



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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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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.

May 28, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

## General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 26, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 7.1 inches at Marathon Airport (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 75.9°F in Monticello (Jefferson County) to 85.4°F at Dry Tortugas (Monroe County).

## Citrus

Temperatures were above normal in the citrus growing region, with average highs in the low to mid 90s. The hottest average readings were recorded in Sebring (Highlands County), hitting 96 degrees, followed by Lake Wales (Polk County) reaching 95 degrees. The citrus belt received negligible to no rainfall from widely scattered convective thunderstorms during the reporting period, though isolated locations experienced more favorable rainfall amounts. The most rain fell in Fellsmere (Indian River County), reporting 0.90 inches of precipitation, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) registering 0.50 inches. According to the May 23, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, while abnormal dryness receded a bit in the northern reaches of the citrus region, moderate drought further expanded in the south, resulting in a net degradation in drought conditions for the total citrus area. Only select groves in the north of the citrus belt remained drought free.

Grove operations included laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees,

replanting young trees, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run frequently statewide. Field personnel reported next season's fruit between marble size and golf ball size.

## Crops

Most of the state received no rain to light rains with Monroe County receiving heavy amounts of rain. The warmer and drier weather this week increased drought conditions across the state. Producers in Okaloosa and Walton County were still working to replant crops from excess rain received several weeks ago. Many producers were struggling to establish cotton and peanut crops due to the damage from excessive rains from previous weeks. Producers have begun cutting Bermuda grass and are making slow progress with the first cutting of hay. Field corn seemed to have recovered from the previous week's heavy rain in the Panhandle area. Sweet corn harvest concluded with sugarcane harvest and rice planting nearing completion. Some producers experienced strawberry losses due to damaging wind, hail, and excessive moisture prior to the plants setting fruit. In Hillsborough County, cover crops planted wrapped up. Other crops harvested include bell peppers, chili peppers, squash, watermelon, and cantaloupe.

## Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were in mostly good to fair condition. In Okaloosa and Walton Counties, silage was being cut and baled.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/26/24

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	69	50	62	66
Peanuts - Planted.....	76	72	79	84

### Conditions for Week Ending 05/26/24

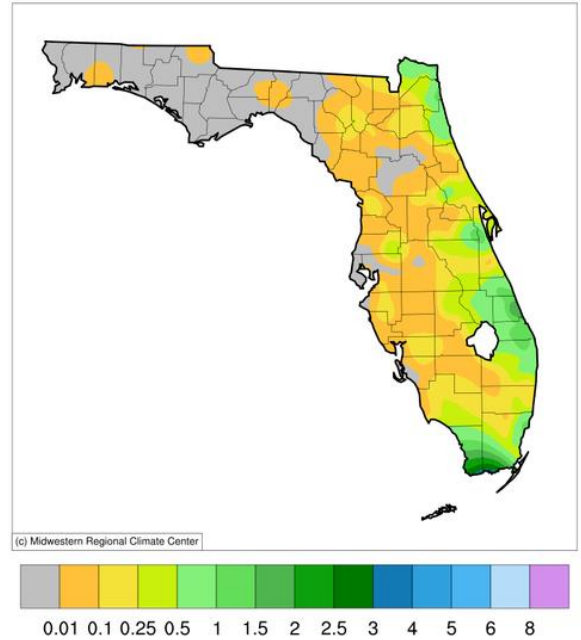
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	5	28	54	12
Cotton.....	5	14	52	28	1
Pasture and range.....	5	27	30	36	2
Peanuts.....	6	8	27	57	2

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/26/24

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....	4	7
Short.....	17	23
Adequate.....	59	65
Surplus.....	20	5

### Accumulated Precipitation (in)

May 20, 2024 to May 26, 2024



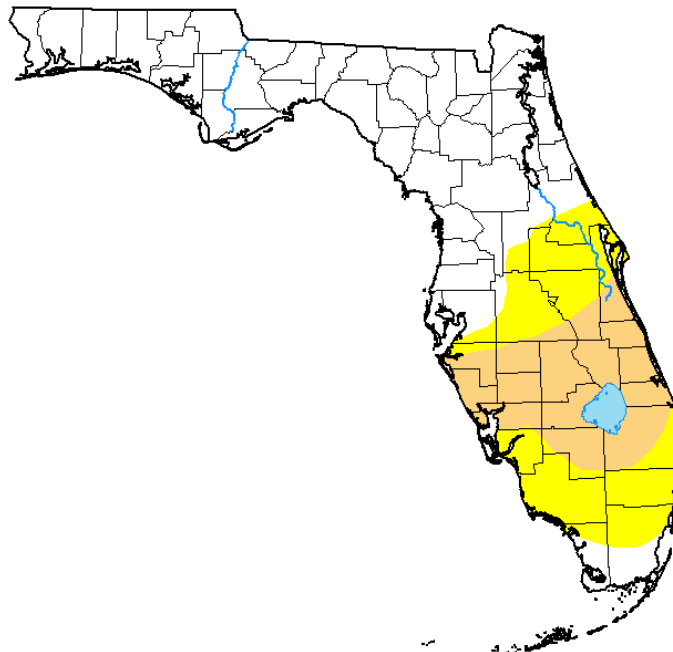
<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

May 21, 2024

(Released Thursday, May 23, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



#### 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](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)