



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.

August 19, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, August 18, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 3.7 inches in Marathon Airport (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 79.4°F in Palm Coast (Flagler County) to 88.1°F at Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were slightly above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 90's. The hottest average readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) and Lake Wales (Polk County), both hitting 96 degrees, followed by Winter Haven (Polk County) reaching 95 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with convective thunderstorms formed along the sea breeze boundary. The most rain fell in Lake Placid (Highlands County), reporting 3.45 inches of precipitation, followed by Fellsmere (Indian River County) registering 2.60 inches, and Groveland (Lake County) measuring 1.88 inches. According to the August 15, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, further beneficial rainfall eliminated the pocket of moderate drought in Brevard County and shrank the area of abnormal dryness into a small strip along the coast. The rest of the citrus belt continued to be drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, topping, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run on an as-needed basis statewide. Field personnel reported next season's fruit from golf ball to larger than baseball size

Crops

The Panhandle area received little to no rain while the Peninsula area received localized showers. Many reported cooler temperatures and drops in humidity since Hurricane Debby passed through two weeks ago. The hot and dry week in the panhandle proved a challenge for cotton producers and other crops that had not reached maturity. Peanut digging started in select areas as pegging neared completion. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane was in the grand growth phase and is expected to start harvesting soon. Rice harvest was over halfway completed. In Hillsborough County, strawberry producers were busy prepping the land by laying plastic and fumigating for the upcoming season. Other crops planted and harvested included okra, boniato, long beans, bitter melon, and some tropical fruit.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were in mostly good to excellent condition. In Sarasota County, pastures were still flooded due to Hurricane Debby.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 08/18/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Setting Bolls	95	91	93	92
Cotton - Bolls Opening	11	6	14	10
Peanuts - Pegging	100	96	98	99
Peanuts - Dug	8	NA	2	3

(NA) Not Available.

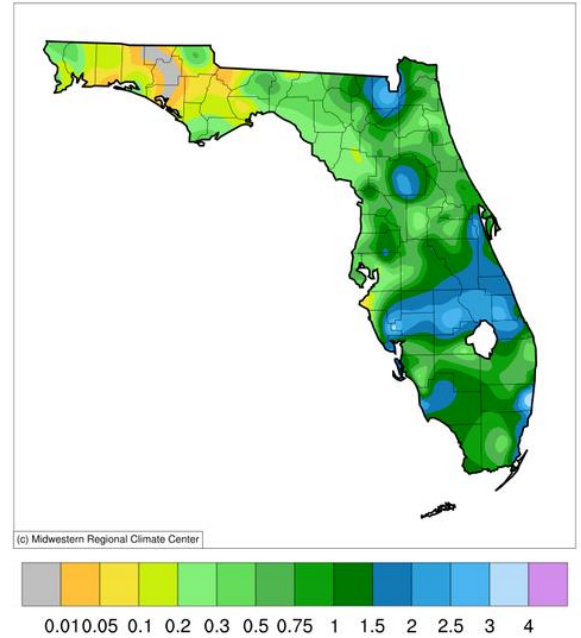
Conditions for Week Ending 08/18/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle	1	2	16	58	23
Cotton	0	3	43	54	0
Pasture and range	1	3	18	49	29
Peanuts	0	1	25	73	1

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 08/18/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very Short		1
Short		8
Adequate		66
Surplus		25

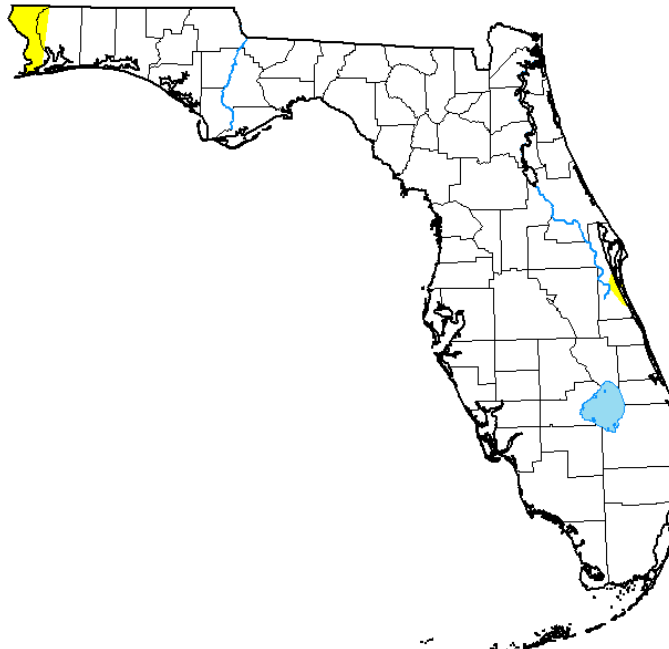
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
August 12, 2024 to August 18, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

August 13, 2024
(Released Thursday, Aug. 15, 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 <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu