



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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May 2, 2016

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 1, 2016. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in several locations, including Tallahassee (Leon County), Jacksonville (Duval County), and Miami (Miami-Dade County) to 1.05 inches in Ft. Myers (Lee County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 75°F in Jacksonville (Duval County) to 80°F in Tampa (Hillsborough County). Warmer temperatures and less precipitation benefited areas of the state where wet fields and pastures were able to dry down this week. The lack of rain was noted in other areas that have been dry for a few weeks already, and there were some comments indicating rain will be needed very soon.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/1/16

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	7	5	7
Short	32	17	28
Adequate	56	72	60
Surplus	5	6	5

Citrus

Temperatures were seasonably warm for this time of the year. Daily highs reached at least 90 degrees in all citrus producing counties. The highest temperature was in Lake Alfred (Polk County) at 93.52 degrees. Morning lows were mostly in the mid-60s. Only two of eighteen monitored stations had significant rainfall. Frostproof (Polk County) and Immokalee (Collier County) both had just over an inch of rainfall. All other monitored stations had less than a quarter of an inch of rainfall. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated April 26, 2016, only Marion and Putnam counties in the most northern part of the citrus region were abnormally dry. The remainder of the citrus growing counties were drought free.

Weekly Valencia orange harvest stayed around the four million box level, with the large majority going to the processed market. Harvest of all other varieties were about over for the season. Packinghouses were still taking mostly Valencia oranges. Only a few red grapefruit and Honey tangerines were available for the fresh market.

With the seasonably dry weather and warm temperatures over the past couple weeks, grove owners continued robust irrigating programs, watering several times during the week. Field workers reported various methods of combating greening and controlling psyllid population, including tenting of smaller trees, steam treatment, and spraying. Trees are holding fruit from pea size to marble size for next season’s crop. Field workers reporting seeing an abundance of resetting going on, mostly in the center of the state. Other grove activities included fertilizing, spraying, hedging and topping.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending		
	April 17, 2016	April 24, 2016	May 1, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Temples	0	0	*
Valencia	3,785	3,654	*
White grapefruit	1	7	*
Red grapefruit	59	22	*
Honey tangerines	17	15	*
Total	3,862	3,698	*

*Current numbers not available at time of publication. Check <http://www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org/bulletins/reports.html> for the most recent report.

Fruit and Vegetables

Strawberries and onions are being picked in Bradford County, where the harvest of greens are nearing completion. Blueberry harvest is underway in Clay County. Watermelon harvest activities are in full swing in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, and Hendry, and Lee Counties. The lettuce harvest is nearly complete in Palm Beach County. Crops coming to market include bitter melon,

boniato, cantaloupe, collards, cucumbers, green beans, herbs, kale, malanga, okra, peppers, squash, sweet corn, Swiss chard, tomatoes, and zucchini.

Livestock and Pastures

The warmer, dryer weather has cattle and pasture conditions continuing to improve in Jackson County. Pasture conditions remain in mostly good condition in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Highlands Counties. Some ranchers in Collier County reported providing supplemental feed.

Condition for week ending 05/1/16

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	3	28	63	5
Pasture & Range...	4	9	42	42	3

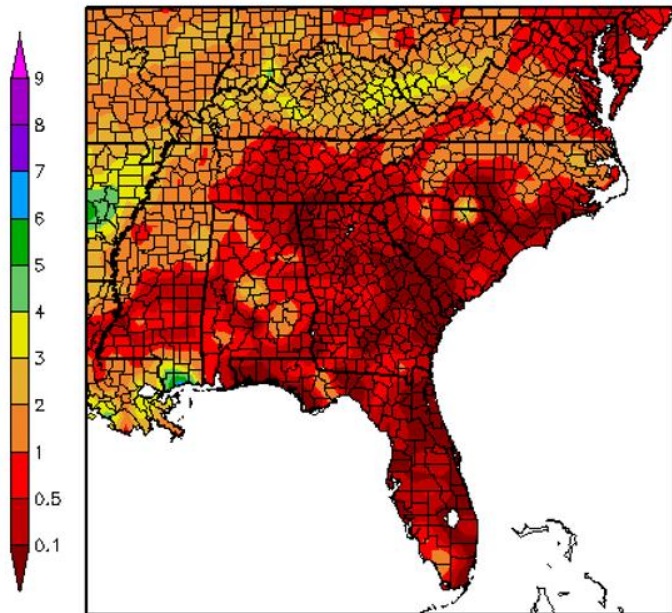
Field Crops

Cotton planting has started in Walton and Jackson Counties. Soil temperatures have warmed up enough for even more peanut plantings in Jackson and Jefferson Counties. Corn planting is completed or nearing completion in Washington and Dixie Counties. There are reports of hay baling in Okaloosa County. There are reports of sugarcane harvest activities in Glades, Hendry, and Highlands, and Palm Beach Counties.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/1/16

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted.....	25	12	10	16

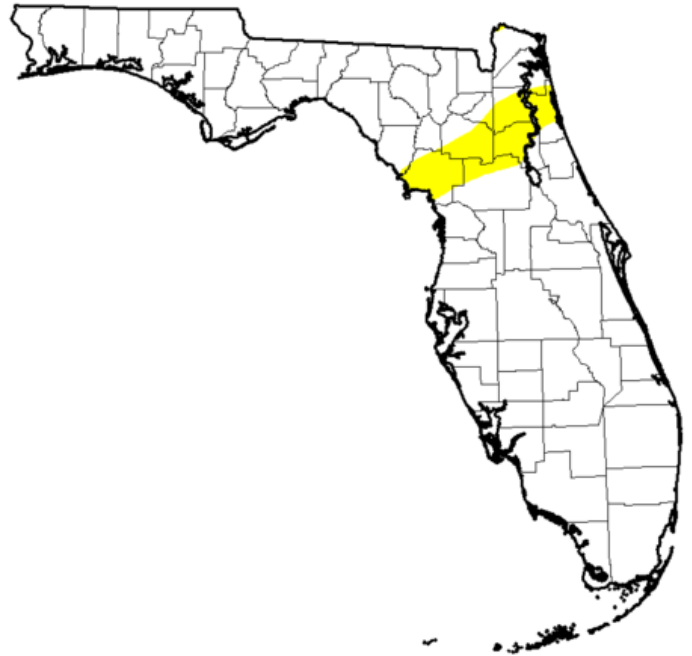
Precipitation (in)
4/25/2016 - 5/1/2016



Generated 5/2/16 at HPRCC using provisional data. Regional Climate Centers.

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

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida**



Intensity:

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

April 26, 2016 (Released Thursday, Apr. 28, 2016)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>