



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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April 9, 2018

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 8, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 3.0 inches in Auburndale (Polk County). The average mean temperature ranged from 60.5°F in Milton (Santa Rosa County) to 79.6°F in Marathon (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were well above average in the citrus growing region with most days in the mid to upper 80s. Nighttime lows were in the 60s and 70s. Labelle (Hendry County) reached 94°F on its warmest day. Avon Park (Polk County) reached 91°F. Precipitation was spotty all week in citrus producing counties. The greatest rainfall amount was in Polk County where four stations had over two inches. Other than Polk County, the most rainfall was in Duette (Manatee County) at 1.61 inches, followed by Zephyrhills (Pasco County) at 1.05 inches. According to the April 5, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, moderate drought conditions in the northern area covered Osceola, Orange, and Seminole counties, and in the southern area covered Collier and Hendry counties. Abnormally dry conditions covered the majority of the remaining citrus counties. Only Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, and Marion counties were drought free.

Grove operations included hedging and topping after harvest. Pea-size and larger fruit was present on all varieties of citrus trees. Initial fruit drop continued on early varieties as the trees set next season’s crop. Growers sprayed nutritionals and fertilizers as needed for the health of the fruit and trees. Irrigation ran on a regular basis.

Harvest is relatively over on all citrus except Valencia oranges. Weekly orange utilization of the later varieties of Valencia oranges is leveling out. Maturity levels have been a problem this season, so harvesting is being adjusted to compensate for the smaller crop size and quality of fruit.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 25, 2018	Apr 1, 2018	Apr 8, 2018	Apr 9, 2017
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	0	0	0	1
Valencia oranges.....	2,249	2,417	3,016	3,451
White grapefruit.....	1	0	0	37
Red grapefruit	18	2	3	19
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	3	2	0	28
Total	2,271	2,421	3,019	3,536

www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

Fruits and Vegetables

Crops planted included okra, boniato, malanga, and bitter melon. Crops harvested included beans, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, leafy greens, pole beans, peaches, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelon.

Livestock and Pastures

Scattered showers across the state improved pasture condition. Livestock producers continued to feed supplements.

Field Crops

Producers in the Panhandle rolled or burned cover crops in preparation for planting row crops, namely peanuts. Peanuts planted thus far in Washington County were for the green (boiling) market. Some producers in Dixie County continued to plant corn. In Suwannee County, emerged corn was two to three inches tall. Sugarcane harvest neared completion in several southwestern counties.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/8/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	14	24	6
Short.....	32	34	31
Adequate.....	52	42	57
Surplus.....	2	0	6

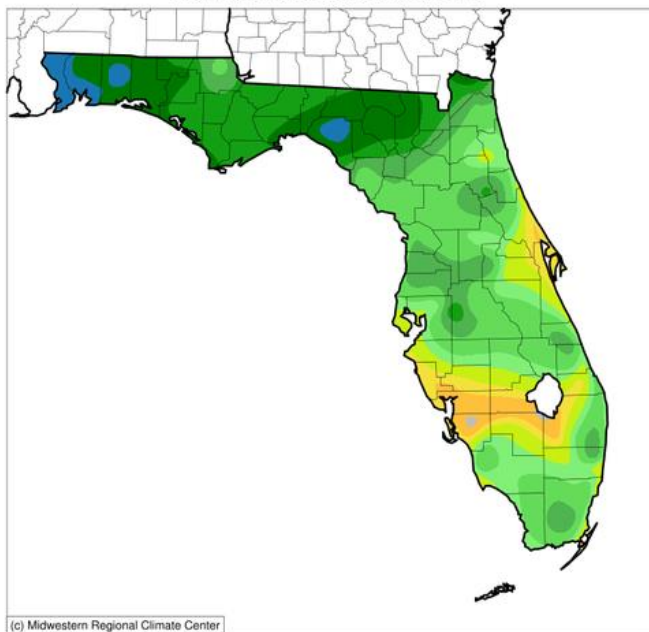
Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/8/18

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted.....	1	NA	3	1

Condition for Week Ending 4/8/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	7	36	50	6
Pasture & range....	5	22	46	26	1

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 02, 2018 to April 08, 2018

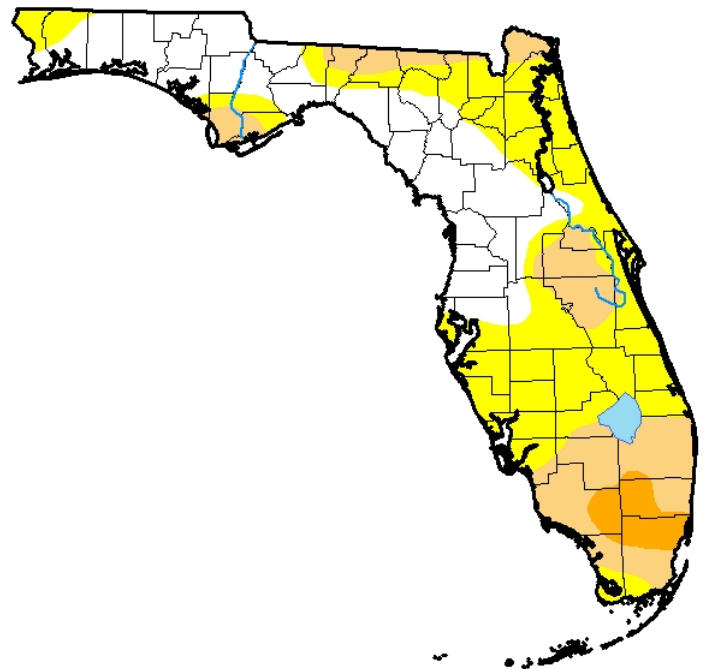


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0.01 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.5 0.75 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4
mrc.cisws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

April 3, 2018 (Released Thursday, April 5, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>