



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 19, 2019

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**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 17, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from trace amounts in multiple locations to 3.05 inches in Palm Bay (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 54.9°F in Fernandina Beach (Nassau County) to 75.6°F in Key West (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures were mostly average or above in the citrus growing region. Daily highs were in the low 70s to mid 80s. The highest temperature was 87°F, recorded at several stations in the central citrus producing area. All citrus counties received some rainfall during the week. The southern area had the most widespread rainfall with nearly all monitored stations receiving over an inch of rain. Polk and Highlands counties, in the central citrus producing area, had scattered downpours in isolated cities accumulating as much as two inches or more rainfall for the week. Dundee (Polk County) had the most rainfall at 2.79 inches.

According to the February 14, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions in the citrus growing region remained stable. The western and northern areas, and the majority of the southern area are drought free. Okeechobee County is the only southern area county showing abnormally dry conditions. Only the northern portion of the Indian River District is under moderate drought; the remaining portion is abnormally dry.

Processing plants continued running field run early and midseason oranges and field run grapefruit during the week. Plants are beginning to wind down with non-Valencia fruit. Several plan on finishing this week, with all plants planning to finish by the end of February. It is anticipated there will be a short break between the non-Valencia and Valencia processing.

Tangerine fresh harvest included Murcott (Honey tangerines), Royal, Tango, Orri, and W. Murcott. A small amount of fresh oranges were harvested, primarily early and midseason oranges (non-Valencia), but fresh orange harvest

did include some Valencia oranges. About a fourth of the white grapefruit and a third of the red grapefruit harvested went to the fresh market.

Grove caretakers continued normal spray programs, fertilizing, applying herbicide, and taking care of young trees. Irrigation was running steadily across the citrus region. Although sparse, there were reports of early bloom and new growth on the trees. Reports of hedging grapefruit and oranges is picking up.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Jan 27, 2019 (Final)	Feb 3, 2019 (Preliminary)	Feb 10, 2019 (Preliminary)	Feb 11, 2018 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges .....	2,739	2,698	2,451	51
Navel oranges ....	16	13	8	0
Valencia oranges.....	9	11	63	66
Red grapefruit ...	187	142	169	183
White grapefruit..	42	47	61	39
Tangerines and Tangelos .....	43	21	23	42
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>3,036</b>	<b>2,923</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>381</b>

Source: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service Fruit and Vegetable Division

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Strawberry harvest is ongoing in Bradford, Hillsborough, and Okaloosa counties, where the warm, wet conditions are causing angular leaf spot, leaf scorch, and botrytis blight on some strawberries. Broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower harvesting continued in Flagler and Putnam counties. Watermelon planting was reported in Dixie and Levy counties. Some flooding in low lying areas and wetlands was reported in multiple counties in the southern peninsula. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, green beans, herbs, malanga, squash, and zucchini. Crops harvested included Asian vegetables, avocado, bitter melon, boniato, green beans, herbs, malanga, pepper, squash, sweet corn, tomato, and zucchini.

### Livestock and Pastures

Ryegrass pastures in Escambia County are starting to produce, improving overall pasture conditions there. Unseasonably warm weather, coupled with poor conditions in the fall, caused inadequate winter forages in Okaloosa County. Pastures were reported as adequate in Bradford and DeSoto counties, and improving in St. Lucie County. Most of the expected calves have been born in Flagler and Putnam counties. Cattle remain in mostly good condition.

### Field Crops

Sugarcane harvest is ongoing in Glades and Hendry counties.

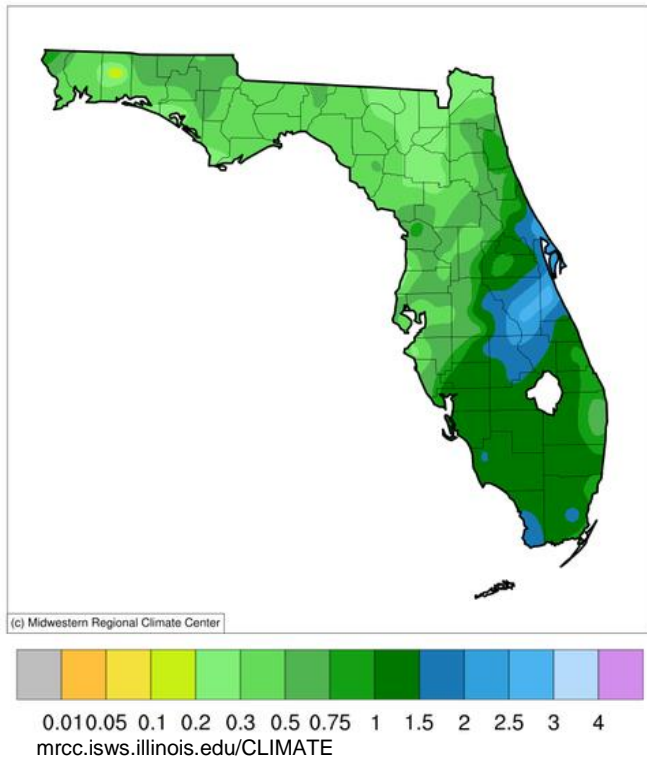
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 02/17/19

Topsoil	This week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	3
Short .....	11	7
Adequate.....	78	75
Surplus.....	10	15

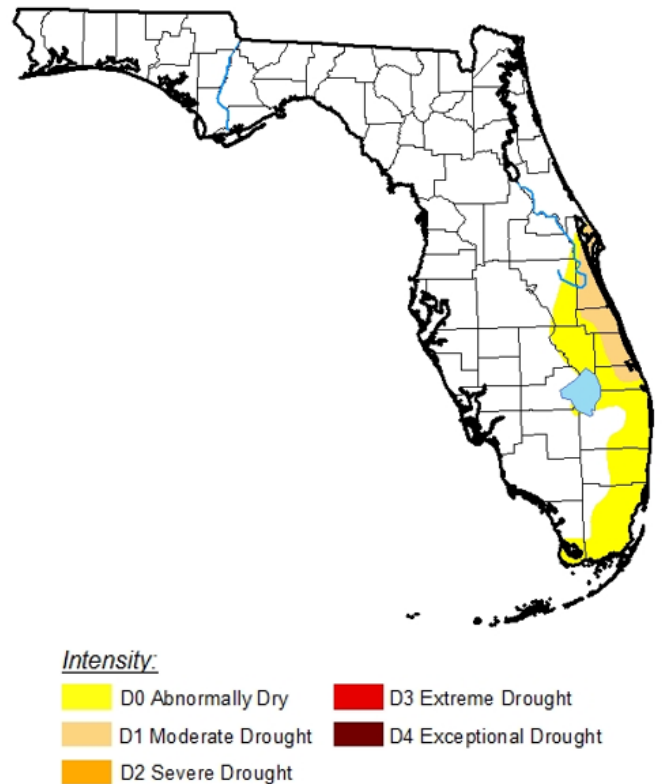
### Condition for Week Ending 02/17/19

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	2	5	24	59	10
Pasture & range .....	5	18	46	25	6

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
February 11, 2019 to February 17, 2019



### U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



February 12, 2019 (Released Thursday, Feb. 14, 2018)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>