



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.

April 10, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 9, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 2.3 inches at Punta Gorda Airport (Charlotte County). The average mean temperature ranged from 69.0°F at Marianna Airport (Jackson County) to 82.9°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures remained well above average in the citrus growing region last week, with highs in the high 80’s to the low 90’s. The hottest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) hitting 93 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reaching 90 degrees, and Kenansville (Osceola County) reading 89 degrees. Grove properties in the citrus belt received negligible, if any, rainfall during the reporting period. According to the April 6, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, severe drought conditions covered the entire citrus growing region, while extreme drought remained in the southern reaches of the citrus area.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, skirting tree canopies, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run statewide, while water levels in canals and ditches were very low. Field personnel reported bloom in groves nearly completed, with the spring flush of vegetative growth well underway and the fruitlets of next year’s crop growing nicely.

Packinghouses were shipping red grapefruit and late oranges. Processors were handling Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations and field run fruit.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 19, 2023 (Preliminary)	Mar 26, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 2, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 3, 2022 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-Oranges.....	0	0	0	2
Valencia Oranges	1,225	1,198	1,099	2,207
Red grapefruit.....	7	2	4	78
White grapefruit...	10	10	12	22
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	2	6	0	34
Total	1,244	1,216	1,115	2,343

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

Crops

The southwestern and northern regions of the state received some amount of rain, while the rest of the state received very little precipitation. Regions that received little precipitation continued to experience worsening drought conditions. Peanuts planting began while operators continued to plant field corn. Fruit and vegetables that were planted and harvested last week include green beans, potatoes, yellow squash, tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, peppers, strawberries, and watermelon. Sugarcane harvest continued to progress and is expected to be completed by early June.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reported to be in mostly fair to good condition, while pastures were reported to be in mostly poor to fair condition. Pastures in the northern region of the state were reported to be helped by the rain last week.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/9/23

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted.....	2	NA	3	3

NA – Not Available

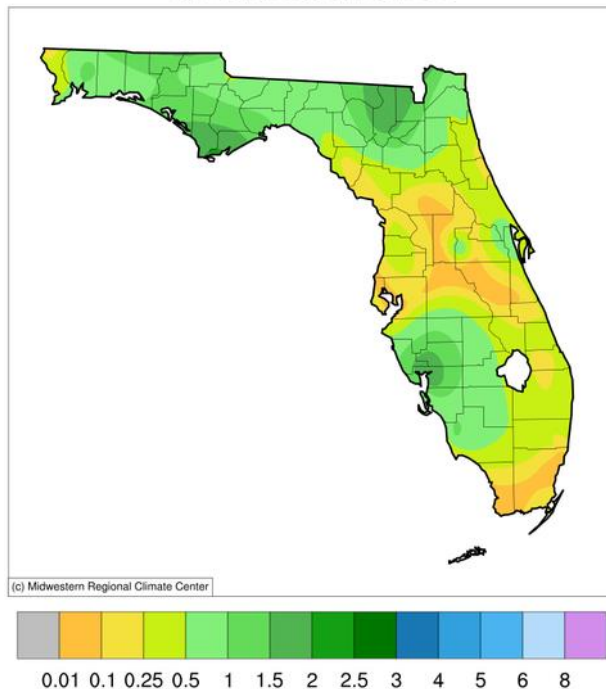
Conditions for Week Ending 4/9/23

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	9	44	44	2
Pasture & range...	10	36	39	10	5

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/9/23

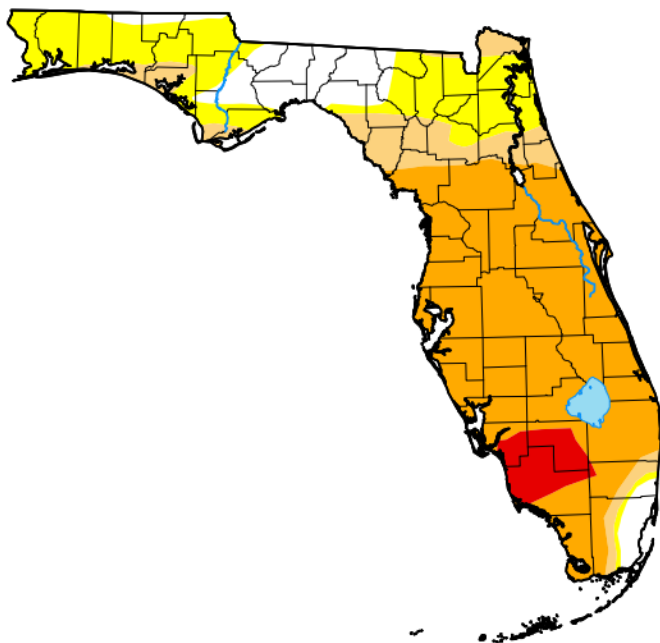
Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	15	19
Short.....	33	25
Adequate.....	51	55
Surplus.....	1	1

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 03, 2023 to April 09, 2023



<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



April 4, 2023

(Released Thursday, Apr. 6, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	11.40	88.60	66.06	55.09	4.51	0.00
Last Week 03-28-2023	11.61	88.39	69.17	43.42	4.51	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-05-2022	57.67	42.33	21.38	0.83	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu