Bolls Opening.....	68	69	86	75
Cotton – Harvested.....	4	5	10	6
Peanuts – Dug.....	59	64	80	71
Peanuts – Harvested....	45	48	61	57

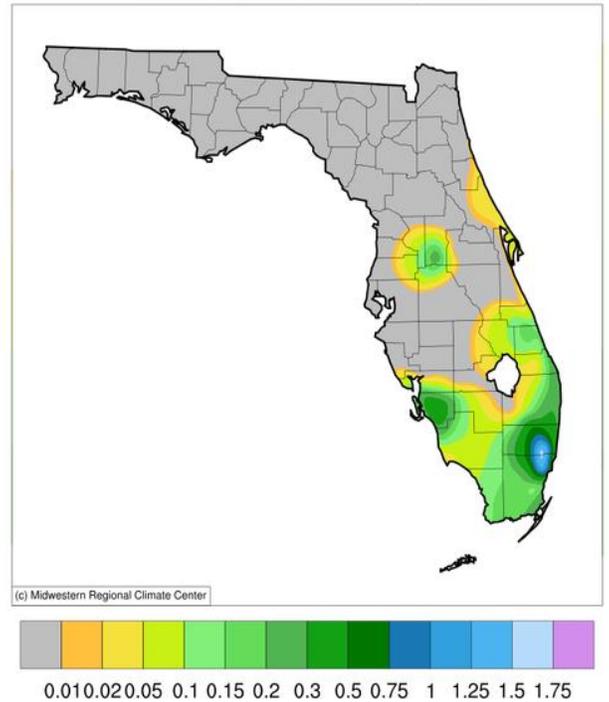
Conditions for Week Ending 10/9/22

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	2	7	21	53	17
Cotton.....	2	2	51	41	4
Pasture & range...	5	17	25	34	19

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/9/22

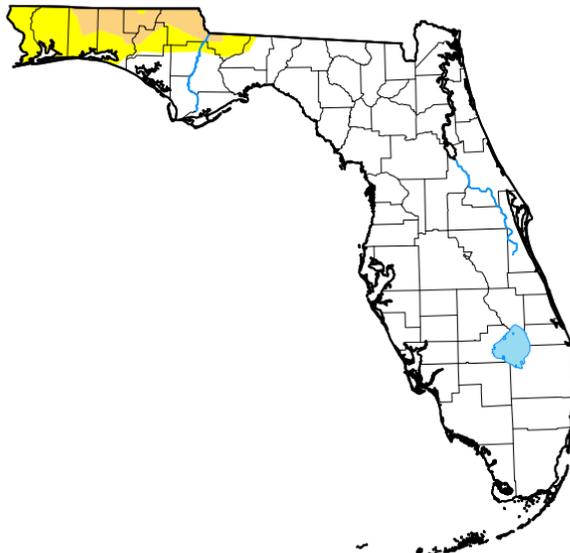
Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	10	17
Short.....	14	10
Adequate.....	30	42
Surplus.....	46	31

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
October 03, 2022 to October 09, 2022



<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



October 4, 2022
(Released Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	88.44	11.56	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-05-2022	76.50	23.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-04-2022	76.97	23.03	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 10-05-2021	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu