



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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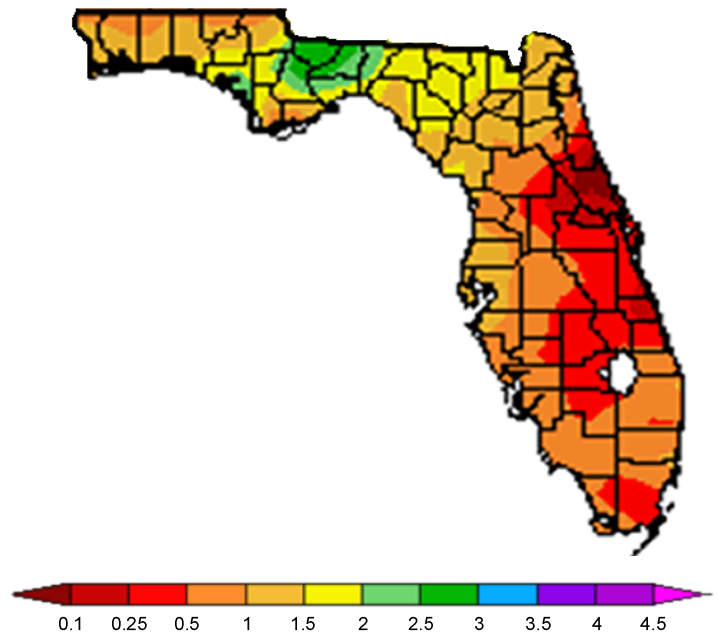
Released: March 10, 2014 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: March 9, 2014

**Growing Conditions Improving**

**Weather Summary:** According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), three locations received two inches of rain. Most reporting stations received less than one inch of rain. No drought was reported in the State. Maximum temperatures ranged from the 70s to the 80s, with the highest temperature in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County) at 87 degrees. The lowest temperatures in the State ranged from 32 degrees in Lecanto (Citrus County) to 57 degrees in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County).

**Precipitation (in)–Florida: March 3-9, 2014**



Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	0	16	0
Short .....	10	34	10
Adequate .....	83	47	72
Surplus .....	7	3	18

**Field Crops:** Farmers in Walton County were preparing fields for corn. One of the three sugar companies was almost finished with their sugarcane harvest.

**Fruit and Vegetables:** Dixie County farmers started planting melons. Potato planting in Flagler and Putnam counties was coming to a close. Miami-Dade County farmers were planting green beans, squash, and zucchini. Harvesting of cabbage continued in Flagler and Putnam counties. Green beans, cucumbers, collards, eggplant, herbs, kale, peppers, squash, and tomatoes were being harvested in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties. Miami-Dade County farmers were harvesting green beans, sweet corn, squash, peppers, herbs, mélange, and Cuban sweet potatoes (boniatos). Vegetables and fruits marketed in the State included beets, cabbage, collards, cucumbers, eggplant, kale, peppers, potatoes, squash, tomatoes, herbs, and a variety of specialty vegetables.

**U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: March 4, 2014**



Intensity:

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

**Citrus:** Rain was widespread in the citrus area this past week. Nearly all stations recorded a quarter of an inch or more of rainfall. The most recorded was in Lake Alfred (Polk County) at 1.30 inches. Daytime temperatures were unseasonably warm, reaching the mid 80s in several citrus producing counties, as far south as Collier County and as far north as Polk County. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated March 4, 2014, no drought exists within the citrus growing area.

Grove activity included irrigating on several days during the week, hedging, topping and spraying. Growers continued to plant new trees in existing groves. Partial blooms were evident in all areas on both oranges and grapefruit. Some trees are bearing very small fruit already for next season's crop.

Several processing plants had closed temporarily and were waiting for Valencia oranges to start coming in. A few plants were running grapefruit only. Almost all packing houses were open and shipping fruit in limited quantities; some had transitioned to gift fruit packing only.

**Livestock and Pastures:** Pasture quality has been aided by warmer temperatures and soil moisture. Calving continues throughout the State. The cattle condition for the State primarily ranged from fair to good but the pasture condition was mostly fair.

### Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	1	2	3
Poor .....	5	5	22	24
Fair.....	38	42	51	46
Good .....	55	51	23	26
Excellent.....	1	1	2	1

### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	Feb 23, 2014	March 2, 2014	March 9, 2014
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges....	1,805	162	55
Valencia .....	86	173	558
Navel oranges .....	4	3	3
White Grapefruit .....	229	282	231
Colored Grapefruit.....	549	611	650
Temples .....	18	39	70
Tangelos .....	18	12	6
Sunburst tangerines....	2	0	4
Honey Tangerines.....	97	68	85
Total.....	2,808	1,350	1,662

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