



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



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service  
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Week Ending: March 13, 2016

**Weather Summary:** According to Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from no rainfall at several locations to 1.42 inches at Jay (Santa Rosa County).

Temperatures ranged from a State nighttime low of 38 degrees in Lecanto (Citrus County) to a State daytime high of 89 degrees in Dover (Hillsborough County).

As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated March 8, 2016, Florida was rated 94 percent totally drought free compared to 98 percent the previous week.

**Soil Moisture Ratings**

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Current Week	Previous week	Previous year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	2	0	0
Short.....	17	12	21
Adequate .....	73	67	75
Surplus .....	8	21	4

**Field Crops:** There was an average of 6.5 days suitable for field work this past week, compared to 6.2 days last week. Field conditions continued to improve and more land preparation was underway in the Panhandle. Planting and harvesting activities returned to normal. The lifting of weight restrictions on cane trucks in Palm Beach County helped sugarcane harvesting facilitated sugarcane harvest pace.

**Fruit and Vegetables:** Irish potato planting was complete in Flagler and Putnam counties. Warm season crops in Pasco County were being fertilized. Warm sunny weather favored vegetable crops and helped reduce disease pressure in the southwest.

Miami-Dade County crops harvested included green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, sweet corn, tomato, eggplant, pepper, herbs, boniato, Malanga, avocado, and other tropical fruits. All vegetable fields were being irrigated.

**Citrus:** Temperatures warmed slightly this week. Most mornings were in the lower 50s, while highs reached the mid to upper 80s. Rainfall remained sparse, with most monitored stations reporting no precipitation and the remainder receiving less than half an inch. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor updated March 8, 2016, the majority of the citrus region remained drought free, though dry conditions had begun to emerge in the northernmost citrus producing counties.

All processing plants were running Valencia oranges, and some continued to accept grapefruit and tangerine eliminations. Red grapefruit harvest proceeded apace, while white grapefruit wound down. Packinghouse activity focused on Valencia oranges, Honey tangerines, and grapefruit, as the tangelo harvest was basically complete.

Bloom spread across the citrus belt, with marble-size fruit developing for next year's crop. Trees in well cared for groves looked healthy, while growers continued to push dead or dying trees as necessary. Irrigation was widespread across all areas, as was spraying and fertilizing. Other grove activity included hedging and topping, mowing, and general grove maintenance.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending:		
	Feb 28, 2016	Mar 6, 2016	Mar 13, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-Oranges .....	59	11	7
Navel Oranges .....	1	1	2
Temples .....	37	18	8
Valencia Oranges.....	2,127	3,318	3,666
Red Grapefruit.....	513	426	344
White Grapefruit.....	171	248	163
Sunburst Tangerines .....	1	2	0
Honey Tangerines .....	36	36	44
Tangelos .....	0	0	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,945</b>	<b>4,060</b>	<b>4,234</b>

**Livestock and Pastures:** Ryegrass forage has been a failure this year in central Florida. Pastures and hay fields in Pasco County were being fertilized. Ranchers were feeding hay in Broward County as the pasture condition was very poor from dry conditions. Warmer weather helped pasture growth and quality in the southwest region. Pastures were in poor condition in the southeast region due to dry soil conditions and supplemental hay feeding was active.

### Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture/Range	
	Current week	Previous week	Current week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor .....	0	0	5	4
Poor .....	7	6	23	21
Fair.....	33	31	36	40
Good.....	54	56	33	32
Excellent .....	6	7	3	3

### Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN), Precipitation and Rainfall by Station

FAWN Station	County	District	Monday, March 7 to Sunday, March 13, 2016		
			Minimum Temp.	Maximum Temp.	Rainfall (inches)
Carrabelle	Franklin	10	43	77	0.16
DeFuniak Springs	Walton	10	46	79	0.06
Jay	Santa Rosa	10	40	79	<b>1.42</b>
Marianna	Jackson	10	42	82	0.05
Monticello	Jefferson	10	42	83	0.00
Quincy	Gadsden	10	46	82	0.02
Live Oak	Suwannee	30	42	84	1.07
MacClenny	Baker	30	40	86	0.23
Mayo	Lafayette	30	41	83	0.82
Alachua	Alachua	50	42	85	0.59
Apopka	Orange	50	50	85	0.00
Avalon	Orange	50	51	87	0.00
Balm	Hillsborough	50	49	87	0.00
Bronson	Levy	50	48	86	0.50
Citra	Marion	50	42	84	0.42
Dade City	Pasco	50	45	84	0.06
Dover	Hillsborough	50	46	<b>89</b>	0.07
Frostproof	Polk	50	50	88	0.00
Hastings	St. Johns	50	47	82	0.66
Kenansville	Osceola	50	47	87	0.00
Lake Alfred	Polk	50	52	88	0.02
Lecanto	Citrus	50	<b>38</b>	86	0.23
Ocklawaha	Marion	50	47	86	0.00
Okahumpka	Lake	50	44	85	0.02
Pierson	Volusia	50	45	86	0.00
Putnam Hall	Putnam	50	46	85	0.27
Umatilla	Lake	50	45	85	0.03
Arcadia	De Soto	80	49	86	0.00
Belle Glade	Palm Beach	80	54	85	0.00
Clewiston	Hendry	80	54	86	0.00
Fort Lauderdale	Broward	80	64	85	0.00
Homestead	Miami-Dade	80	58	83	0.17
Immokalee	Collier	80	49	85	0.04
Indian River	Indian River	80	51	86	0.00
Joshua	De Soto	80	45	86	0.00
North Port	Sarasota	80	48	86	0.00
Okeechobee	Okeechobee	80	50	86	0.00
Ona	Hardee	80	48	86	0.00
Palmdale	Glades	80	53	87	0.00
Sebring	Highlands	80	54	88	0.00
St. Lucie West	St. Lucie	80	50	87	0.02
Wellington	W. Palm Beach	80	57	84	0.02

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics by State/Florida/Publications/Crop Progress & Condition/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/). To set-up this free subscription, send e-mail message to [listserv@newsbox.usda.gov](mailto:listserv@newsbox.usda.gov) and in the body, type "subscribe to Florida crop weather." The drought monitor index used in this report originates from the U.S. Drought Monitor website. Visit <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu> maintained by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Visit <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information