



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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March 9, 2020

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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 8, 2020. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple areas to 3.27 inches in Tallahassee (Leon County). The average mean temperature ranged from 59.1°F in Cross City (Dixie County) to 76.2°F in Marathon (Monroe County).

Citrus

High temperatures in the citrus growing region ranged from the high 70s to the low 80s. The highest readings were in Sebring (Highlands County) at 82 degrees and Clermont (Lake County) at 81 degrees. Precipitation was minimal, with most stations reporting less than a tenth of an inch of rain across the citrus region. According to the March 5, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions existed in much of the northern, western, and central citrus areas. The southern area and Indian River district remained drought free.

Midseason orange harvest was nearly finished, while Valencia orange harvest had begun in earnest. Processing plants were taking later variety oranges as packinghouse eliminations and field run fruit. On the fresh market, Valencia oranges along with red and white grapefruit were being packed. Fresh tangerine harvest included Honey and Royal varieties.

Grove operations included mowing, fertilizing, hedging, and spraying. Irrigation was run several times per week in most areas. Groves that were being taken care of looked good, with new growth being reported. Most trees were in bloom, with some already showing small fruitlets.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 16, 2020 (Final)	Feb 23, 2020 (Final)	Mar 1, 2020 (Preliminary)	Mar 3, 2019 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	1,318	436	157	104
Navel oranges	3	4	1	5
Valencia oranges	125	331	1,349	264
Red grapefruit	224	207	205	168
White grapefruit	96	73	59	42
Tangerines and Tangelos	58	54	43	48
Total	1,824	1,105	1,814	631

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

Fruits and Vegetables

Strawberry harvesting continued throughout the state. Multiple varieties of vegetables were being planted and harvested in the southern part of the state. Tomatoes continued to undergo whitefly pressure, causing some losses due to irregular ripening.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in good condition throughout the state. Winter grazing and small grains were being harvested.

Field Crops

Sugarcane harvest continued. Wet conditions delayed field preparation in the Panhandle.

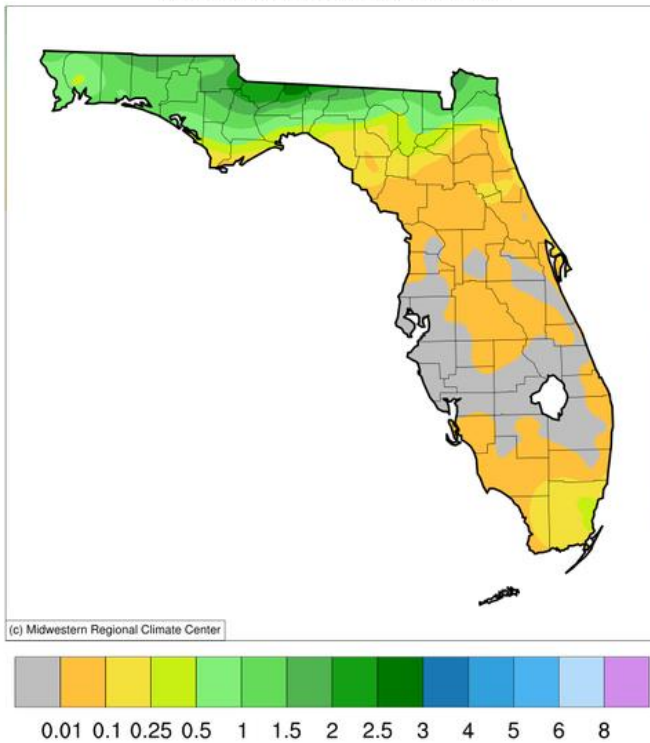
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 03/08/20

Topsoil	This week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	0	1
Short.....	26	19
Adequate.....	71	76
Surplus.....	3	4

Condition for Week Ending 03/08/20

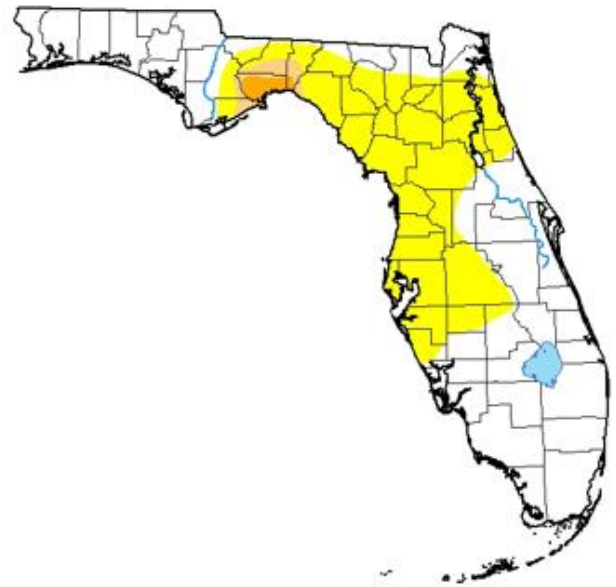
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	6	21	61	11
Pasture & range	1	10	38	41	10

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 02, 2020 to March 08, 2020



mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

March 3, 2020 (Released Thursday, March 5, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>