



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**Florida Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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February 21, 2017

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 19 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in some locations including Joshua (De Soto County), Okeechobee (Okeechobee County), and Wellington (Palm Beach County), to 0.68 inches in Pierson (Volusia County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 57.5°F in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County) to 72.7°F in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County). Another week with little to no rainfall across much of the state. Several counties in central and southern Florida are now considered to be in a moderate drought.

Citrus

Daily temperatures in the citrus region were above average. Highs were mostly in the upper 70s to lower 80s all week. Traces of scattered rain fell in the citrus producing area. Only nine of eighteen monitored stations recorded more than a tenth of an inch of rainfall. Ona (Hardee County) was the sole county that had over a half of an inch of rainfall for the week. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated February 14th, 2017, drought conditions have worsened across the state. All citrus producing counties south of Polk County are now showing moderate drought conditions. The remainder of the citrus region is in an abnormally dry state.

Early and Mid-orange weekly harvest has slowed down significantly from its peak week last month. Valencia orange harvest is increasing slowly, primarily being harvested for the fresh market. Field run on Valencia oranges has not yet started in large quantities. Honey and Royal tangerines were picked primarily for the fresh market. Harvest has been relatively slow on these two varieties this season. White and red grapefruit harvest continued at a normal pace. Pickers are cleaning trees in grapefruit groves that were previously spot picked.

Bloom is widespread across the citrus region, yet in various stages. Some groves are in early stages of bloom, while others are already showing petal drop and starting to form

fruit. Growers are applying bactericides and continuing psyllid control. Other grove activity included spraying, hedging, fertilizing (including liquid fertilizing), and general grove maintenance. Irrigation is running heavily in all areas.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 5, 2017	Feb 12, 2017	Feb 19, 2017	Feb 21, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	3,004	2,185	1,420	139
Valencias	53	74	88	460
Navel oranges.....	5	2	2	3
White grapefruit.....	78	72	84	253
Red grapefruit	375	414	349	567
Temples.....	5	10	9	7
Tangelos.....	9	7	5	3
Sunburst tangerines	5	6	19	60
Honey tangerines.	26	33	35	33
Total	3,560	2,803	2,011	1,525

Fruits and Vegetables

Strawberry harvest is in full swing in Hillsborough and Manatee Counties. Bradford County producers reported harvesting cabbage, greens, onions, and strawberries, as well as planting other spring vegetables. There are reports from Palm Beach County of lettuce varieties maturing early, due to the high temperatures, and resulting in underweight harvests. Crops coming to market this week include bitter melon, boniato, collards, cucumbers, eggplant, green beans, malanga, pepper, squash, sweet corn, tomato, zucchini, and other tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Most cattle producers are using supplemental feeding, as pasture quality continues its decline. Pastures in Brevard and Indian River Counties are improving after mowing. Cattle remain in mostly fair to good condition.

Field Crops

Oats and rye harvesting activities were reported in Lafayette County. Land preparation has begun for spring crops in Washington County. Sugarcane fields continue to be harvested in Broward, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

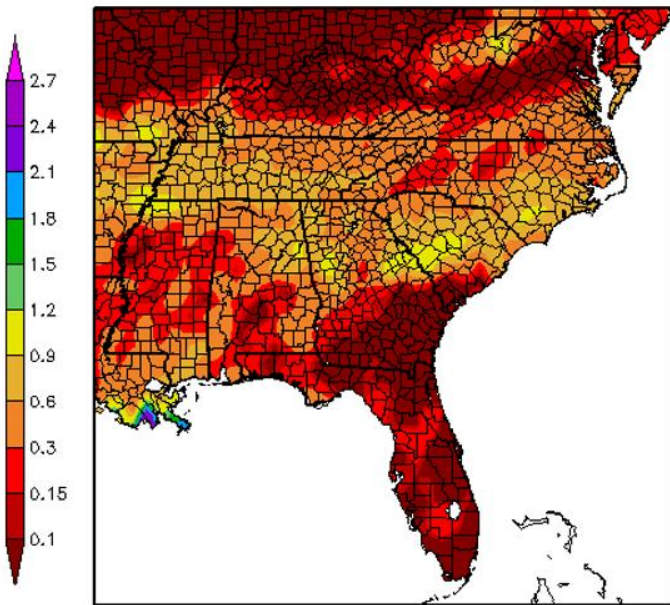
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 2/19/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	13	11	3
Short	43	39	27
Adequate.....	40	44	58
Surplus.....	4	6	12

Condition for week ending 2/19/17

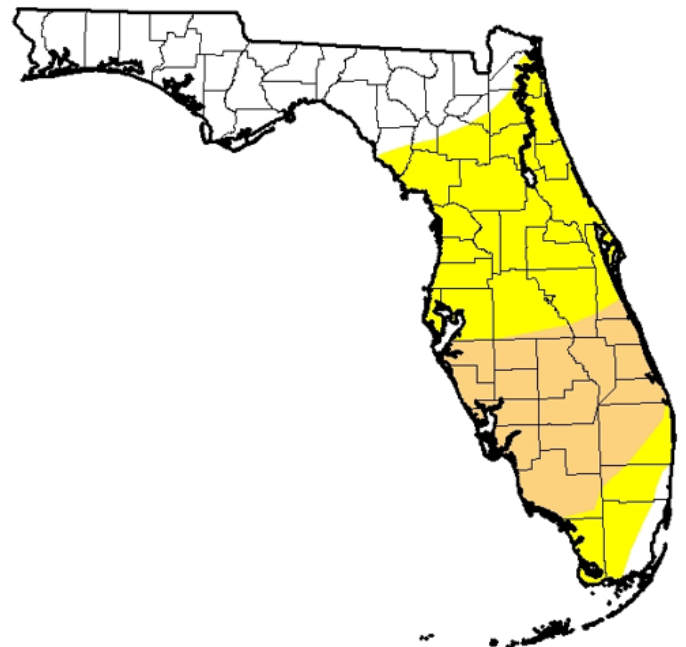
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	12	43	40	4
Pasture & Range...	8	28	41	20	3

Precipitation (in)
2/13/2017 - 2/19/2017



Generated 2/21/17 at HPRCC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers.
<http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida**



Intensity:

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

February 14, 2017 (Released Thursday Feb. 16, 2017)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>