



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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February 27, 2017

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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, February 26, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in Live Oak (Suwannee County), to 2.35 inches in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 61.7°F in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County) to 72.9°F in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County). Some rain fell this week in most locations throughout the state. A large portion of the state, however, remains in abnormally dry or moderate drought conditions.

Citrus

Daily temperatures in the citrus region were above average all week. Highs were mostly in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Quick moving showers in the middle of the week brought rainfall to all citrus producing counties. Eleven of eighteen monitored stations recorded more than an half of an inch of rainfall; four of those had more than an inch. This season has been very dry, and any significant rainfall is very beneficial. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated February 21st, 2017, all citrus producing counties south of Polk County are showing moderate drought conditions. The remainder of the citrus region is in an abnormally dry state.

Early-mid orange weekly harvest is continuing to decrease, indicating a soon ending to the early-mid orange season. Several of the larger processing plants have closed and will re-open in early March to start taking Valencia oranges. Honey and Royal tangerines were picked primarily for the fresh market. Harvest has stabilized on these two varieties and is coming in at a constant pace, even though overall harvest is less than last season. White and red grapefruit harvest is continuing at levels lower than last season, but is coming in at a fairly steady pace each week.

Bloom is wide spread across the citrus region, still in various stages. Some groves are in early stages of bloom, while others are already showing petal drop and starting to form fruit. There is still opportunity for more bloom to pop-

out this season. Growers are applying bactericides and continuing psyllid control. Other grove activity includes spraying, hedging on all varieties, fertilizing (including liquid fertilizing), and general grove maintenance. Irrigation is running heavily in all areas.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 12, 2017	Feb 19, 2017	Feb 26, 2017	Feb 28, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	2,185	1,420	334	16
Valencias	74	88	123	2,319
Navel oranges.....	2	2	2	0
White grapefruit.....	72	84	106	254
Red grapefruit	414	349	371	525
Temples.....	10	9	12	7
Tangelos.....	7	5	3	0
Sunburst tangerines	6	19	4	62
Honey tangerines.	33	35	40	30
Total	2,803	2,011	995	3,213

<http://www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org/bulletins/reports.html>

Fruits and Vegetables

Strawberry harvesting activities were reported in Brevard, Hillsborough, Indian River, and Polk Counties. Some producers in Dixie and Gilchrist Counties are preparing to plant melons earlier than normal. Broccoli, cabbage, and leafy greens continue to be harvested in Flagler and Putnam Counties. Crops coming to market this week include bitter melon, boniato, collards, eggplant, green beans, malanga, pepper, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomato, zucchini, and other tropical fruits. There were growers who reported poor pack outs on many items, due to high cull rates on items that were damaged from high winds a few weeks ago.

Livestock and Pastures

Most cattle producers are using supplemental feeding, as pasture quality continues its decline. There were reports from Brevard and Indian River Counties, however, of cattle with access to some good grazing. Cattle remain in mostly fair to good condition.

Field Crops

Potato planting activities were reported in Flagler and Putnam Counties. The sugarcane harvest continues on schedule in Broward, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

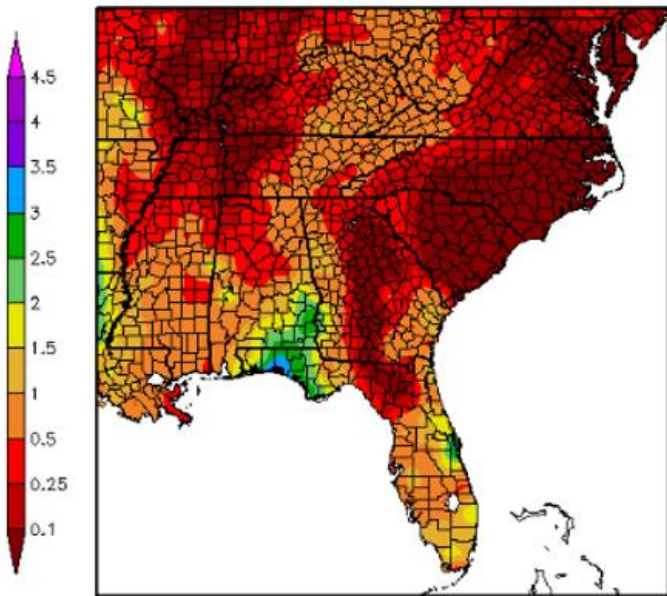
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 2/26/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	9	13	4
Short	42	43	25
Adequate.....	45	40	61
Surplus.....	4	4	10

Condition for week ending 2/26/17

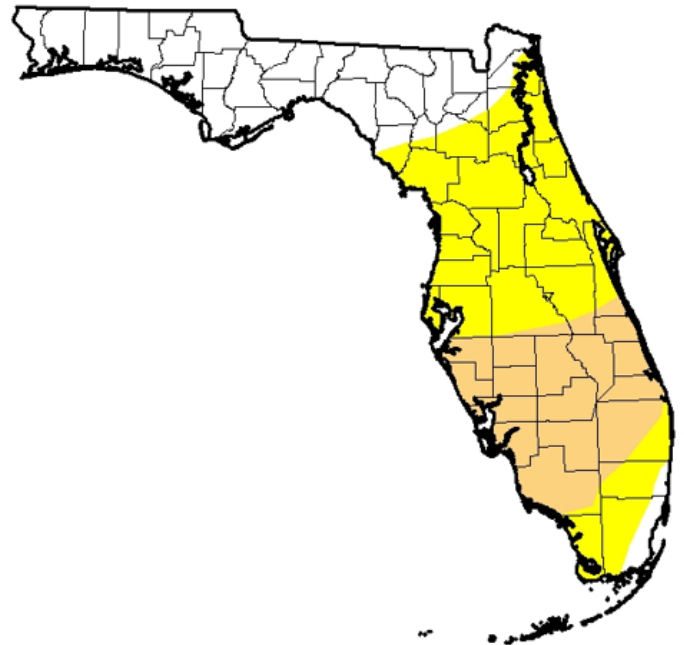
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	11	42	42	4
Pasture & Range...	6	29	41	21	3

Precipitation (in)
2/20/2017 - 2/26/2017



Generated 2/27/17 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

February 21, 2017 (Released Thursday Feb. 23, 2017)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>