



# Weather Crop Report

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

In Cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

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## WARM TEMPERATURES ACCELERATED CROP DEVELOPMENT

**WEATHER SUMMARY:** Mostly mild conditions persisted during the week of January 15 through 21. Temperatures remained warm and averaged three to seven degrees above normal in the major cities. Daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s. Nighttime lows were in the 40s, 50s, and 60s with Alachua, Jay, MacClenny, and Marianna reporting at least one low in the mid to upper 30s. Most localities reported no rain for the week with a few recording only traces. However, low pressure systems sweeping the nation and northern parts of the State brought a quarter to a third inch of rain to some Panhandle areas with Marianna reporting about an inch and a half accumulation on the last day of the week. Atlantic sea breezes also blew in a few showers, bringing less than a quarter inch of rain to coastal localities such as Daytona Beach. A few extreme southeastern localities, such as West Palm Beach recorded about a quarter inch of rain.

**FIELD CROPS:** Sugarcane cutting continued in the Everglades region. Recent rains helped increase soil moisture supplies in the Panhandle and northern Peninsula; however, the rains skipped some localities, leaving spots of very short and short soil moisture. The recent lack of rain in most central and southern Peninsula areas depleted soil moisture supplies with most reports indicating very short to short soil moisture.

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	10	22	12	10	17	8
Short	39	33	24	41	46	17
Adequate	50	44	62	49	37	72
Surplus	1	1	2	0	0	3

**VEGETABLES:** Recent warm temperatures accelerated the ripening of many crops with some harvesting up to two weeks ahead of normal. However, the increased supplies are meeting a significant increase in demand. Tomato transplanting began recently in the Quincy area with most growers to transplant within the next four weeks. Marketing for the week included snap beans, cabbage, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, lettuce, parsley, peppers, radishes, squash, strawberries, and tomatoes.

**LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES:** Statewide, most pasture is in fair condition, slightly improved from the previous week. In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition is fair to good. Small grain forage is growing slowly with warm temperatures. Leaf spot of rye is cutting down the amount of winter forage. In the central areas, pasture is in very poor to good condition, most is in fair condition. Some locations received rain which improved forage growth and there has been minimal frost to date. In the southwest areas, pasture condition is in poor to good condition, with most in good condition. 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	1	5	5	10
Poor	9	20	5	15
Fair	35	20	50	65
Good	55	55	40	10
Excellent	0	0	0	0

**CITRUS:** The past week in the citrus region was dry and warm. For the second consecutive week, no significant rainfall was recorded in any citrus producing counties. Highs ranged from 77 degrees on the west coast to 84 in the southern-most citrus areas. More reports of bloom budding has been reported on orange varieties, especially in the south. Cool weather is needed to put the trees in a dormant state to hold off the bloom cycle. Fresh early and midseason oranges and late tangerines will be at a premium following the severe damage to the California crop. Maturity levels on early and midseason fruit is very good and harvesting is at peak levels. Navel oranges have been trickling in, while grapefruit harvest has picked up to its highest level of the season on strong domestic and export demand. Grove activity includes irrigation, irrigation repair, maintenance topping and hedging, fertilizing, and harvesting.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	Jan 07	Jan 15	Jan 22
<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>			
Navel oranges	57	42	31
Early and Mid oranges	4,455	5,949	4,276
Valencia	0	0	5
Grapefruit	523	795	679
Sunburst Tangerines	61	28	15
Tangelos	67	171	96
Honey Tangerines	34	120	111
Temples	6	25	32

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