



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)

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 29, 2021

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 28, 2021. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in many locations to 3.2 inches in Gonzalez (Escambia County). The average mean temperature ranged from 63.3°F in Glen St. Mary (Baker County) to 76.9°F at Key West international Airport (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures in the citrus growing region ranged from the low to mid 80s during the reporting week. Sebring (Highlands County) had the highest observed temperature at 86 degrees. The citrus region received very little rainfall for the week, with most stations reporting less than 0.1 inches. Mount Plymouth (Lake County) received the most rain, with 0.2 inches. According to the March 25, 2021, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions were widespread across the citrus growing area. All counties except Putnam County experienced abnormally dry conditions.

All processing plants were processing Valencia oranges. Grapefruit harvest was gradually slowing down, with relatively all the white grapefruit going to processing, and about half of the red grapefruit being processed.

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

Grove operations included mowing, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, spraying, hedging, topping, and taking care of young trees. Irrigation was being run frequently in all areas. Petals had begun to fall from the bloom, and the trees were experiencing a flush of new growth.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 7, 2021 (Final)	Mar 14, 2021 (Final)	Mar 21, 2021 (Preliminary)	Mar 22, 2020 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	33	9	0	7
Valencia Oranges	1,972	2,406	2,719	3,264
Red grapefruit.....	141	163	112	159
White grapefruit...	32	25	27	15
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	43	34	22	12
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,221</b>	<b>2,637</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>3,457</b>

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. Another dry week allowed producers to continue planting and harvesting activities. In the Panhandle and northern part of the state, corn continued to be planted. Farmers prepped fields for peanuts and cotton with planting expected to begin in early April. Watermelon was planted in the southern peninsula, and some producers noted the presence of spider mites. Sugarcane harvest continued.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle and pasture conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition throughout the state. Lack of rainfall continued to dry out some pastures in the southern part of the state.

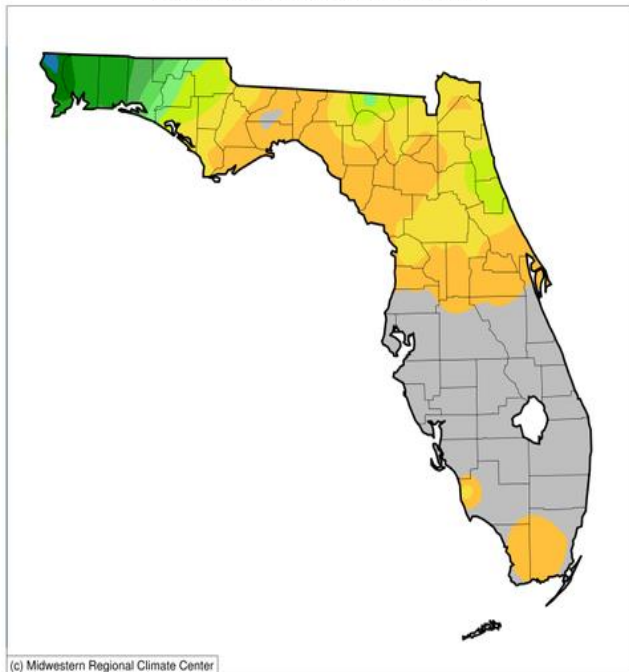
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 03/28/21

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	4	8
Short.....	36	51
Adequate.....	58	38
Surplus.....	2	3

### Condition for Week Ending 03/28/21

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	7	34	54	4
Pasture & range .....	2	19	51	24	4

**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**  
March 22, 2021 to March 28, 2021



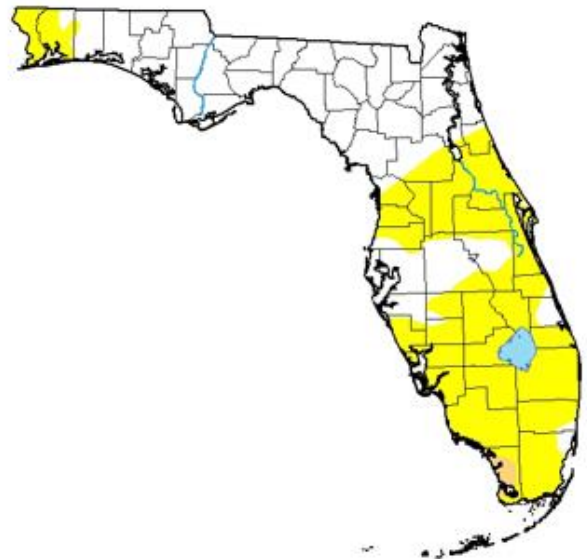
(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



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[mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE](http://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 23, 2021 (Released Thursday, Mar. 25, 2021)  
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>