



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**Florida Crop Progress
and Condition Report**



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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General: According to than National Agricultural Statistics Service’s Florida Field Office, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 27, 2016. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rainfall at North Port, in Sarasota County to 4.75 inches at Carrabelle, in Franklin County. The average mean temperatures ranged from 59°F in Crestview, to 75°F in Miami. Many parts of the state reported heavy rains, high water tables, and some flooding.

Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending 03/27/16			
Moisture Rating	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very Short	1	2	7
Short.....	13	17	34
Adequate.....	74	73	55
Surplus.....	12	8	4

Field Crops: Peanut farmers are making good progress with land preparation in Jackson County. Due to heavy rains, much of the ground in Washington County may need to be re-worked prior to planting, and some corn that had been planted prior to the heavy rains may need to be replanted. Sugarcane harvest is ongoing. Palm Beach County reported significant crop dusting and spraying operations this week.

Fruit and Vegetables: Wet conditions presenting some disease pressures on strawberries and small grains in Okaloosa County. In Hillsborough County, strawberry season is winding down quickly, and blueberry harvest is moving slowly. Vegetable volumes are increasing with a wide range of crops coming to market in Charlotte and Glades Counties. Some wind damage and losses to romaine plantings were reported in Palm Beach County.

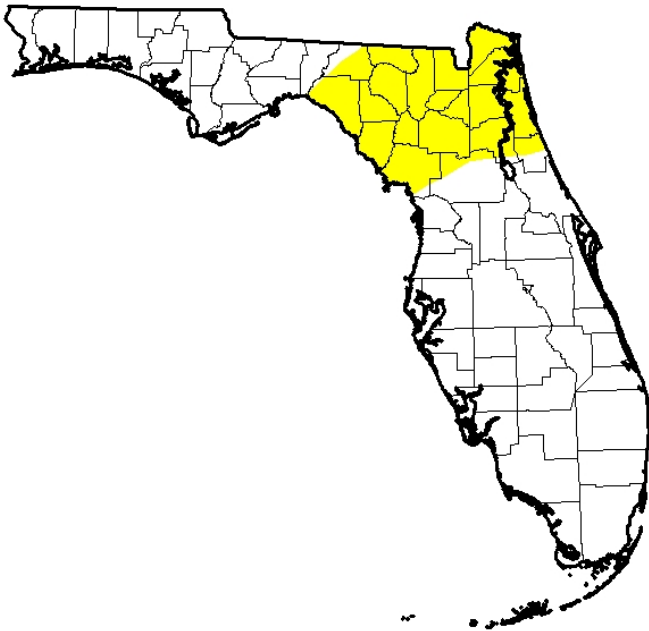
Citrus: Temperatures were above average this week with all stations recording daily highs in the upper 80s to low 90s. Most early mornings were in the 50s and 60s in all areas. Rainfall was sporadic, but widespread, with about half of the stations in the citrus region recording an inch or more of rainfall. The most rainfall was in Umatilla (Lake County) at 2.87 inches, followed by Lake Alfred (Polk County) at 2.79 inches. The southern area had the least rainfall this week; most of the monitored stations in the southern area had less than half an inch of rainfall. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor updated March 22, 2016, the complete citrus growing region was drought free.

All processing plants were running Valencia oranges at full capacity. Red and white grapefruit was being harvested mostly for the processed market. Packinghouse activity focused on Valencia oranges, Honey tangerines and red grapefruit.

Most citrus trees were in full bloom cross the citrus belt. Some were in the beginning stages of pedal drop. Trees that bloomed early in the season were developing fruit for next year’s crop. Irrigation was widespread across all areas, as was herbiciding and fertilizing. Other grove activity included hedging, topping, mowing, and general grove maintenance.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested [In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes]			
Crop	For week ending		
	Mar 13, 2016	Mar 20, 2016	Mar 27, 2016
Early and Mid-Oranges	7	4	1
Navel Oranges	2	1	2
Temples	8	1	1
Valencia	3,666	3,393	3,388
White Grapefruit	163	74	89
Red Grapefruit.....	344	244	127
Honey Tangerines.....	44	42	42
Total	4,234	3,759	3,650

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida**



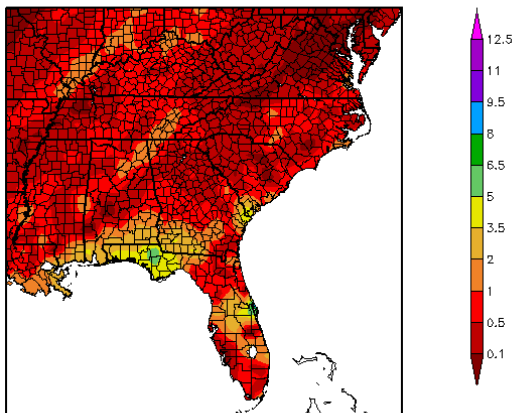
Livestock and Pastures: Cattle look good throughout Southeast Florida. Pasture conditions range from some turning green to some showing drought stress. Cattle are being moved to unused pastures as cattlemen attempt to cut down on supplemental feeding in St. Lucie County. Hayfields in Pasco County are being prepped for the upcoming season, and warm season perennial pastures not under water are improving seasonally in Washington County.

Crop Condition for week ending 03/27/16					
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	6	31	59	4
Pasture & Range...	3	16	38	40	3

Intensity:



Precipitation (in)
3/21/2016 - 3/27/2016



Generated 3/28/2016 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers