



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 16, 2018

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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 15, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 8.5 inches in Interlachen (Putnam County). The average mean temperature ranged from 62.7°F in Jasper (Hamilton County) to 80.4°F in Key Largo (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were average in the citrus growing region during the beginning of the week and seasonably warm over the weekend. All counties had highs in the upper 80s and lower 90s on Saturday or Sunday. All areas showed rainfall at least two days during the week. Most counties in the southern area received less than an inch of rain, while the majority of the counties in the rest of the citrus region had at least an inch and as much as five inches of rain. Notable amounts were 5.30 inches in Groveland (Lake County) and 3.62 inches in Plant City (Dade County). According to the April 12, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, moderate drought conditions in the northern area covered Osceola County, about half of Orange County, and a small portion of Seminole County. In the southern area, moderate drought conditions covered Collier and Hendy counties and part of Glades County. Abnormally dry conditions covered the majority of the remaining citrus counties. Only Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Marion, Putman, and Alachua counties were drought free.

Valencia oranges are the only variety of citrus remaining to be harvested. Fresh fruit harvest of Valencia oranges has been about two percent of the harvested crop for the past couple of weeks. The remainder has been going to processing plants. Some plants continue to struggle with maturity levels on the later season oranges.

Next season’s crop is in various stages, from as small as pea size to as large as marble size. Normal fruit drop is continuing as the trees are adjusting to set next season’s crop. Ditches and canals remain dry in many areas from the lack of rainfall over the past several months. Trees in

well-cared-for and well-irrigated groves still look good. Grove activities include 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 1, 2018	Apr 8, 2018	Apr 15, 2018	Apr 16, 2017
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	2,498	3,016	2,521	3,361
White grapefruit.....	0	0	0	36
Red grapefruit	4	3	1	20
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	4	0	0	13
Total	2,506	3,019	2,522	3,430

www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

Fruits and Vegetables

Crops planted included boniato, cucumber, eggplant, malanga, okra, and squash. Crops harvested included blueberries, eggplant, green beans, herbs, leafy greens, onions, peaches, peppers, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelon.

Livestock and Pastures

Recent rains filled irrigation ditches with shallow water and improved pasture condition. Additionally, warm temperatures added to pasture green up. Livestock producers continued to feed supplements.

Field Crops

Producers in the Panhandle rolled or burned cover crops in preparation for planting row crops. Peanut planting started in Levy County, but low soil temperatures delayed planting in Suwannee County. Sugarcane harvest neared completion in Glades and Hendry counties. Sugarcane planting continued in St. Lucie County.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/15/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	5	14	6
Short.....	23	32	26
Adequate.....	66	52	60
Surplus.....	6	2	8

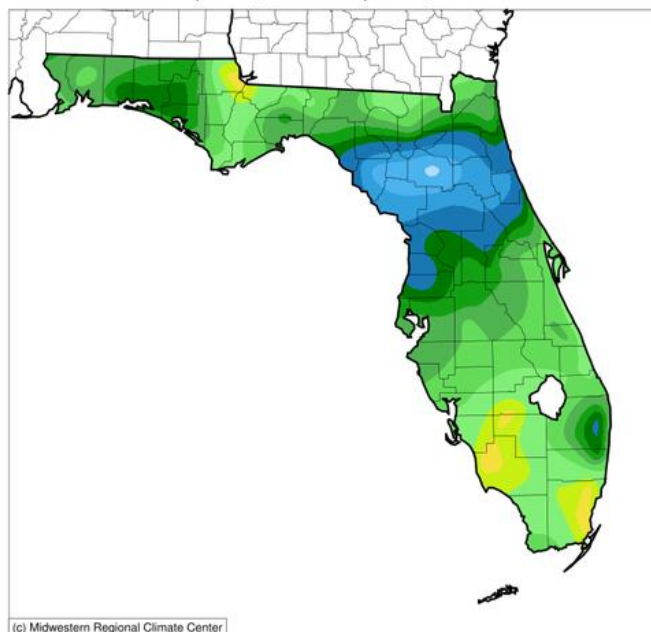
Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/15/18

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	0	NA	1	NA
Peanuts - Planted.....	8	1	7	2

Condition for Week Ending 4/15/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	2	6	34	52	6
Pasture & range....	4	14	42	39	1

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 09, 2018 to April 15, 2018

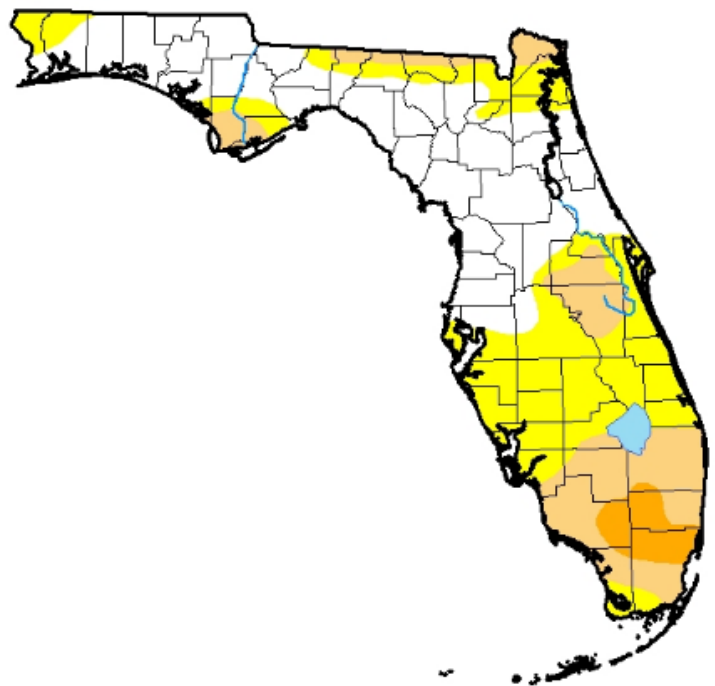


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mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

April 10, 2018 (Released Thursday, April 12, 2018)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>