



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 23, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, October 22, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 0.1 inches in Tarpon Springs (Pinellas County). The average mean temperature ranged from 62.1°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 78.7°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were seasonable in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs from the high 70's to the low 80's. The warmest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) and Sebring (Highlands County), both reaching 81 degrees, followed by Winter Haven (Polk County) reading 80 degrees. The citrus belt received negligible to no rainfall during the reporting period, as a dry airmass settled over the state. According to the October 19, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, various levels of drought and abnormal dryness remained constant in the citrus counties along the Gulf coast. The rest of the citrus growing region continued to be drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, hedging, skirting tree canopies, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run statewide. Field personnel reported next year's fruit sizing well, with oranges approximately tennis ball to larger than

baseball size, while grapefruit were about baseball to larger than softball size. Color break on early season tangerines; Navel, early and midseason oranges; and red and white grapefruit was observed in most groves. Field personnel reported trees looked good in well cared-for groves.

Harvest of Fallglo and Early Pride tangerines, along with small amounts of Navel and early oranges, had begun. A limited quantity of red grapefruit had also been picked for the fresh market. One processing plant had opened to accept packinghouse eliminations.

Crops

It was an extremely dry week for the entire state, with no one location receiving more than half an inch of precipitation. Temperatures continued to decrease across the state. Reporters noted the lack of late season precipitation had negative impacts on cotton and peanut yields. Potato producers began prepping land for planting. Fall vegetable and strawberry planting neared completion. Crops that were harvested last week included rice, eggplant, squash, peppers, and green beans.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were reported in mostly good to fair condition. Reporters noted the dry weather and cooler temperatures prevented pasture growth as well as winter crop preparations.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 10/22/23

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Bolls Opening...	97	92	94	90
Cotton - Harvested.....	23	14	22	17
Peanuts - Dug.....	92	75	86	88
Peanuts - Harvested.....	82	66	75	76

Conditions for Week Ending 10/22/23

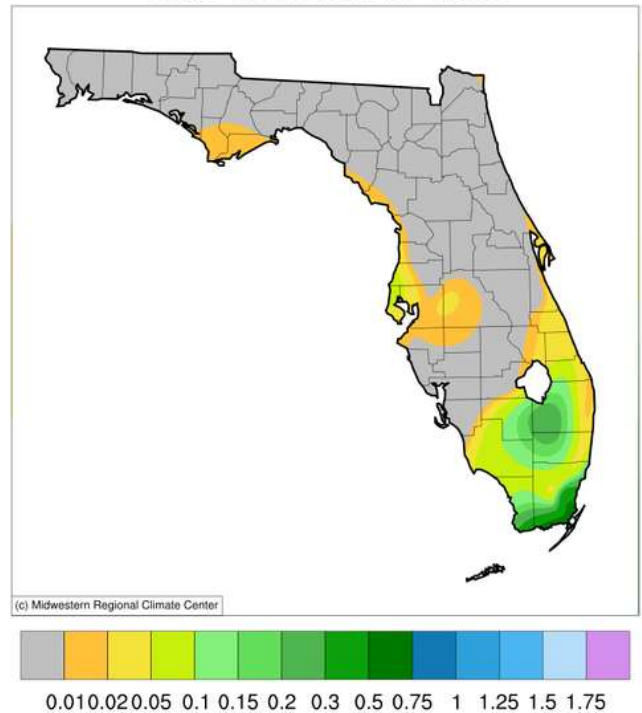
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	29	55	13
Cotton.....	10	28	49	13	0
Pasture & range....	2	8	34	35	21

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 10/22/23

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....		3
Short.....		16
Adequate.....		72
Surplus.....		9

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

October 16, 2023 to October 22, 2023



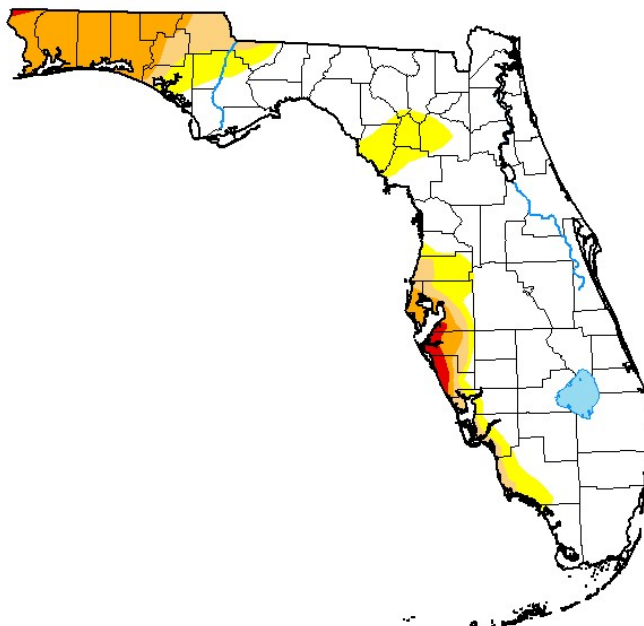
<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

October 17, 2023

(Released Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	74.62	25.38	15.35	10.25	0.89	0.00
Last Week 10-10-2023	62.46	37.54	21.13	10.25	0.89	0.00
3 Months Ago 07-18-2023	90.08	9.92	5.43	2.97	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-26-2023	69.09	30.91	17.59	9.00	0.81	0.00
One Year Ago 10-18-2022	69.77	30.23	18.19	0.34	0.00	0.00

Intensity

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate 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