



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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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

March 27, 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, March 26, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple parts of the state to 1.54 inches in Indian River (Volusia County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 65.2°F in Macclenny (Baker County) to 71.7°F in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County).

**Citrus**

Daily temperatures in the citrus regions were slightly above average. Over the weekend, temperatures ranged from the mid 70s to upper 80s in all citrus producing counties. Rainfall was widespread, but very sporadic. All nineteen monitored stations received some rainfall; eight of the nineteen had more than an inch. The county that had over an inch of rain was the Indian River County, at 1.54 inches. According to the March 21, 2017, U.S. Drought Monitor, conditions have worsened since the last report. Abnormally dry conditions have now expanded over the complete northern citrus production area. Conditions in Highlands County in the central production area and Glades and Okeechobee Counties in the southern production area, are now in severe drought. The remainder of the citrus region is in moderate drought.

Valencia orange harvest is in full swing, primarily for processing. Tangerine harvest for the fresh market was mostly Honey tangerines and for the processed market was mostly the Royal tangerine variety. White and red grapefruit is still being harvested, but going primarily to the processing plants.

All citrus trees are in full bloom or have begun petal drop. Trees in well cared for groves have lots of new growth. In groves where bloom was early this year, pea to marble-sized fruit is being reported. Growers are fighting greening with bactericides and pesticides, and pushing dead and dying trees in adjacent abandoned groves. Other grove activity included irrigating, hedging, fertilizing and general grove maintenance.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 12, 2017	Mar 19, 2017	Mar 26, 2017	Mar 27, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	87	322	0	5
Valencias .....	1,186	2,354	2,620	3,940
Navel oranges.....	0	0	0	0
White grapefruit.....	72	65	34	79
Red grapefruit.....	246	144	79	154
Tangelos.....	3	1	2	1
Temples.....	22	13	10	2
Sunburst Tangerines	3	0	8	4
Honey tangerines.	39	37	45	65
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,658</b>	<b>2,936</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>4,250</b>

\* Current numbers not available at time of publication  
<http://www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org/bulletins/reports.html>

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Strawberry harvest has slowed in Brevard, Hillsborough, and Manatee Counties. Much of the watermelon acreage will need to be replanted in north and central Florida due to recent frosts. Fruit and vegetable planting is ongoing throughout the state. Vegetable growers in south Florida are having issues with whiteflies as vegetables are coming to market.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle producers continue to use supplemental feeding, as pastures remain dry although some areas across the state reported light rain. Hay supplies are reported to be getting short in Brevard County. Cattle continue to be reported in good to fair condition.

**Field Crops**

Field activities have picked up after the frosts as corn is reported to be planted in Jackson, Lafayette, and Walton counties. Sugarcane harvest continues on schedule in Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

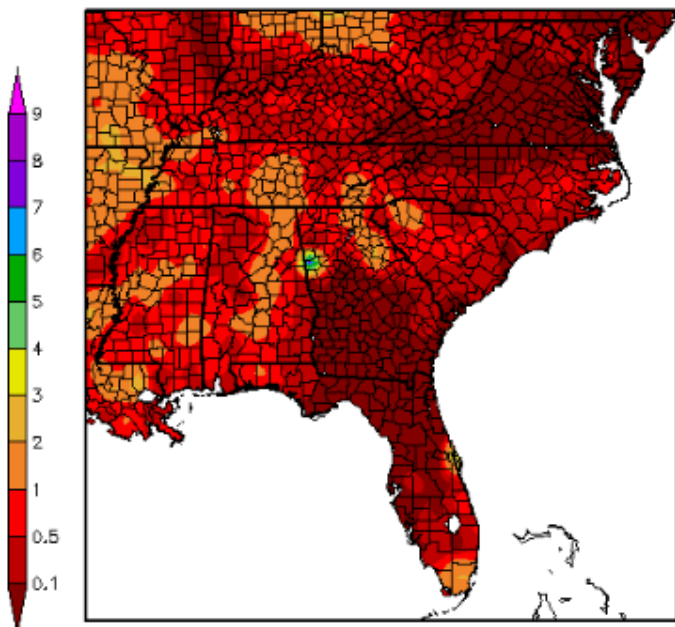
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/26/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	17	14	5
Short .....	47	48	27
Adequate .....	32	34	62
Surplus.....	4	4	6

### Condition for week ending 3/26/17

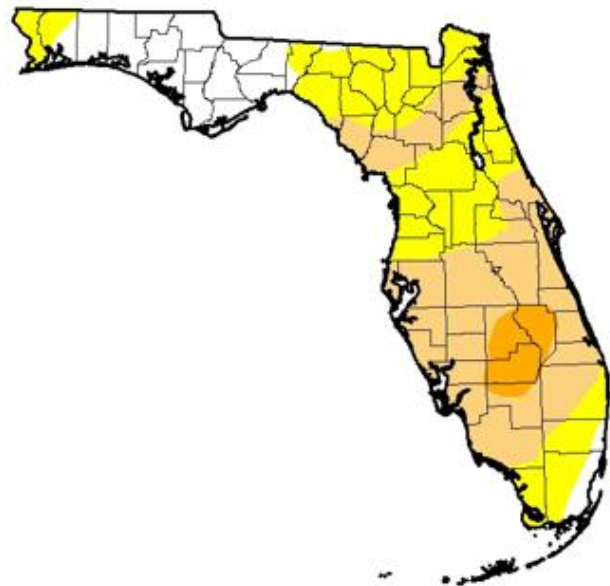
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	16	42	37	4
Pasture & Range...	7	37	34	19	3

Precipitation (in)  
3/20/2017 - 3/26/2017



Generated 3/27/17 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

March 21, 2017 (Released Thursday Mar. 23, 2017)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>