



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



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service  
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Released: December 31, 2012 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: December 30, 2012

**Year Ends with Typical Florida Weather**

**Weather Summary:** It was a typical winter weather week in Florida, warm and sunny with the occasional cold front. Minimum, nighttime temperatures ranged from 30 degrees in Monticello to 43 degrees in Clewiston. Maximum, daytime temperatures ranged from 68 degrees in Carrabelle to 82 degrees in Fort Lauderdale. Rainfall ranged from none in Homestead to 3.26 inches in Quincy with most of the precipitation in the northwest areas. According to the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN), 43 percent of Florida was abnormally dry compared to 53 percent a year ago. The year ended with above average annual rainfall at many major cities. Miami recorded 87 inches (+29 inches), West Palm Beach (+18 inches) and Tampa (+12 inches). Some cities with below normal rainfall were Orlando (-7 inches), Daytona (-6 inches), and Tallahassee (-3 inches).

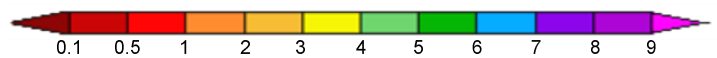
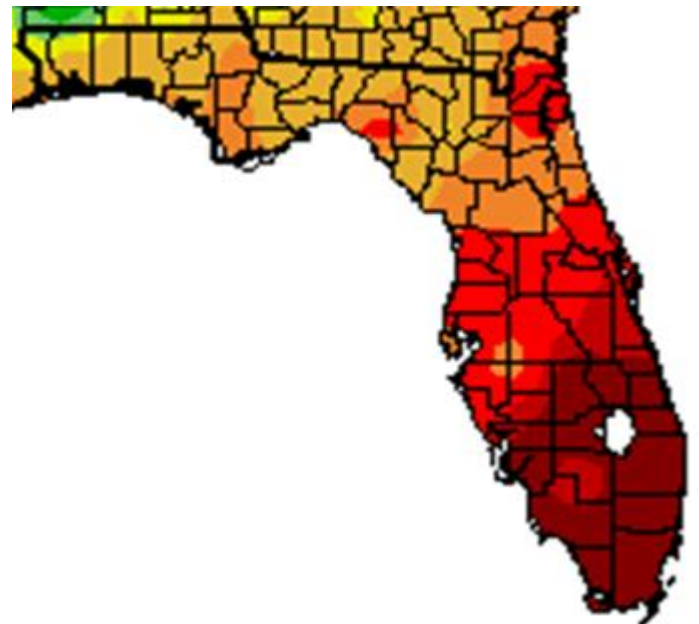
**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	5	5
Short.....	42	36	35
Adequate.....	43	57	60
Surplus.....	1	2	0

**Field Crops:** The harvest was over for all crops in Gadsden County. In Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, showers were beneficial to wheat. Some light frost on two mornings in St. Lucie County burned some pasture grasses. The sugarcane harvest continued in south Florida.

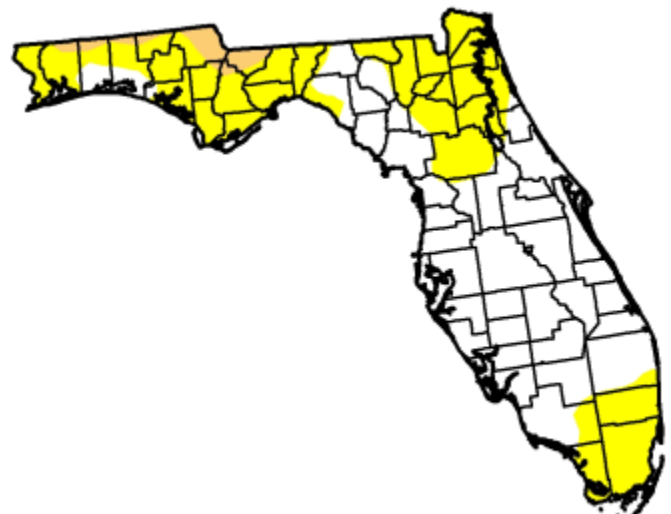
**Fruits & Vegetables:** Growers in southern areas reported little crop damage in most places from the cold weather in mid-December, although some sensitive items like squash and beans were hurt by cold winds. Harvesting of all winter vegetables continued in southern Miami-Dade County.

**Precipitation (in) –Florida: Dec 23 – 29, 2012**



Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

**U.S. Drought Monitor – Florida: Dec 25, 2012**



Intensity:

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

**Livestock and Pastures: Statewide**, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in fair condition. Drought followed by cold temperatures limited forage growth. Winter forage planting was active. Cattlemen were feeding hay. The condition of the cattle ranged from poor to excellent with most in fair condition. In the **Panhandle**, pasture condition ranged from very poor to excellent with most in fair condition. In Jefferson County, winter grazing remained behind normal progress. Showers in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties did little to help pastures. Cattlemen were feeding hay. Most cattle were in fair to good condition. In the **northern** areas, pasture condition ranged from very poor to good. The cattle were in fair to good condition. In the **central** area, pasture condition was mostly fair. Most cattle were in fair condition and cattlemen in Seminole County started to feed hay. In the **southwest** area, pasture condition varied from very poor to excellent, with most in fair to good condition. Much needed rain in Charlotte County helped green up pastures. The condition of the cattle ranged from very poor to good with most in good condition. More cattlemen were feeding hay and molasses.

**Citrus:** Seasonal, daily high temperatures ranged from the low 70s to the lower 80s. Lows reached the low 30s. Rainfall was light, but widespread. All of the FAWN stations recorded some precipitation. Sixteen of the 24 stations recorded at least a half-inch. Six stations recorded more than an inch. Citra recorded the most with 1.92 inches. The drought remained the same in the northern portion of the citrus region, but increased slightly in the south, per the U.S. Drought Monitor, updated December 25, 2012. Growers irrigated one to two times a week to keep moisture in the ground and on the trees. Harvest of early and midseason varieties continued at a heavy pace. Other grove activities included mowing and general grove maintenance. Forty packinghouses and 16 processors were open and shipping. Shipment of fresh fruit was moderate. Varieties being packed primarily included early oranges (mostly Navels), colored grapefruit, and Sunburst tangerines.

**Cattle and Pasture Condition**

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	0	5	1
Poor.....	5	10	30	26
Fair.....	38	50	35	52
Good.....	51	35	28	20
Excellent.....	5	5	2	1

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending:		
	Dec 16, 2012	Dec 23, 2012	Dec 30, 2012
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges.....	5,415	4,481	NA
Ambersweet.....	4	4	NA
Navel oranges.....	197	73	NA
White grapefruit.....	44	54	NA
Red grapefruit.....	335	380	NA
Tangelos.....	70	56	NA
Sunburst tangerines.....	80	37	NA
Honey tangerines.....	22	43	NA
Total.....	6,167	5,128	NA

(NA) Not available.

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