



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  
Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 2290 Lucien Way Suite 300 · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

March 13, 2017

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 12, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in several locations, including Alachua (Alachua County), Immokalee (Collier County), and Palmdale (Glades County) to 0.9 inches in Jay (Santa Rosa County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 60.9°F in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County) to 73.6°F in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County). Another warm, dry week for most of the state. Wild fires burned 7,500 acres in Collier County.

**Citrus**

Daily temperatures in the citrus region continued well above average during the week. Highs reached the low to mid 80s in all areas. Rainfall totals remained low, with only one station (Indian River) recording more than half of an inch of rain. According to the March 7, 2017 U.S. Drought Monitor, all citrus producing counties south of Polk County, and including Indian River County, remained in moderate drought conditions. The remainder of the citrus region continued in an abnormally dry state.

Early-midseason orange harvest has been completed. Valencia orange harvest ramped up, with most processors on track to reopen for this variety very soon.

Honey tangerine color improvement was reported, along with continued good internal quality. White and red grapefruit harvest decreased, with some packing houses finishing those varieties for the season.

Bloom progressed unevenly across the state, with some areas hitting full bloom while others had already arrived at the fruitlet stage. In some locations, marble-sized fruit had been reported. Growers sprayed bactericides and pesticides to combat greening, while also pushing dead and dying trees and abandoned groves to reduce potential psyllid habitat. Other grove activity included hedging, fertilizing (including liquid fertilizing), and general grove maintenance. Irrigation remained very heavy in all areas.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 26, 2017	Mar 5, 2017	Mar 12, 2017	Mar 13, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	334	19	*	*
Valencias .....	123	254	*	*
Navel oranges.....	2	1	*	*
White grapefruit.....	106	95	*	*
Red grapefruit .....	371	283	*	*
Temples.....	12	32	*	*
Tangelos.....	3	2	*	*
Sunburst tangerines	4	0	*	*
Honey tangerines.	40	40	*	*
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>726</b>	*	*

\* Current numbers not available at time of publication  
<http://www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org/bulletins/reports.html>

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Strawberry harvest continues in Brevard, Hillsborough, and Manatee Counties. Producers in Gilchrist, Lafayette, and Levy Counties reported planting and transplanting watermelons. There were growers who reported more wind damage to sensitive crops this week. Growers in Glades and Hendry Counties reported shipping large volumes of cabbage for St. Patrick’s Day. Crops coming to market this week include avocado, bitter melon, boniato, cabbage, eggplant, green beans, malanga, pepper, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomato, zucchini, and other tropical fruits.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle producers continue to use supplemental feeding, as pastures remain dry and quality continues its seasonal decline. Cattle remained in mostly fair to good condition.

**Field Crops**

Field corn planting activities occurred in Lafayette County. Sugarcane harvest continues on schedule in Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

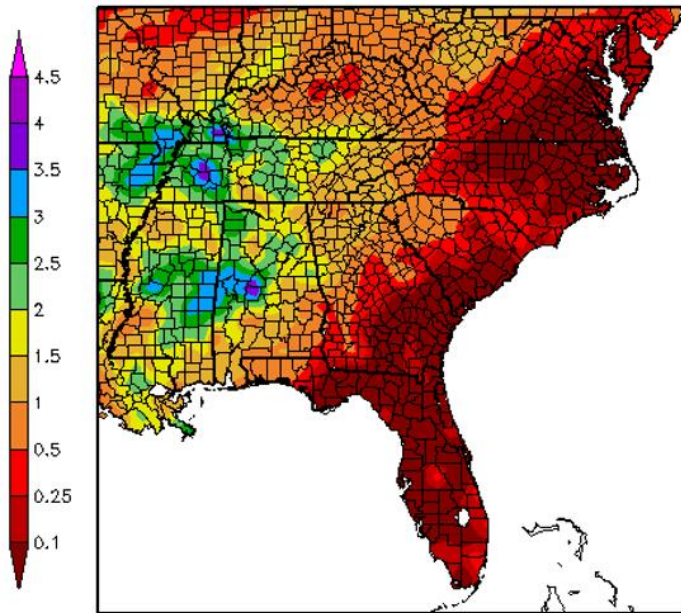
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/12/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short .....	12	10	6
Short .....	49	46	25
Adequate .....	36	40	63
Surplus.....	3	4	6

### Condition for week ending 3/12/17

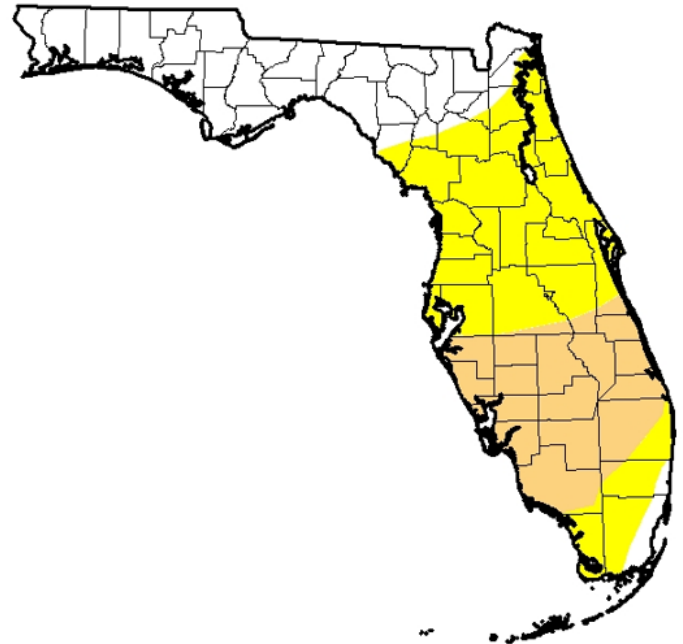
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	14	42	39	4
Pasture & Range...	7	30	39	21	3

Precipitation (in)  
3/6/2017 – 3/12/2017



Generated 3/13/17 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
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought
- D2 Severe Drought

March 7, 2017 (Released Thursday Mar. 9, 2017)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>