



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



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service  
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Week Ending: March 6, 2016

**Weather Summary:** According to Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from no rainfall in numerous stations to 1.32 inch DeFuniak Springs (Walton County). FAWN average rainfall was 0.17 inch. Only four FAWN stations reported over half an inch of rainfall for the week. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated March 1, 2016, Florida was rated 92 percent totally drought free compared to 100 percent the previous week. Pinellas County reported rainfall is needed.

Temperatures ranged from 37 degrees in Jay (Santa Rosa County) for a State nighttime low, to 84 degrees in Palmdale (Glades County) for a State daytime high.

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Current Week	Previous week	Previous year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	0	0	0
Short.....	12	7	15
Adequate .....	67	60	81
Surplus .....	21	33	4

**Field Crops:** There was an average of 6.2 days suitable for field work this past week, compared to 6.1 days last week. A dry week had soil moisture levels at suitable conditions in south Florida. Planting and harvesting activities returned to normal. Sugarcane harvest pace increased due to favorable drier conditions.

**Fruit and Vegetables:** Some watermelon fields were seeded in Dixie and Levy county fields. Leafy greens and cabbage were harvested in Flagler and Putnam counties as Irish potato planting activities finished. Drier conditions reduced disease pressure in many areas. Miami-Dade County crops harvested included green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, sweet corn, tomato, eggplant, pepper, herbs, boniata, Malanga, avocado, and other tropical fruits. All vegetable fields were irrigated.

**Citrus:** Temperatures were about average for this time of the year. Most mornings were in the low 50s while highs reached the upper 70s to lower 80s. Rainfall was relatively non-existent for the entire week. Thirteen of eighteen monitored stations in the Citrus region showed no rainfall, and only one had more than a tenth of an inch of rainfall. Even with the abnormally dry weather over the past couple of weeks, the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated March 1, 2016 shows all areas drought free.

All processing plants transitioned from early-midseason oranges to the later variety Valencia oranges. Only a few plants processed grapefruit, mostly eliminations, from groves spot picked for fresh fruit, or fruit from groves that had initially been spot picked and were being cleaned up a final time. Packinghouses were accepting Valencia oranges, Honey tangerines, tangelos, and grapefruit.

Trees in well cared groves looked healthy. Growers were removing dead or dying trees in most areas. Bloom was in various stages across the citrus region. Some trees that had bloomed early already had small fruit forming on the trees. Other groves had only a few white bloom petals on healthy trees. Caretakers were hedging and topping trees after harvest. Some growers were fertilizing and spraying. Limited mowing, mostly before harvest was done on an as needed basis. Irrigation was turned back on in areas that have received little rainfall over the past few weeks. Other grove activity included fertilizing and general grove maintenance.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending:		
	Feb 21, 2016	Feb 28, 2016	Mar 6, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-Oranges .....	135	59	11
Navel Oranges .....	2	1	1
Temples .....	41	37	18
Valencia Oranges.....	411	2,127	3,318
Red Grapefruit.....	478	513	426
White Grapefruit.....	230	171	248
Sunburst Tangerines .....	0	1	2
Honey Tangerines .....	53	36	36
Tangelos .....	3	0	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>2,945</b>	<b>4,060</b>

**Livestock and Pastures:** Lee County pastures dried out as cattle had access to pastures. Additional available forage was due to drier and warmer conditions with longer daylight hours. Reports of less required supplemental feeding were common in many localities. Drier conditions placed less stress on young and newborn calves.

**Cattle and Pasture Condition**

Condition	Cattle		Pasture/Range	
	Current week	Previous week	Current week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor .....	0	0	4	5
Poor .....	6	6	21	22
Fair.....	31	30	40	37
Good.....	56	57	32	27
Excellent .....	7	7	3	9

**Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), Precipitation and Rainfall by Station**

FAWN Station	County	District	Monday, February 29 to Sunday, March 6, 2016		
			Minimum Temp.	Maximum Temp.	Rainfall (inches)
Carrabelle	Franklin	10	38.43	73.09	0.16
DeFuniak	Walton	10	37.37	72.61	1.32
Jay	Santa Rosa	10	37.02	74.01	0.45
Marianna	Jackson	10	37.61	75.13	0.98
Monticello	Jefferson	10	37.37	75.90	0.64
Quincy	Gadsden	10	38.76	75.15	0.86
Live Oak	Suwannee	30	39.65	77.31	0.46
MacClenny	Baker	30	37.89	78.69	0.22
Mayo	Lafayette	30	37.13	75.97	0.35
Alachua	Alachua	50	39.78	77.74	0.13
Apopka	Orange	50	48.49	78.94	0.13
Avalon	Orange	50	49.64	81.32	0.01
Balm	Hillsborough	50	49.48	80.44	0
Bronson	Levy	50	40.37	79.63	0.47
Citra	Marion	50	39.21	78.57	0.03
Dade City	Pasco	50	43.90	81.05	0
Dover	Hillsborough	50	46.04	81.43	0.01
Frostproof	Polk	50	51.31	81.77	0
Hastings	St. Johns	50	44.09	79.14	0.24
Kenansville	Osceola	50	49.98	81.12	0
Lake Alfred	Polk	50	52.11	83.48	0.02
Lecanto	Citrus	50	38.08	79.16	0.08
Ocklawaha	Marion	50	47.01	83.41	0
Okahumpka	Lake	50	44.23	80.42	0.26
Pierson	Volusia	50	43.97	81.61	0.04
Putnam Hall	Putnam	50	41.39	77.95	0.35
Umatilla	Lake	50	46.49	80.01	0.01
Arcadia	De Soto	80	50.47	81.82	0
Belle Glade	Palm Beach	80	51.39	82.22	0
Clewiston	Hendry	80	56.64	83.44	0
Fort Lauderdale	Broward	80	60.30	83.30	0
Homestead	Miami-Dade	80	55.45	83.79	0
Immokalee	Collier	80	52.05	81.37	0
Indian River	Indian River	80	51.39	80.98	0
Joshua	De Soto	80	48.02	81.93	0
North Port	Sarasota	80	51.96	80.40	0.04
Okeechobee	Okeechobee	80	52.70	83.61	0
Ona	Hardee	80	50.97	80.82	0
Palmdale	Glades	80	54.05	84.13	0
Sebring	Highlands	80	53.80	83.84	0
St. Lucie West	St Lucie	80	51.73	82.98	0
Wellington	W.Palm Beach	80	57.15	82.17	0

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/Florida/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/). To set-up this free subscription, send e-mail message to [listserv@newsbox.usda.gov](mailto:listserv@newsbox.usda.gov) and in the body, type "subscribe to Florida crop weather." The drought monitor index used in this report originates from the U.S. Drought Monitor website. Visit <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu> maintained by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Visit <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information