



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.

February 24, 2025

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 23, 2025. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 3.1 inches of rain in Panama City Beach (Bay County). The average mean temperature ranged from 44.7°F at Crestview Airport (Okaloosa County) to 76.9°F at Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures dipped back down to the 40s across the citrus region, and into the 30s in some areas as the winter roller coaster continued. An abundance of wind made the temperatures feel even chillier. The coldest weather was in Libson (Lake County) at 35 degrees. Short spotty showers midweek were barely noticeable. A handful of stations received between a quarter of an inch to just over a half of an inch of rainfall, but overall totals were negligible in most counties.

According to the February 20, 2025, U.S. Drought Monitor, “along the west coast of Florida, the short-term indicators allowed for the introduction of severe drought in a couple of areas”. With the exception a small portion of the Indian River Area, which was void of drought conditions, the remainder of the citrus belt was under moderate drought or abnormally dry conditions.

General maintenance included mowing blocks soon to be harvested, hedging and topping and putting out bee hives. Bloom was increasing, ranging from pinhead bloom on most types of citrus, to flowering on early variety fruit.

With continued deficit rainfall, irrigation was being run daily. Harvest for the fresh market included late oranges (i.e.: primarily Vernia), pink seedless and white grapefruit and tangerines. Maturity testing of Valencia oranges for the juice plants was ongoing. It is anticipated harvest will begin ramping up this week for a couple of plants. Others will begin in early March.

Crops

The northern part of the state received steady, moderate rainfall with cooler temperatures. Despite the rain received, dry conditions continued to persist. Operators made land preparations for upcoming spring planting. The colder temperatures caused strawberry losses for producers in Okaloosa and Walden County. Otherwise, winter grazing, oats and cover crops have been improving for producers in Okaloosa, Walden, and Jackson Counties. In Levy County, watermelon planting was underway. In Putnam County, cabbage, greens and broccoli were harvested. In Palm Beach County, rice planting started while sugarcane harvest was about halfway complete. Other crops planted and harvested include snap beans, squash, sweetcorn, tomatoes, ethnic vegetables, and tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition, while pastures were in mostly fair to good condition. Some reported livestock and pastures were improving with the rain received.

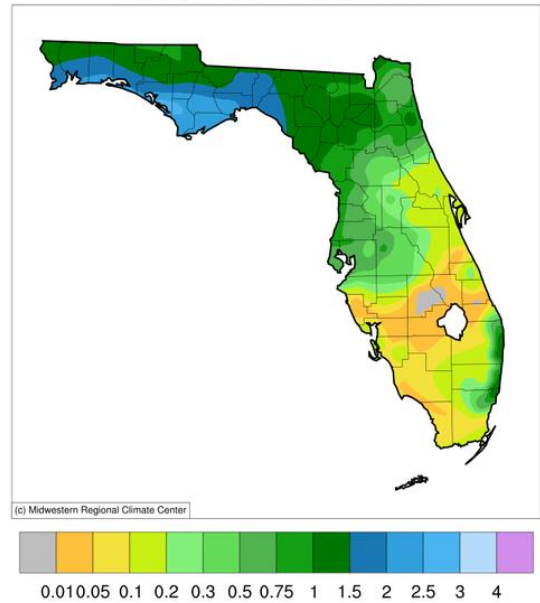
Conditions for Week Ending 2/23/25

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	7	39	43	11
Pasture and range.....	2	19	47	21	11

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 2/23/25

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short.....		7
Short.....		30
Adequate.....		61
Surplus.....		2

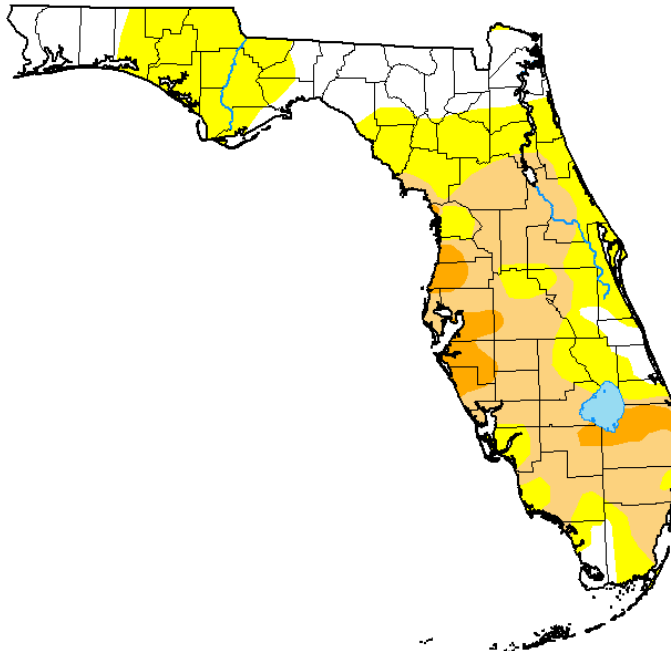
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
February 17, 2025 to February 23, 2025



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

February 18, 2025
(Released Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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