



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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December 12, 2016

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, December 11, 2016. Precipitation estimates ranged from 0.04 inches in North Port (Sarasota County) to 8.09 inches in Marianna (Jackson County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 50.9°F in Jay (Santa Rosa County) to 76.2°F in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County). More rain fell across the state this week, bringing some much need moisture. Some areas reported significant increases to the overall soil moisture level, while others reported runoff more than rain soaking into the ground.

Citrus

Temperatures were warm most of the week in the citrus growing region. Cooler temperatures over the weekend dropped lows to the upper 40s to mid-50s. For the first time in several weeks, the citrus region had significant rainfall. Eight of eighteen monitored weather stations recorded a half of an inch or more of rainfall. The most was in Lake Alfred (Polk County) at 0.80 inches. Canals and ditches are still at low levels due of the lack of rainfall over the past two months. Growers are continuing to irrigate regularly to keep moisture in the ground and on the trees. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated December 6th, 2016, abnormally dry and drought conditions are present in northern Florida, but have not yet reached the citrus growing region.

Most varieties were being harvested for the fresh market. Red grapefruit was being spot picked in order to get larger sizes. White grapefruit was being harvested in limited quantities, mostly for fresh market. Other fruit harvested for the fresh market included Sunburst tangerines, early and mid-oranges, Navel oranges, and tangelos. Field run fruit for processing is picking-up on early and midseason oranges.

Growers are continuing to spray in order to lower the psyllid population. Mowing is mostly before harvest. Other grove practices occurring included fertilizing, herbiciding, spraying supplemental miticides, and general grove care.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Nov 27, 2016	Dec 4, 2016	Dec 11, 2016	Dec 13, 2015
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	81	447	2,146	2,440
Ambersweet	1	0	0	0
Navel oranges.....	48	90	104	152
White grapefruit.....	35	32	29	37
Red grapefruit	144	239	221	216
Tangelos.....	5	23	34	57
Sunburst tangerines	34	80	75	64
Fallglo tangerines...	6	3	0	0
Total	354	914	2,609	2,996

Fruits and Vegetables

Growers in Orange County reported harvesting pickling cucumbers, sweet corn, and cabbage. Crops coming to market this week include avocado, bitter melon, boniato, eggplant, green beans, herbs, malanga, pepper, squash, tomato, zucchini, and other tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle condition is reported to be in mostly fair to good condition. Winter forages were planted this week in Washington County. Supplemental cattle feeding continues in several counties.

Field Crops

Many areas received good rainfall this week, bringing relief to the drought conditions. It may be too late however, for growers who have not already planted full season crops like rye and oats. Some cover crops were planted this week in Washington County. Sugarcane harvest continues in Broward, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

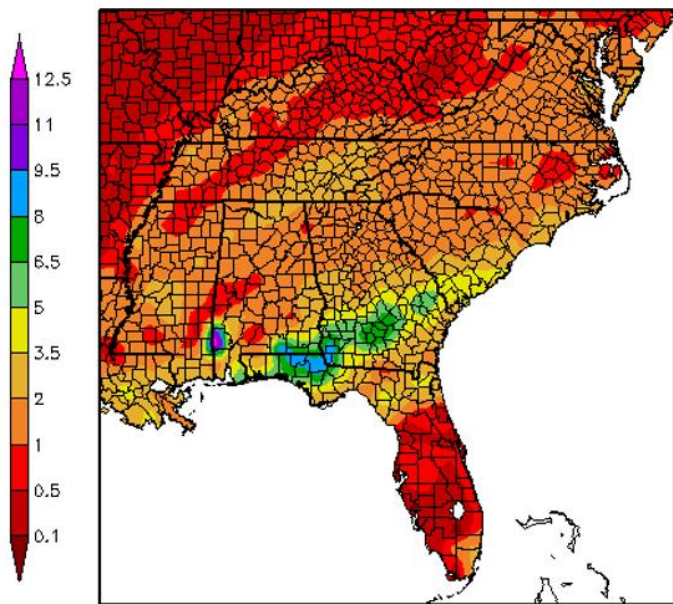
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 12/11/16

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	24	34	5
Short	25	25	29
Adequate	46	40	61
Surplus.....	5	1	5

Condition for week ending 12/11/16

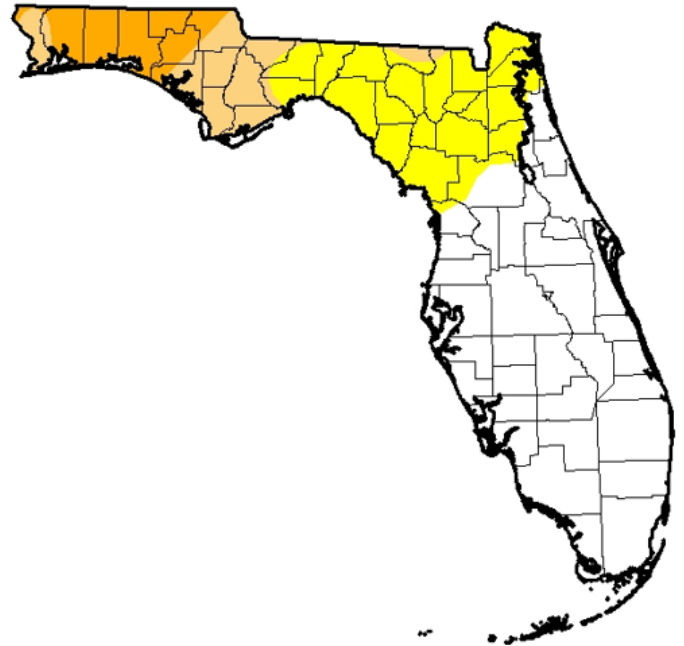
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	9	38	47	5
Pasture & Range...	10	25	39	23	3

Precipitation (in)
12/5/2016 – 12/11/2016



Generated 12/12/16 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

December 6, 2016 (Released Thursday Dec. 8, 2016)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>