



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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This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

March 22, 2021

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 21, 2021. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in a many locations to 2.5 inches in Palmetto (Manatee County). The average mean temperature ranged from 61.8°F in Jasper (Hamilton County) to 77.2°F at Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Maximum temperatures in the citrus growing region ranged from the mid to high 80s on several days in all counties. The citrus region received very little rainfall for the week with most stations reporting less than 0.1 of an inch. According to the March 16, 2021, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions were widespread in the citrus region. All counties except Hillsborough County were experiencing abnormally dry conditions.

All processing plants are processing Valencia oranges. Grapefruit harvest is maintaining about one-hundred seventy thousand boxes weekly, with relatively all of the white grapefruit going to processing, and about half of the red grapefruit being processed.

Mandarin harvest is slowing down with most varieties finished for the season. Remaining types included Honey (Murcott) tangerines, Tangos, and a small quantity of other minor varieties.

Grove operations included fertilizing, spraying, hedging, topping, and taking care of young trees. Irrigation was being run frequently in all areas. Most trees were in full bloom, with new growth being reported in some areas.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 28, 2021 (Final)	Mar 7, 2021 (Preliminary)	Mar 14, 2021 (Preliminary)	Mar 15, 2020 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	123	33	0	18
Valencia Oranges	942	1,972	2,370	3,190
Red grapefruit	176	141	148	217
White grapefruit..	75	32	21	28
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	37	43	30	22
Total	1,353	2,221	2,569	3,475

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

Crops

A variety of fruits and vegetables were planted and marketed last week. Producers continued planting and harvesting activities during a mostly dry week throughout the state. Many producers started planting or continued planting corn in the Panhandle and northern part of the state. Farmers continued to prepare fields for cotton and peanuts. Windy conditions, disease and Whiteflies negatively affected vegetable crops in the southern part of the peninsula. Sugarcane harvest continued.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pasture conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition throughout the state. Dry conditions started to dry out some pastures in the southern part of the state. Cattle were fed supplements as necessary.

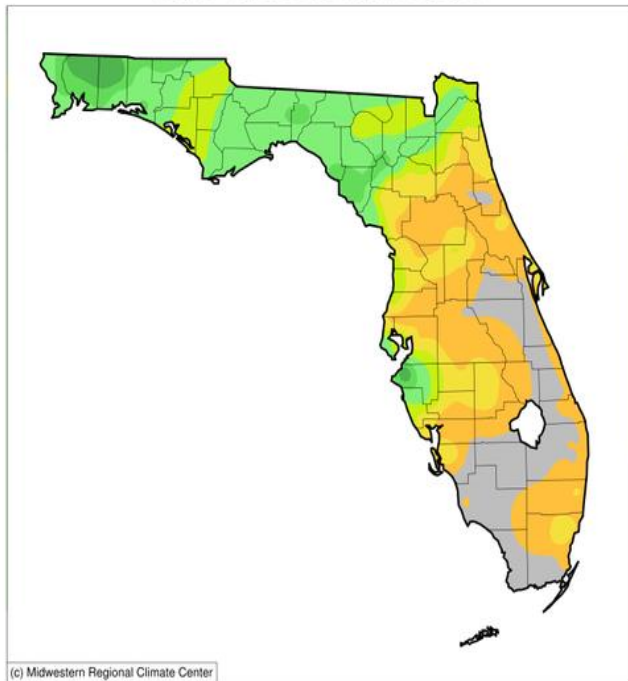
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 03/22/21

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	1	4
Short.....	37	36
Adequate.....	61	58
Surplus.....	1	2

Condition for Week Ending 03/22/21

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	7	32	55	5
Pasture & range	3	20	46	26	5

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 15, 2021 to March 21, 2021



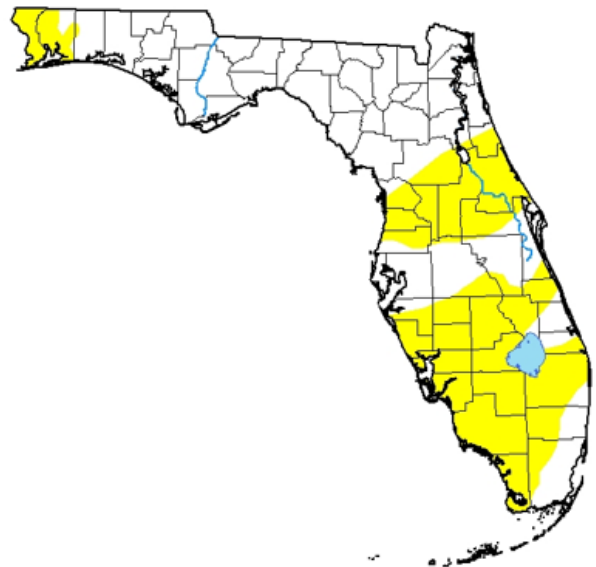
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mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

March 16, 2021 (Released Thursday, Mar. 18, 2021)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>