



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 7, 2022

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 6, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from little rain to 1.2 inches in Little Torch Key (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 57.0°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 79.6°F Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures continued to be unseasonably warm across the citrus growing region this week, with average highs in the high-70s to the mid-80s. True to the start of the dry season, weather monitoring stations in the citrus belt received negligible precipitation, if any, during the reporting period. According to the March 3, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions spread further across the state to include most of the citrus growing region. Additionally, moderate drought conditions expanded widely to several parts of the northern, central, western, and southern areas.

Varieties harvested for the fresh market included Valencia oranges; Honey, Royal, Tango, and Orri tangerines; Minneola tangelos; and red and white grapefruit. Processing plants were accepting field run Valencia oranges, and also field run fruit and packinghouse eliminations for grapefruit.

Reports from field personnel indicated continued bloom and flush in orange groves, along with Valencia oranges beginning to break color. Grove operations included spraying pesticides, fertilizing, herbiciding, mowing, hedging, topping, discing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Due to the lack of rain over the past several weeks, irrigation was being run frequently in all areas. The water level in canals and ditches remained low across the state.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

| Crop | For week ending | | | Previous Year |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Feb 13, 2022 (Preliminary) | Feb 20, 2022 (Preliminary) | Feb 27, 2022 (Preliminary) | Feb 28, 2021 (Actual) |
| | (boxes) | (boxes) | (boxes) | (boxes) |
| Early and Mid-oranges | 486 | 67 | 17 | 123 |
| Valencia Oranges | 925 | 1,189 | 1,484 | 942 |
| Red grapefruit | 127 | 170 | 120 | 176 |
| White grapefruit.. | 55 | 36 | 17 | 75 |
| Tangerines and Tangelos | 20 | 24 | 25 | 37 |
| Total | 1,613 | 1,486 | 1,663 | 1,353 |

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

Crops

Corn planting continued on irrigated land. Dry conditions persisted through the week causing some counties to enact fire bans. A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested last week. Harvesting of strawberries was ongoing, although the crop was beginning to wind down. Replanting of boniato potatoes continued with producers also replanting some sunflowers and okra.

Livestock and Pastures

Pasture remained in mostly poor and fair condition with some pastures beginning to green up. Cattle conditions remained mostly fair and good.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/6/22

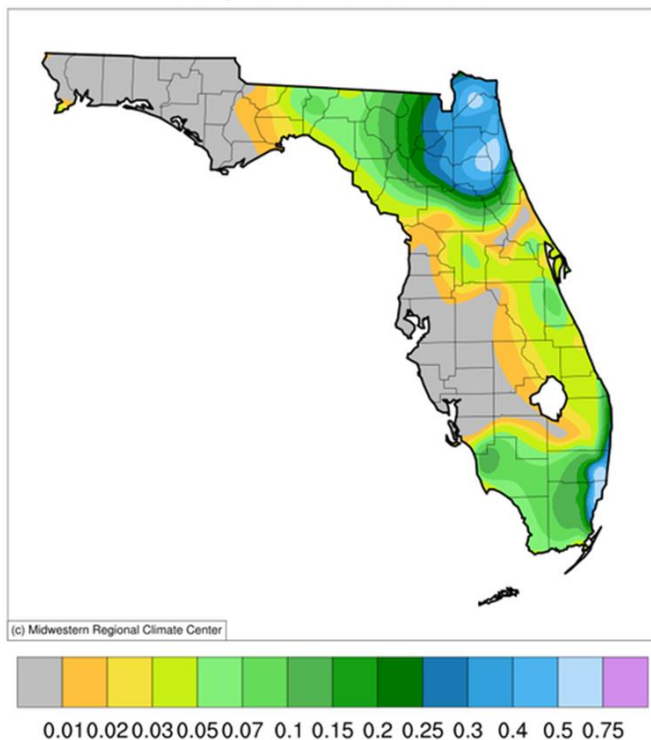
| Topsoil | Previous week | This week |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
| | (percent) | (percent) |
| Very short..... | 6 | 9 |
| Short..... | 38 | 46 |
| Adequate..... | 55 | 45 |
| Surplus..... | 1 | 0 |

Conditions for Week Ending 3/6/22

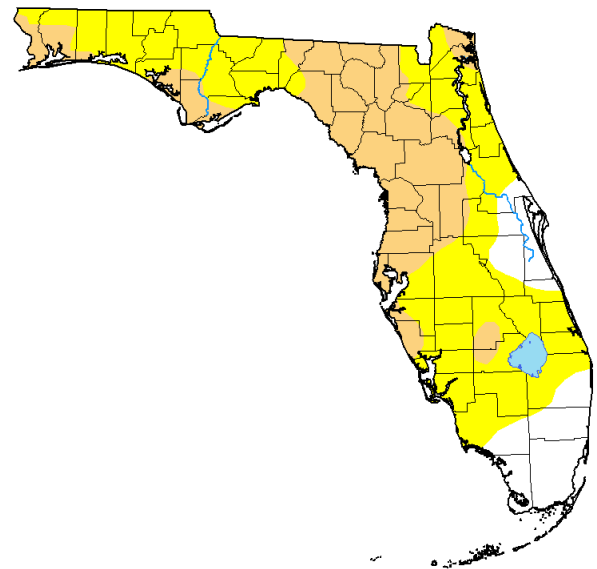
| Crop | Very poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Cattle | 1 | 7 | 46 | 38 | 8 |
| Pasture & range | 7 | 43 | 30 | 13 | 7 |

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
February 28, 2022 to March 06, 2022



mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE



Intensity:

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

Mar 1, 2022 (Released Thursday, Mar 3, 2022)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>