



Weather Crop Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

In Cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Florida Field Office 1222 Woodward St. Orlando, FL 32803 (407) 648-6013 www.nass.usda.gov/fl

FAVORABLE CONDITIONS KEPT HARVESTING ON SCHEDULE

WEATHER SUMMARY: Mostly dry, cool conditions across the State allowed field work to progress on schedule during January 8 through 14. Temperatures for the week averaged from 3 to 6 degrees above normal at the major cities. Pleasant daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s. Cool evening lows were in 30s, 40s and 50s. Rainfall ranged from minimal traces to over one inch of rainfall at Tallahassee. Elsewhere, areas received less than half an inch of precipitation for the week.

FIELD CROPS: Sugarcane harvesting remains active in the Everglades region. Rains are needed across the State to elevate soil moisture supplies. Soil moisture supplies in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula were rated mostly adequate with some scattered pockets of short and surplus supplies. Topsoil and subsoil moisture in the central and southern Peninsula was rated very short to adequate.

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	22	1	9	17	1	9
Short	33	49	21	46	25	10
Adequate	44	50	61	37	71	71
Surplus	1	0	9	0	3	9

VEGETABLES: Favorable weather conditions allowed planting and harvesting to progress on schedule. Mostly dry weather over the central and southern Peninsula continued to provide good conditions for crop development. Cool evening temperatures helped boost strawberry development. Vegetables and non-citrus fruit marketed during the week included snap beans, cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries and tomatoes.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: Statewide, most pasture is in fair condition. In the Panhandle, winter forage is growing following timely rains. Some ranchers have stopped feeding hay. Ponds now have surface water. Pasture condition is mostly fair. In the northern areas, some locations are short on soil moisture and pasture is in very poor condition. However, most pasture in the area is in good condition. In the central and southwest, pasture condition is very poor to good due to drought. Statewide, cattle condition ranges from very poor to good with most in good condition.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
<i>Percent</i>				
Very poor	5	0	10	0
Poor	20	5	15	10
Fair	20	45	65	75
Good	55	49	10	14
Excellent	0	1	0	1

CITRUS: Weather for the period of January 8-14 was cooler than the past several weeks, but still above average for this time of year. One high of 84 degrees was recorded in Ft. Pierce. Some concern has been expressed over the warmer weather because cool weather is needed to put the trees in a dormant state before bloom. Field personnel have reported seeing early bloom on many of the varieties, which is abnormal for this early in the season. Honey tangerines and Temples also need the cooler weather to prepare them for harvest. Maturity levels on early and midseason fruit are very good and harvesting should be strong until the end of the season. Navel oranges have been below 100,000 boxes the past few weeks, while grapefruit harvest has picked up and is estimated to be almost 800,000 boxes. Grove activity includes irrigation, irrigation repair, topping and hedging, and mowing rows for preparation of harvest.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	Dec 31	Jan 07	Jan 15
<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>			
Navel oranges	35	57	42
Early and Mid oranges	3,980	4,455	5,949
Grapefruit	337	523	795
Sunburst Tangerines	85	61	28
Tangelos	51	67	171
Honey Tangerines	1	34	120
Temples	0	6	25

We encourage all subscribers of this report to consider receiving it by e-mail. To do so, log onto: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp Select Florida Crop-Weather. Enter your first and last name. Enter your Email address. Click on Subscribe. The report will be sent automatically each week. Or you may call us at 800/344-6277 and we will enter the subscription for you.