



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

January 8, 2018

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.1 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, January 7, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 2.5 inches in Key Largo (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 33.5°F in Bloxham (Leon County) to 63.3°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures this week in citrus producing counties were the coldest of the 2017-2018 growing season. Nearly all interior counties dropped a couple degrees below freezing on two consecutive mornings, while most coastal counties minimum temperatures hovered around freezing. The minimum temperature in Mount Dora, in the northern area was 28°F. Indian River’s minimum recorded temperature was 34°F. Although below freezing in several counties, the temperatures were not cold enough and the duration was not long enough to damage the fruit or trees.

Rainfall was sporadic in the citrus region. Most stations in the southern area recorded less than half an inch of precipitation for the week. All other areas had between 0.5 and 1.5 inches of rainfall. According to the January 4, 2018, U.S. Drought Monitor, the complete citrus region remains drought free.

Grove operations included minimal spraying and harvesting. All growers continued irrigation practices. Field staff reported a few instances of sporadic bloom and new growth on citrus trees.

Fresh fruit harvest consisted primarily of mid-season oranges, grapefruit, and tangerines. Fresh harvest of early oranges and early tangerines (Fallglo and Sunburst) is nearly complete for the season. The majority of white grapefruit picked for fresh use went to the export market, while red grapefruit was more for domestic use. Some processing plants were closed on January 1, but all were up and running for the remainder of the week.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Dec 24, 2017	Dec 31, 2017	Jan 7, 2018	Jan 08, 2017
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	1,798	1,535	1,286	2,892
Navel oranges	14	2	4	14
White grapefruit	44	40	38	59
Red grapefruit	144	123	100	193
Tangerines and Tangelos	26	13	17	47
Total	2,026	1,713	1,445	3,205

www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

Fruits and Vegetables

Producers in Bradford County reported strawberry damage from the hard frost received. Blueberry and vegetable damage in Osceola County is still being assessed. Multiple reports of producers using freeze protection irrigation systems this week. Vegetable growers throughout the southern part of the state harvested heavily in advance of the cold. Many growers are now preparing land for spring crops. A wide variety of crops are coming to market, including beans, eggplant, herbs, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and zucchini.

Livestock and Pastures

Cold weather throughout the state and freezing temperatures from the Panhandle to the Central Peninsula damaged several pastures. Pasture quality continues to decline as a result of the low temperatures. Producers are feeding supplements as necessary. Poultry producers in Lafayette County reported an increase in fuel costs required to keep the birds warm. Cattle remain in mostly good condition throughout the state.

Field Crops

Ice was reported this week on oats and rye in Lafayette County. Sugarcane, which can withstand colder weather, continues to be harvested in Glades and Hendry Counties.

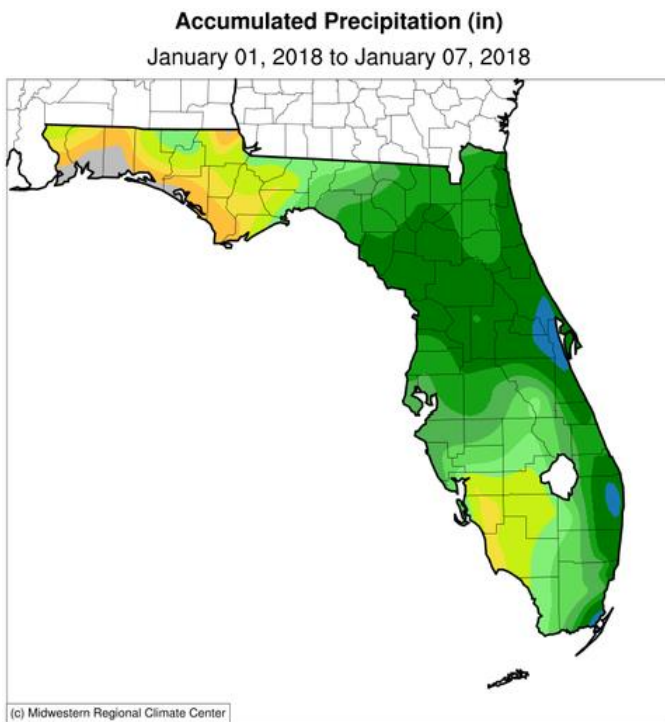
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 1/7/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	5	4
Short.....	18	23	25
Adequate.....	73	57	64
Surplus.....	6	15	7

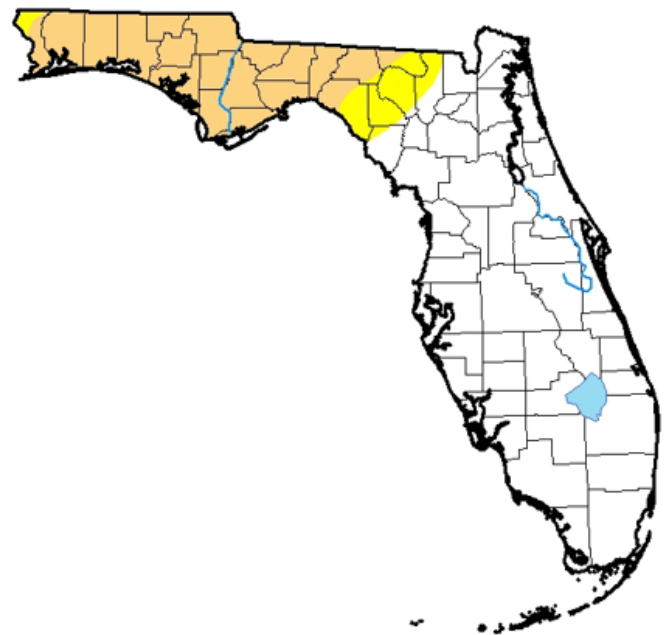
Condition for Week Ending 1/7/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	2	6	36	51	5
Pasture & range....	8	23	45	23	1

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



0.01 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.5 0.75 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4
[Mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE](http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE)



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

January 2, 2018 (Released Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>