



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  
Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 851 Trafalgar Court Suite 310 E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (800) 253-4419 · (855) 271-9801 FAX  
[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.

September 3, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

## General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, September 1, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 6.2 inches at Fort Lauderdale (Broward County). The average mean temperature ranged from 80.9°F in Merritt Island Florida (Brevard County) to 86.8°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

## Citrus

Temperatures were once more 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 Winter Haven (Polk County), both hitting 94 degrees, followed by Bartow (Polk County) reaching 93 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with afternoon convective thunderstorms. The most rain fell in Ruskin (Hillsborough County), reporting 3.61 inches of precipitation, followed by Clermont (Lake County) registering 3.18 inches, and Apopka (Orange County) measuring 2.96 inches. According to the August 29, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the thin strip of abnormal dryness present along the Indian River remained static, while the rest of the citrus belt continued to be drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, removal of dead 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 sizing larger than golf ball to near softball size.

## Crops

The state received little to moderate rainfall with slightly cooler temperatures. Many counties in the Panhandle area experienced abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions. Cotton setting bolls was nearing completion, as bolls opening continued slightly ahead of the five-year average. Producers in Okaloosa and Walton Counties were spraying cotton and peanuts. Both crops are reported to be looking good and cotton is anticipated to be defoliated sometime during the next two weeks. Peanuts digging and harvesting continued to progress slowly. In Okaloosa and Walton Counties, field corn harvest was well underway and just over halfway completed. In Palm Beach County, sugarcane planting was expected to start soon. Rice harvest was nearing completion but was slightly delayed due to rain received in the county. In Hillsborough County, strawberry producers continued land preparation including laying plastic and fumigation for the winter strawberry season. Other crops planted and harvested included peppers, cucurbits, eggplant, okra, long beans, bitter melon, and some tropical fruits.

## Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were in mostly good to excellent condition.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 09/01/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Setting Bolls .....	99	95	97	98
Cotton - Bolls Opening .....	26	18	23	22
Peanuts - Dug .....	19	6	9	11
Peanuts - Harvested .....	6	1	3	5

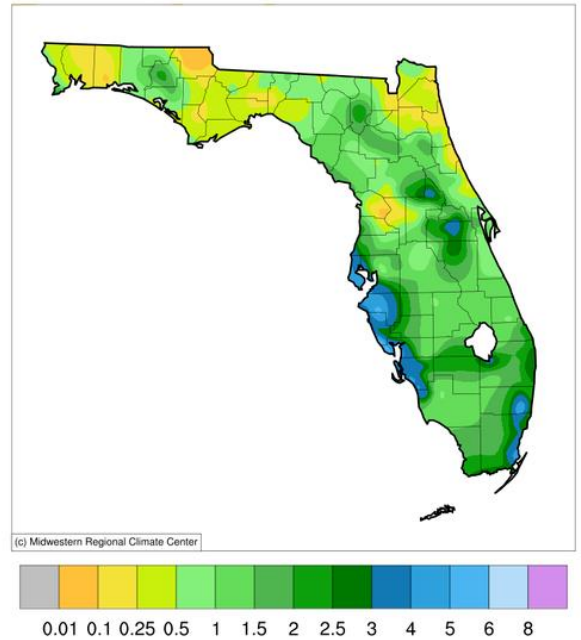
### Conditions for Week Ending 09/01/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	2	11	70	16
Cotton.....	0	2	57	39	2
Pasture and range.....	1	3	12	52	32
Peanuts.....	0	3	37	58	2

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 09/01/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very Short.....		2
Short.....		17
Adequate.....		66
Surplus.....		15

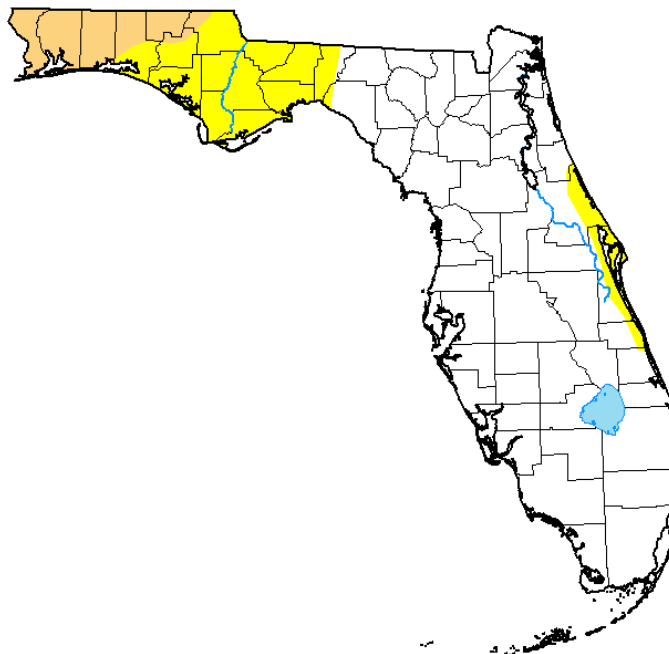
Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
August 26, 2024 to September 01, 2024



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

August 27, 2024  
(Released Thursday, Aug. 29, 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>

**Author:**

Richard Heim  
NCEI/NOAA



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