



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &  
CONDITION REPORT**



In Cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
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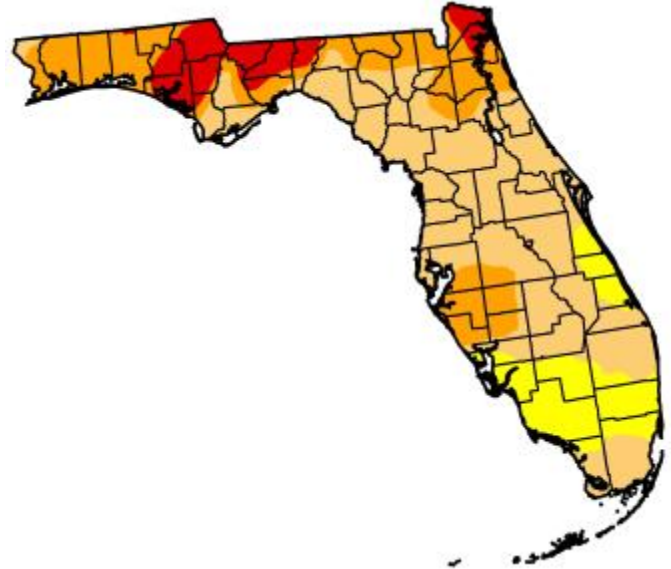
Released: January 30, 2012 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: January 29, 2012

**Rain Needed**

**Weather Summary:** Pleasant, warm temperatures prevailed across the Sunshine State during the week of January 23 through 29. Temperatures for the week averaged five to thirteen degrees above normal. Enjoyable daytime highs were in the upper 70s and 80s. Cool evening lows were in the mid-30s to 50s. Showers brought mostly traces of rain from the Panhandle down to the southern Peninsula. Marianna and Pensacola reported over one inch of precipitation. Drying conditions continued to increase the threat of wildfires. There were three active wildfires reported by the Florida Forest Service which covered more than 3,000 acres.

**U.S. Drought Monitor: January 24, 2012**



**Intensity:**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	3	1	3
Short .....	47	23	43
Adequate .....	46	71	53
Surplus .....	4	5	1

**Field Crops:** Soil moisture supplies were rated short to mostly adequate. Most of Florida experienced moderate drought conditions. Severe to extreme drought conditions was reported in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula. Sugarcane harvesting concluded in Palm Beach County. Winter wheat was reported in good condition.

**Fruits & Vegetables:** Dry conditions allowed fieldwork to progress with some growers irrigating fields. In Miami-Dade County, growers harvested and replanted winter vegetables. Some vegetable growers in the southern Peninsula were busy planting for spring crops which included watermelons. Hastings growers began planting potatoes. Market movement included snap beans, bell peppers, eggplant, radishes, squash, and strawberries. Producers shipped light supplies of cabbage, celery, endive, escarole, and sweet corn.

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide**, pasture condition was slightly improved from the previous week, but most pasture was in poor condition. Drought was the first limiting factor to forage growth. The cattle condition was mostly good as hay and supplements were being fed. In the **Panhandle** and **northern** areas, most pastures were in poor condition. Warmer weather helped winter pasture in the west Panhandle counties. Most pasture still suffered from overgrazing and some winter forage was not yet ready for grazing. Most cattle were in fair to good condition. In the **central** areas, pasture condition was mostly poor to fair. Worsening drought has hampered forage growth but ryegrass pastures looked good. Pastures recovered some from the frost. The condition of the cattle was mostly fair to good. In the **southwestern** areas, most pastures were in poor condition due to previous frost and drought. The condition of the cattle was poor to excellent with most in good condition.

### Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week (percent)	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Current week (percent)
Very poor.....	0	1	8	5
Poor.....	3	5	34	50
Fair.....	35	40	45	37
Good.....	60	53	13	7
Excellent.....	2	1	0	1

**Citrus:** Temperatures remained above seasonal norms, reaching over 80 degrees in all citrus-growing localities. Rainfall was slight across the region. Palmdale received the most with 0.66 inch and two stations, Clewiston and Ft. Pierce, received none at all. Drought conditions exist across the entire citrus region, ranging from abnormally dry on the eastern coast, to severe on the west coast. Drought conditions are per the U.S. Drought Monitor; last updated January 24, 2012. Seventeen processors and 45 (out of 47 expected) packinghouses have opened this season. Harvesting of Honey tangerines was picking up, as early tangerines were almost finished for the season. Cultural practices included irrigation, young tree care, and limited hedging and topping.

### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	January 9-15, 2012 (boxes)	January 16-22, 2012 (boxes)	January 23-29, 2012 (boxes)
Early & mid oranges.....	7,363	4,556	5,192
Valencia.....	56	148	357
Navel oranges.....	45	43	17
Temples.....	21	79	14
Grapefruit.....	899	692	822
Tangelos.....	85	66	41
Tangerines.....	184	141	146
Total.....	8,653	5,725	6,589

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