

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS & CONDITION REPORT



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Released: February 3, 2014 (4 PM EST) Week Ending: February 2, 2014

Freezing Temperatures, Rain

Weather Summary: According to Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), the majority of the State received over an inch of rain this week. Wellington (West Palm Beach County) received the most rain with 3.47 an inch of rain. Maximum temperatures ranged from the 60s to the 80s, with the highest temperature in Sebring (Highlands County) at 87 degrees. The lowest temperatures in the State ranged from 15 degrees in Jay (Santa Rosa County) and 18 degrees in Defuniak Springs (Walton County) to 60 degrees in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County).

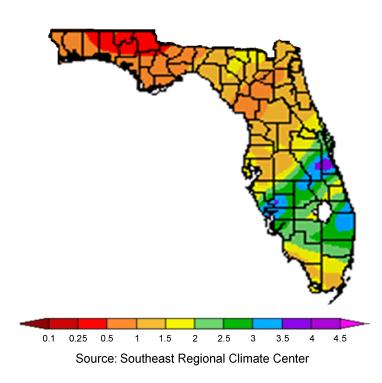
Soil Moisture Ratings

Maiatura	Topsoil			
Moisture Rating	Previous week	Previous year	Current week	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Very short	1	8	0	
Short	21	53	15	
Adequate	73	38	79	
Surplus	5	1	6	

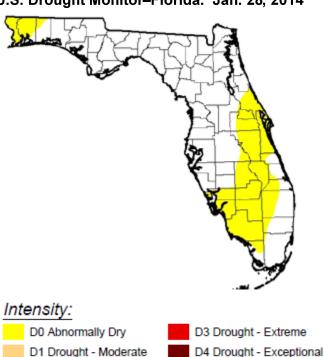
Field Crops: Icy, cold, and wet weather hampered field work in the Panhandle. Sugarcane harvest was delayed due to rain this past week in Hendry, Palm Beach, and Glades counties.

Fruit and Vegetables: Varying degrees of losses on vegetables and strawberries were reported throughout the State due to freezing temperatures. South Florida farmers reported damage to corn and green beans, with loss of corn in Palm Beach County. Strawberries were being harvested in Bradford County. Harvesting of cabbage began in Flagler and Putnam counties, while planting of potatoes continued. Soil preparation for watermelons was underway in Suwannee County. Farmers in Miami-Dade County were harvesting and planting winter vegetables. Vegetables and fruits marketed in the State included beets, cabbage, tomatoes, peppers, herbs, eggplant, sweet corn, sweet potatoes, snap beans, radishes, lettuce, kale, collards, and a variety of specialty items.

Precipitation (in)-Florida: Jan. 27-Feb. 2, 2014



U.S. Drought Monitor-Florida: Jan. 28, 2014



D1 Drought - Moderate D2 Drought - Severe Citrus: Rain was widespread in the citrus area this week. All stations recorded more than half an inch of rainfall. Wellington (Palm Beach County) recorded the most precipitation with 3.47 inches. Lecanto (Citrus County) recorded the least with 0.68 inches. Average temperatures were in the upper 50s to mid 60s 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 January 28, 2014, abnormally dry conditions cover most of the southern growing areas and portions of the northern, central, and Indian River areas. The western growing area and the southern portion of the Indian River area remained drought free. The majority of the active commercial citrus groves in the State are drought free.

Field workers reported small sizes on all varieties. Grove activity included harvesting, hedging and topping after harvest, resetting of new trees, pushing of dead groves and replanting new citrus, mowing, fertilizing, and psyllid control. Thirty-nine of 43 packinghouses had opened and begun shipping small quantities of fruit. Fifteen of nineteen processing plants had opened this season.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	Jan 20, 2014	Jan 26, 2014	Feb 2, 2014
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges	6,232 4,253		3,607
Valencia	23 23		29
Navel oranges	32 41		16
White Grapefruit	105	120	176
Colored Grapefruit	430	432	483
Temples	19	14	14
Tangelos	93	82	44
Sunburst tangerines	20	8	2
Honey Tangerines	102	68	58
Total	7,056	5,041	4,429

Livestock and Pastures: Cold, icy weather in the Panhandle challenged livestock and slowed winter pasture growth. Ranchers in south Florida were pleased with the soaking rains that helped raise pond levels. The cattle condition for the State was fair to good but the pasture condition was mostly fair. Cattlemen were feeding hay and supplements across the State. Cold weather, frost, and drought throughout the State contributed to pasture decline. Cold weather was the main contributing factor for the pasture decline.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

	Cattle		Pasture	
Condition	Previous week	Current week	Previous week	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor	1	1	4	5
Poor	4	4	21	22
Fair	39	39	52	50
Good	55	55	22	22
Excellent	1	1	1	1

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