



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT**



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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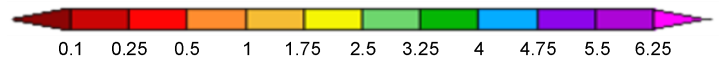
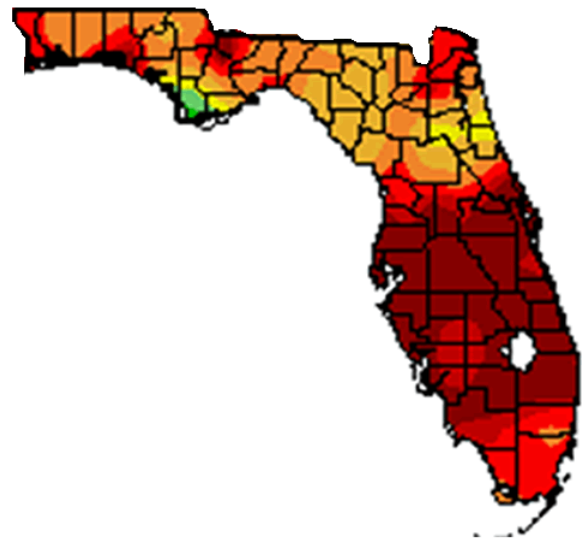
Released: December 16, 2013 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: December 15, 2013

Warm Week, More Rain Needed

Weather Summary: One of Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN) locations received over seven inches of rain this past week, Citra (Marion County) received 7.34 inches. Hastings (St. Johns County) received 4.40 inches and Bronson (Levy County) received 3.76 inches of rain this past week. The majority of the State received one inch or less of rain. Most of Florida was in the 80's, with the highest temperatures in Immokalee (Collier County) at 87.48 degrees and Palmdale (Glades County) at 87.03 degrees. The three lowest temperatures were 28.06 degrees in Jay (Santa Rosa County), 28.20 degrees in Defuniak Springs (Walton County), and 28.57 degrees in Monticello (Jefferson County).

Precipitation (in)–Florida: Dec. 9-15, 2013

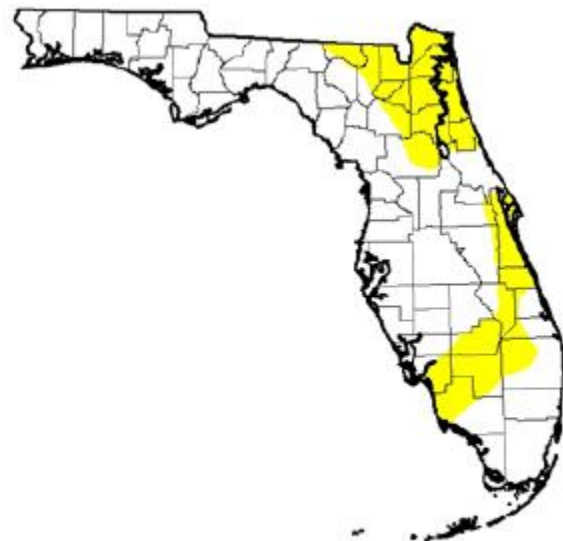


Source: Southeast Regional Climate Center

Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Previous week	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	2	6	13
Short	37	46	27
Adequate	58	47	54
Surplus	3	1	6

U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: Dec. 10, 2013



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional

Field Crops: Farmers in the northern part of the State were finishing up the harvest of cotton and soybeans. Planting of oats, wheat, and winter grazing was still on-going. Sugarcane harvest was proceeding as scheduled in Hendry and Glades counties.

Fruits & Vegetables: Above average temperatures in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee counties accelerated the growth of many vegetables. Cabbage planting continued in Flagler and Putnam counties. Vegetables and fruits marketed in the State included avocados, tomatoes, peppers, herbs, cucumbers, eggplant, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, snap beans, radishes, escarole, lettuce, and kale.

Citrus: Rain this week was heavy in places, but not widespread in the citrus growing region. Only seven stations recorded more than a half inch of precipitation. Citra (Marion County) recorded the most precipitation with 7.34 inches. Three stations recorded no precipitation at all. Temperatures were in the low 80's through most of the citrus growing area. Growers and caretakers continued to irrigate due to dry conditions. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated December 10, 2013, abnormally dry conditions covered most of the Indian River and southern growing areas and portions of the northern and central areas. The western growing area remains drought free.

Field workers were reporting small sizes on all varieties of fruit. Grove activity included resetting of new trees, pushing of dead groves and replanting new citrus, mowing, fertilizing and psyllid control. Thirty-eight of 43 packinghouses had opened and begun shipping small quantities of fruit. Sixteen of nineteen processing plants were open so far this season.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested
[In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]

Crop	Dec 1, 2013	Dec 8, 2013	Dec 15, 2013
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges....	495	2,558	3,988
Ambersweet	0	0	1
Navel oranges	109	258	217
White Grapefruit	14	45	93
Colored Grapefruit.....	206	351	393
Tangelos	28	82	73
Sunburst tangerines	81	164	150
Total.....	933	3,458	4,915

Livestock and Pastures: The cattle condition across the State was primarily good. The majority of the pasture condition ranged from fair to good in the State. Cattlemen were feeding hay and supplements across the State to their cattle. Drought was the main contributing factor for the decline in pasture condition.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor.....	1	1	0	1
Poor	1	2	15	16
Fair.....	28	32	30	40
Good	65	60	45	40
Excellent.....	5	5	10	3

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