



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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[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

April 3, 2017

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**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 2, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple parts of the state to 2.45 inches in Palmdale (Glades County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 67.4°F in Suwannee (Levy County) to 79.0°F in Key West (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Daily temperatures in the citrus regions were above average most of the week. All monitored citrus stations had highs in the mid 80s to lower 90s on several days. The highest temperature was in Plant City (Hillsborough County) at 93 degrees. The majority of monitored weather stations had very little rainfall, on average less than one tenth of an inch. Only two stations had more than an inch of rainfall. Palmdale (Glades County) had 2.45 inches, and Clewiston (Hendry County) had 1.37 inches. According to the March 28, 2017, U.S. Drought Monitor, conditions continue to worsen. Severe drought is now affecting almost the complete Southern citrus growing area. The remainder of the citrus region is in moderate drought, or is in an abnormally dry condition.

Valencia orange harvest is going strong primarily for processing. Tangerine harvest has slowed down significantly with only limited quantities of Honey and Royal tangerines remaining. Tangelo harvest appears to be about over for the season. In the past couple weeks only about a third of the red grapefruit has been harvested for the fresh market. Almost all the white grapefruit is going to the processing plants.

Bloom is about over for citrus. Most trees have pea size fruit, while some have marble size and larger fruit from the earlier blooms this season. Trees in well cared groves have lots of new growth. Irrigation is becoming common-place due to the lack of significant rainfall over the past several weeks. Other grove activity included spraying, hedging, fertilizing and general grove maintenance.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 19, 2017	Mar 26, 2017	Apr 2, 2017	Apr 3, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	322	0	45	0
Valencia oranges .....	2,354	2,620	3,056	3,788
Navel oranges.....	0	0	0	0
White grapefruit.....	65	34	32	35
Red grapefruit.....	144	79	51	91
Tangelos.....	1	2	0	1
Temples.....	13	10	13	1
Sunburst Tangerines.....	0	8	2	3
Honey tangerines.....	37	45	48	36
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>2,936</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>3,247</b>	<b>3,955</b>

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

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Producers in Hamilton County reported carrot harvesting and green bean planting activities. Cantaloupe, tomato, and watermelon are all being planted in Jackson County. Broccoli, greens, and cabbage are being harvested in Bradford, Flagler, and Putnam Counties. Crops coming to market this week include avocado, bitter melon, boniato, eggplant, herbs, green beans, malanga, and other tropical fruits.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Producers continue to use supplemental feeding. Cattle remain in mostly fair condition despite the continued decline in pasture quality. Brevard County reporters noted that many water holes are dry.

## Field Crops

Field activities have picked up after the frosts as corn is reported to be planted in Escambia, Hamilton, Jackson, and Suwannee Counties. Potatoes in Suwannee County are sprouting back after the freeze. Sugarcane harvest continues on schedule in Broward, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties.

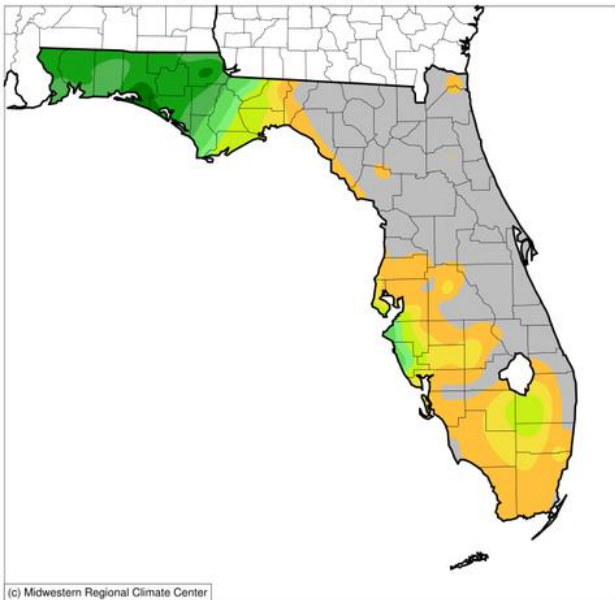
## Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/12/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	25	17	5
Short .....	43	47	31
Adequate.....	28	32	58
Surplus.....	4	4	6

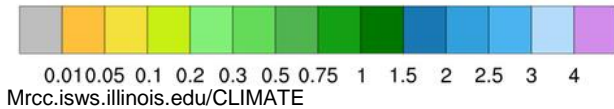
## Condition for week ending 3/12/17

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	2	15	44	35	4
Pasture & Range...	8	39	34	16	3

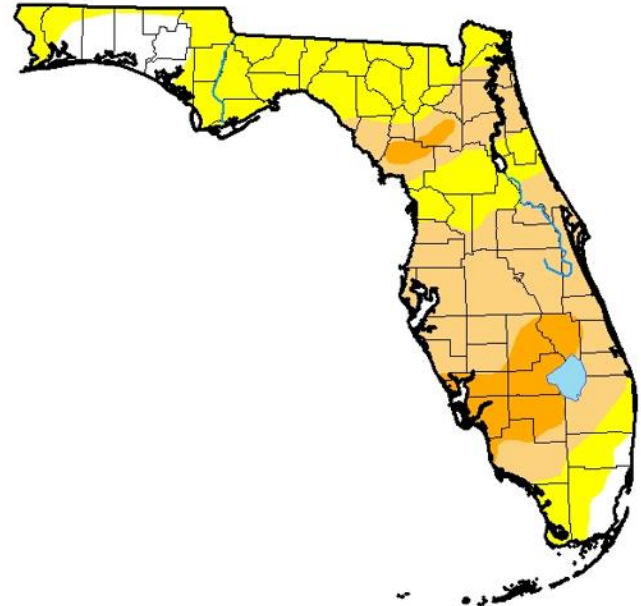
Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
March 27, 2017 to April 02, 2017



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



### Intensity:



March 28, 2017 (Released Thursday Mar. 30, 2017)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>