



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 the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 17, 2016. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in Fort Myers (Lee County) to 2.48 inches in St. Lucie West (St. Lucie County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 65°F in Crestview (Okaloosa County) to 78°F in Key West (Monroe County). Rainfall totals varied depending on location, with some farmers' work negatively impacted by it, and others able to work without any problems.

Citrus bloom is over for the season and trees are forming fruit for next season's crop. Irrigation was widespread across all areas. Young trees planted one to three years ago are being well taken care of and seeing lots of new growth. Other grove activity included fertilizing, spraying, mowing, hedging and topping. Groves heavily affected by greening were being abandoned or pushed. General maintenance was being performed in blocks where growers were planning on keeping groves in business.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 04/17/16

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	3	2	6
Short.....	14	15	32
Adequate	72	75	57
Surplus	11	8	5

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending		
	Apr 3, 2016	Apr 10, 2016	April 17, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and mid-oranges ...	4	0	0
Navel oranges.....	0	0	2
Temples	1	1	2
Valencia	3,891	3,902	4,267
White grapefruit.....	36	6	284
Red grapefruit	107	67	78
Honey tangerines	41	44	10
Total	4,080	4,020	4,643

Citrus

Temperatures were normal for this time of the year. Daily highs were mostly in the lower to mid 80s, and morning lows were mostly in the upper 50s to mid 60s. Rainfall was the heaviest in the eastern portion of the citrus area. St. Lucie West (St. Lucie County) at 2.48 inches of rainfall, recorded the highest amount of precipitation, followed by Kenansville (Osceola County) at 1.21 inches of rainfall. Of the remaining sixteen monitored stations, eleven had less than an half an inch of rainfall. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated April 12, 2016, the complete citrus growing region remained drought free.

Fruit and Vegetables

The weather has been favorable for vegetable harvesting throughout most of the state, although wet conditions in Okaloosa County are presenting some disease pressures to the strawberries there. Melons are being planted in Dixie County, and early planted vegetables are being harvested in Hillsborough County. Levy County reports that watermelons have begun fruiting. Blueberry harvest is underway in Glades County. Vegetable volume and quality is increasing. Vegetables coming to market include avocado, beans, beets, bitter melon, boniato, cabbage, collards, cucumbers, eggplant, herbs, peppers, radishes, squash, tomatoes, and watermelons, and zucchini.

Weekly Valencia orange harvest has been around the four million box level for several weeks, primarily for the processed market. Harvest of all other varieties is decreasing rapidly as their seasons are about over. Packinghouses were taking mostly Valencia oranges. Only a few red grapefruit and Honey tangerines were available for the fresh market.

Livestock and Pastures

Rain in St. Lucie and Okeechobee Counties flooded some fields where cattle were seen standing in water. Even still, cattle and pastures were reported to be in mostly good condition in St. Lucie, Collier, Glades, and Hendry Counties.

Condition for week ending 04/17/16

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	6	30	59	5
Pasture & Range...	3	10	41	43	3

Field Crops

Although some farmers in the panhandle reported getting into the fields for a few days, most experienced wet conditions which hampered planting activities. Corn and cotton are being planted in Jackson and Walton Counties, and corn planting is complete Lafayette and Hamilton Counties. Peanut planting is starting in Lafayette and Levy Counties. Sugarcane harvest is ongoing in Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach counties. In St. Lucie County, the sugarcane harvest is nearing completion and many fields have been replanted for 2016 and starting to gain size.

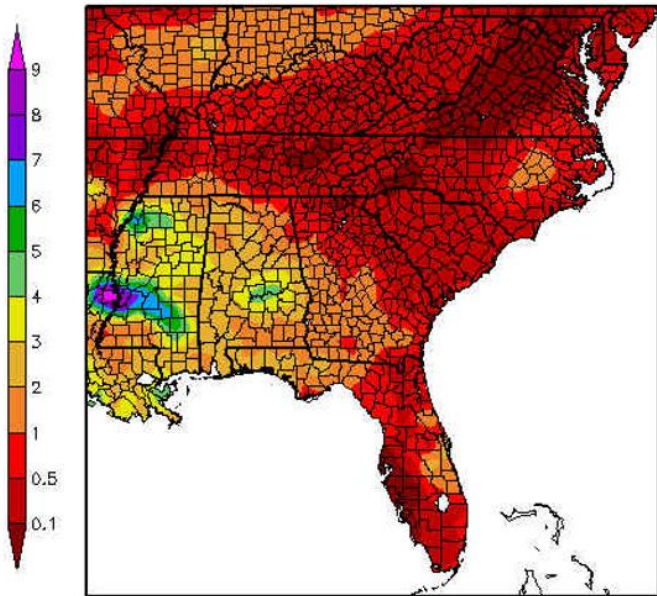
Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/17/16

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted.....	6	NA	1	1

U.S. Drought Monitor

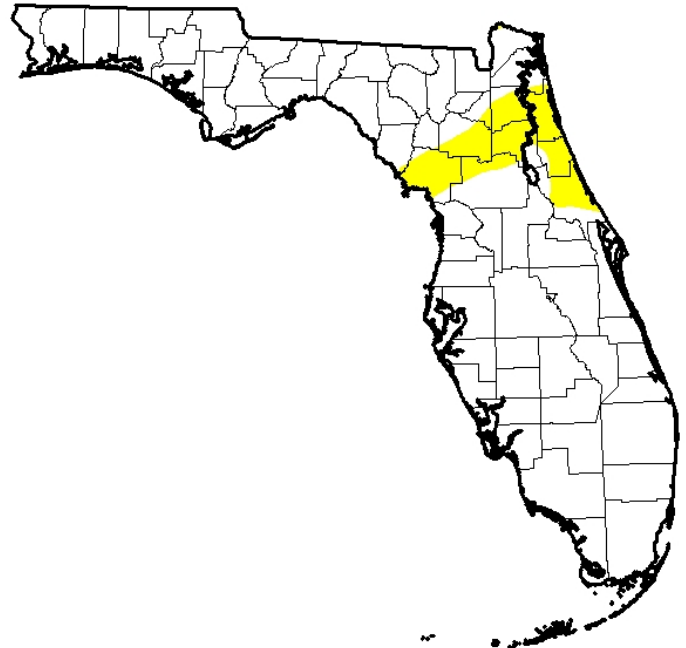
Florida

Precipitation (in)
4/11/2016 - 4/17/2016



Generated 4/18/16 at HPRCC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers.

<http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps>



Intensity:

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

April 12, 2016 (Released Thursday, Apr. 14, 2016)

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>