



CITRUS ABANDONED ACRES

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751-7058
(407) 648-6013 · (855) 271-9801 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

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Abandoned Acreage Up Less Than 1 Percent

Untended citrus groves were identified, and their location recorded during the annual Commercial Citrus Tree Inventory. Citrus tree condition was evaluated and an overall assessment was made of citrus groves shown on the maps of Florida citrus growing areas. Citrus groves previously identified as abandoned have either been removed, returned back to production, or remain abandoned. Abandoned groves are a threat to the citrus industry and are a haven for psyllids carrying the bacterium that causes greening disease.

Additional groves are added each year when they meet the abandoned grove criteria. A citrus grove is classified as abandoned when any of the following conditions exist: no production care during the past 2 years, lack of weed control or grass mowing, livestock present, weather damaged or neglected trees that are not economically feasible to maintain, or no commercial harvest during the last 2 seasons. Whenever possible, property owners or caretakers were contacted regarding the future use of their groves. Understory acres include pine stands and forested areas with abandoned, unintentional, or feral citrus trees scattered underneath their canopy.

Of the 30 counties surveyed, 15 show increases, and 15 show decreases in total abandoned acreage. St. Lucie County has the largest amount of abandoned citrus at 32,605 acres, followed by Indian River County which had the largest gain bringing its total to 16,599 acres. Martin County had the greatest reduction in abandoned acres. Four of the five production areas show increases in abandoned acres. The Indian River production area has the largest quantity of abandoned acreage with 45 percent of the state's total.

Citrus Abandoned Acreage by County and Survey Year – Florida: 2014-2016

County	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Brevard	483	501	452	2,695	3,380	3,172	247	247	134	2,942	3,627	3,306
Charlotte	181	167	152	2,418	2,148	2,058	-	-	-	2,418	2,148	2,058
Collier	31	32	43	662	707	1,247	-	-	-	662	707	1,247
De Soto	353	342	317	3,216	3,393	3,174	-	-	-	3,216	3,393	3,174
Glades	45	49	61	674	720	1,113	-	-	-	674	720	1,113
Hardee	344	326	363	2,566	2,399	2,708	-	-	-	2,566	2,399	2,708
Hendry	382	385	388	9,337	8,989	8,621	37	-	-	9,374	8,989	8,621
Hernando	55	54	55	931	921	942	37	20	-	968	941	942
Highlands	149	151	132	1,528	1,994	1,615	15	2	2	1,543	1,996	1,617
Hillsborough	491	372	361	3,462	2,010	2,373	-	-	-	3,462	2,010	2,373
Indian River	815	878	976	12,414	13,802	16,534	124	124	65	12,538	13,926	16,599
Lake	1,012	970	1,005	9,966	9,092	9,237	4,191	4,324	4,593	14,157	13,416	13,830
Lee	96	93	88	749	647	570	-	-	-	749	647	570
Manatee	286	270	274	2,762	2,564	2,671	-	-	-	2,762	2,564	2,671
Marion	81	86	83	267	294	275	691	684	675	958	978	950
Martin	596	608	562	17,350	17,482	14,737	-	-	-	17,350	17,482	14,737
Okeechobee	94	86	89	1,411	1,265	1,306	-	-	-	1,411	1,265	1,306
Orange	243	258	251	2,138	2,288	2,281	416	429	423	2,554	2,717	2,704
Osceola	357	354	301	2,955	3,134	2,672	162	121	4	3,117	3,255	2,676
Pasco	250	240	261	2,236	1,927	2,531	493	493	91	2,729	2,420	2,622
Polk	1,017	963	1,143	7,636	6,813	8,123	410	410	410	8,046	7,223	8,533
Putnam	17	21	32	99	118	161	-	-	-	99	118	161
St. Lucie	1,287	1,367	1,418	31,584	33,113	32,283	322	322	322	31,906	33,435	32,605
Sarasota	32	28	30	298	274	288	-	-	-	298	274	288
Seminole	52	49	50	250	203	206	-	-	-	250	203	206
Volusia	181	178	171	1,458	1,439	1,416	112	112	112	1,570	1,551	1,528
Others ¹	179	57	51	5,551	1,628	1,463	76	76	76	5,627	1,704	1,539
Total	9,109	8,885	9,109	126,613	122,744	123,777	7,333	7,364	6,907	133,946	130,108	130,684

- Represents zero.

¹ Citrus, Palm Beach, and Pinellas counties in 2014; includes Alachua, Citrus, Palm Beach, and Pinellas counties in 2015 and 2016.

Citrus Abandoned Acreage by Production Area and Survey Year – Florida: 2014-2016

Production Area	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016
(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Indian River	2,896	3,028	3,125	53,314	56,295	57,621	735	735	633	54,049	57,030	58,254
Northern Area	1,809	1,784	1,836	16,723	15,648	16,438	5,904	6,026	5,858	22,627	21,674	22,296
Central Area	1,530	1,474	1,578	12,262	12,082	12,477	657	603	416	12,919	12,685	12,893
Western Area	1,509	1,344	1,349	12,321	10,689	11,262	-	-	-	12,321	10,689	11,262
Southern Area	1,365	1,255	1,221	31,993	28,030	25,979	37	-	-	32,030	28,030	25,979
Total	9,109	8,885	9,109	126,613	122,744	123,777	7,333	7,364	6,907	133,946	130,108	130,684

- Represents zero.

