



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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April 24, 2017

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 23, 2017. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple parts of the state to 3.73 inches in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 65.8°F in Naples (Collier County) to 79.1°F in Key Biscayne (Miami-Dade County).

Citrus

Daily temperatures in the citrus regions were above average for this time of year. Almost all of the monitored citrus stations had highs in the mid to upper 80s several days during the week. The highest temperature recorded was 92°F in Kissimmee (Osceola County). Clermont (Lake County) had the second highest temperature at 91°F. Rainfall was very light in the citrus growing region. Most of the monitored stations recorded between no rain to one tenth of an inch of rainfall. Ortona (Glades County) had the most rainfall for the week at 0.60 inches. Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County) had 0.40 inches of rainfall. According to the April 18, 2017, U.S. Drought Monitor, with the exception of the most northern portion of the citrus growing area, the entire citrus region is in severe drought.

Valencia oranges are the only variety with a significant amount of harvest left. All other varieties have finished for the season, or are winding down. Weekly harvest levels are running behind last season on late oranges. Fresh fruit harvest for the past couple weeks has been about two percent of the harvested crop. The remainder of the crop is going to the processing plants.

Next season’s fruit is still mostly small. Most trees are carrying pea size to marble size fruit. Some trees have fruit as large as golf balls from earlier blooms this season. Ditches and canals are dry in most areas due to the lack of rainfall since before the beginning of the year. Trees in well cared for and well irrigated groves still look good. 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
	Apr 9, 2017	Apr 16, 2017	Apr 23, 2017	Apr 24, 2016
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	1	1	*	*
Valencia oranges	3,060	3,482	*	*
Navel oranges.....	0	0	*	*
White grapefruit.....	31	31	*	*
Red grapefruit	12	21	*	*
Tangelos	0	0	*	*
Temples.....	19	3	*	*
Sunburst tangerines ..	0	0	*	*
Honey tangerines.....	12	6	*	*
Total	3,135	3,544	*	*

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

Fruits and Vegetables

Cabbage and leafy greens continue to be harvested in Flagler and Putnam Counties. Blueberry harvest continues in Brevard, Hillsborough, and Polk Counties. White fly pressures are very high in a variety of vegetable crops. Watermelon harvesting is ongoing in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties. A wide variety of crops continue coming to market.

Livestock and Pastures

Pasture quality continues to decline as the dry conditions persist. Producers in Jackson and Walton Counties are planting Bahiagrass and millet in some pastures. Producers in many parts of the state continue to have hay and water shipped in. Many farmers are having new wells dug where their current wells have gone dry. Cattle remain in mostly fair condition.

Field Crops

Cotton and peanut planting is underway in Washington County. Peanut planting is delayed due to the dry conditions in Dixie and Levy Counties. Potato harvest has begun in St. Johns County. Sugarcane harvest is mostly complete. There are delays in sugarcane fields that have not yet finished the harvest due to drought conditions and fire hazard.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/23/17

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	20	21	5
Short	44	43	29
Adequate	30	32	62
Surplus	6	4	4

Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/23/17

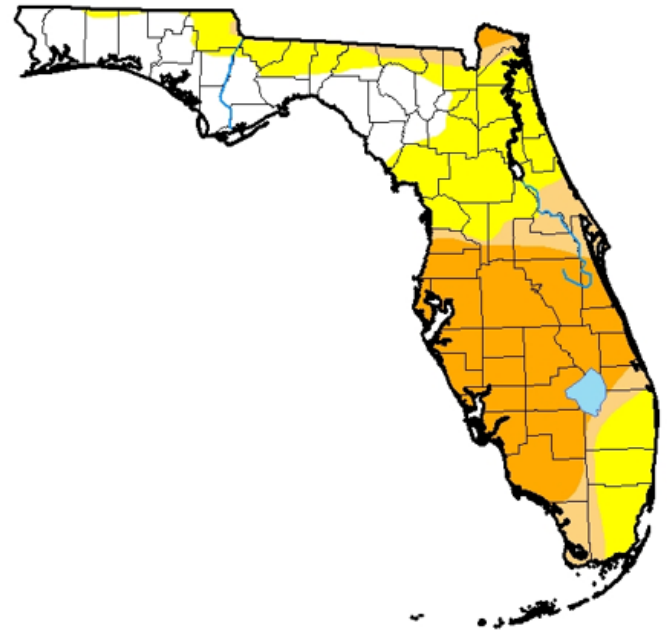
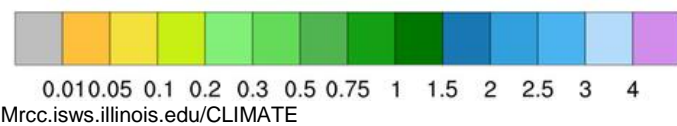
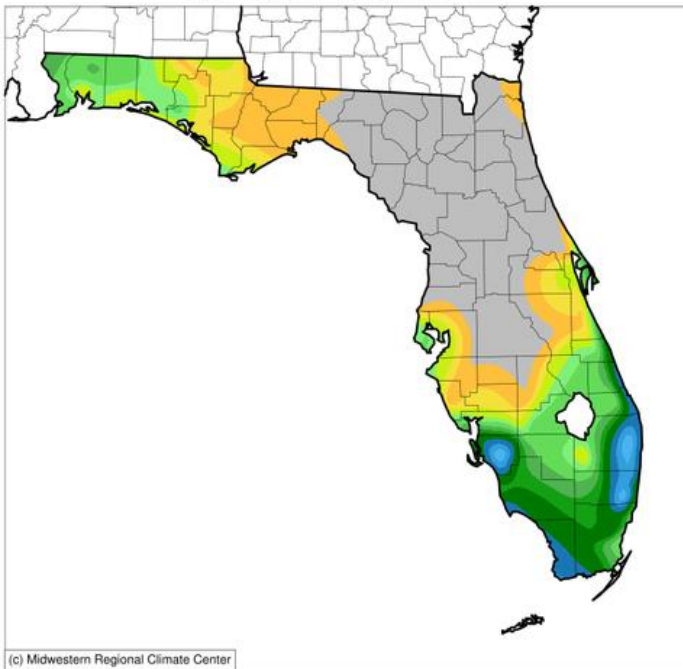
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	4	1	NA	NA
Peanuts - Planted	12	8	11	7

Condition for week ending 4/23/17

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	2	15	42	37	4
Pasture & range	13	33	34	17	3

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 17, 2017 to April 23, 2017



Intensity:



April 18, 2017 (Released Thursday Apr. 20, 2017)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu>