

For the Month of January 2017

**FLORIDA:** January started mostly warm and dry. Cooler night time temperatures were reported for only a few nights toward the last week of the month. Dry conditions remained prevalent throughout the month, with only the Panhandle and northern counties receiving any significant rainfall. By the end of the month, these areas were free of abnormally dry conditions. Farmers were able to plant some cover crops toward the end of the month, and some haylage harvesting activities were reported as well. Sugarcane harvest continued on schedule in Broward, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties. A wide variety of vegetables, including cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, and sweet corn were harvested across Florida and brought to market. Pastures continued to decline in quality and quantity throughout the month, with most cattle producers using supplemental feeding. The cattle remained in mostly fair to good condition. Mid-season orange harvest activities continues throughout the month. Grapefruit shipments were strong through the month, with internal quality holding well. Honey and royal tangerines were harvested for the fresh market. Grove work includes irrigating, mowing, spraying, fertilizing. Caretakers are replacing unproductive trees and taking care of healthy older trees and resets with various types of fertilization programs. Bloom has begun statewide.