



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 31, 2014 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: March 30, 2014

Rainy Week Slows Planting & Harvesting

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), only three locations in the State received below one inch of rain. Dade City (Pasco County) received the most rain with 3.64 inches. Maximum temperatures were in the 70s to 80s degrees, with the highest temperature in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County) with 85 degrees. The lowest temperatures in the State ranged from 30 degrees in Defuniak Springs (Walton County) to 56 degrees in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County).

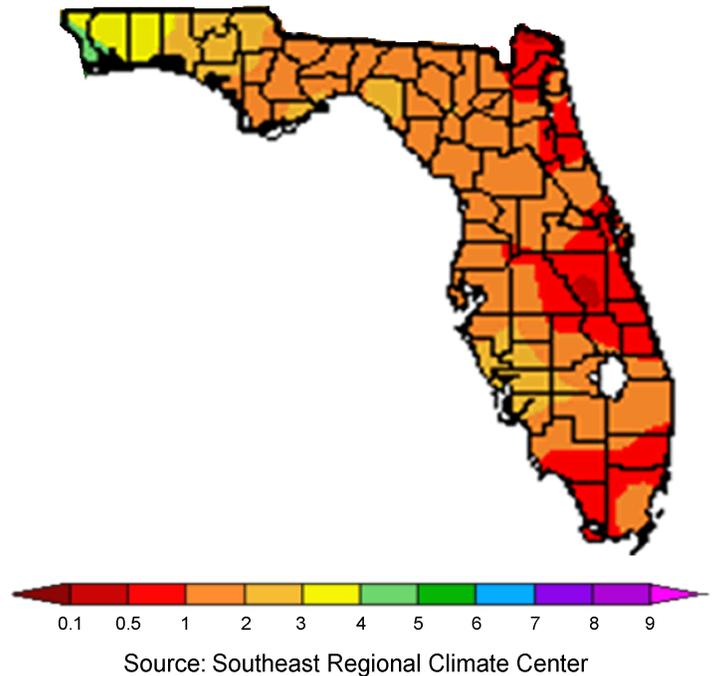
Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	15	0
Short	20	36	18
Adequate	73	43	73
Surplus	6	6	9

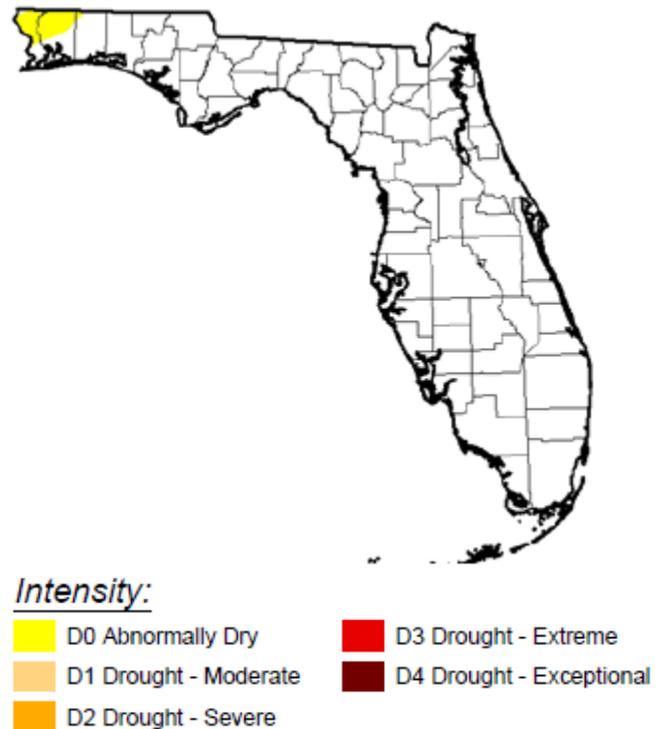
Field Crops: Some field corn was planted in Jackson County before the rain. Most fields in the Panhandle were too wet for work. Levy County farmers started planting peanuts and Dixie County farmers prepared fields for peanut planting. Sugarcane harvest was nearing its finish.

Fruit and Vegetables: Flagler and Putnam farmers continued to harvest cabbage. Dixie and Levy county farmers finished planting watermelons. Crops being planted in Miami-Dade County were okra, bitter melon, and Asian crops. Miami-Dade County farmers were harvesting eggplant, green beans, herbs, peppers, yellow squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, Cuban sweet potatoes (Boniato), and zucchini. Vegetables coming to market in the southwest were beets, blueberries, cabbage, collards, cucumbers, eggplant, green beans, herbs, lettuce, kale, peppers, potatoes, snap beans, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelons, and specialty items.

Precipitation (in)–Florida: March 24-30, 2014



U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: March 25, 2014



Citrus: Rain was widespread and heavy in the citrus area this past week. All but one station recorded more than an inch of rainfall. Eight recorded more than two inches. Sebring (Highlands County) recorded the least at 0.94 inches. The most recorded was in Dade City (Pasco County) at 3.65 inches. Daytime temperatures were seasonable reaching the low 80s in all citrus producing counties. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated March 25, 2014, no drought exists within the citrus growing area

Grove activity included irrigating on several days during the week, hedging, topping and spraying. Growers were continuing to plant new trees in existing groves. Full bloom is 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 have closed temporarily and were waiting for Valencia oranges to start coming in. A few plants were running grapefruit only. All but four packing houses were open and were shipping fruit in limited quantities; some had transitioned to gift fruit packing only.

Livestock and Pastures: Warmer temperatures have improved pasture quality, however, some pasture remains wet in the Panhandle from recent heavy rain. Rains in the southwest have helped the pastures maintain a favorable condition. 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	0	1	1
Poor	4	4	17	14
Fair.....	35	37	56	54
Good	59	58	24	29
Excellent.....	1	1	2	2

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	March 16, 2014	March 23, 2014	March 30, 2014
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges....	47	9	1
Valencia	1,888	3,090	3,659
Navel oranges	3	2	3
White Grapefruit	382	170	173
Colored Grapefruit.....	571	473	426
Temples	46	23	53
Tangelos	3	0	0
Honey Tangerines.....	89	48	70
Total.....	3,029	3,815	4,385

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