



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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May 7, 2018

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**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 7, 2018. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 2.0 inches in Lakeland (Polk County). The average mean temperature ranged from 63.9°F in Jasper (Hamilton County) to 81.1°F in Marathon (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures were seasonably warm for this time of year in the citrus growing region. Most daytime highs were in the low to high 80s; nighttime temperatures were in the high 50s to low 60s. The highest temperature was in Avon Park (Highlands County) at 92°F. Clermont (Lake County) and Plant City (Hillsborough County) both reached 91°F.

Scattered precipitation over the weekend brought between less than a tenth of an inch of rain and just under an inch of rain to the citrus growing region. Several locations in the citrus belt did not record any rainfall all week. According to the May 3, 2018 U.S. Drought Monitor, only Collier County and a portion of Lee County experienced severe drought. Hendry County in the southern citrus area along with its surrounding counties experienced moderate drought. Brevard and Osceola counties in the northern citrus area and portions of Orange County and Indian River County experienced moderate drought. Several of the remaining citrus producing counties were abnormally dry.

Valencia harvest has begun to slow. Processing plants were winding down with most planning on finishing by the end of May. Packinghouses will continue running fresh Valencia oranges as long as quality fruit is still available. Several houses have finished or will be finishing in the next week or so.

Next season’s fruit is progressing as normal. Oranges, on average, are between marble and golf-ball size. Grapefruit are slightly larger. Some trees are still dropping small fruit, adjusting for what they can carry until harvest. Field work is picking up with caretakers pushing old trees and

putting them in burn piles. Irrigation is being run regularly. Grove owners are conducting general grove maintenance, including applying herbicides and fertilizers.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Apr 22, 2018	Apr 29, 2018	May 6, 2018	May 7, 2018
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	2,878	2,379	1,868	3,322
White grapefruit.....	0	0	0	4
Red grapefruit .....	3	0	0	4
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	0	0	0	7
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,881</b>	<b>2,379</b>	<b>1,868</b>	<b>3,337</b>

www.citrusadministrativecommittee.org

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, malanga, okra, and sunflowers. Crops harvested included blueberries, cucumber, eggplant, green beans, malanga, peaches, peppers, radishes, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelons.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Due to hit-or-miss rainfall in many counties over the last several weeks, pasture quality has varied across the state, but in general, livestock has continued to require feed supplements.

**Field Crops**

Soil moisture in several counties was barely enough to continue planting row crops. The condition of irrigated crops was good, but non-irrigated crops were stressed. Tobacco planting was underway in Hamilton and Lafayette counties. Potato harvest progressed. Sugarcane harvest continued in Glades and Hendry counties with an extended harvest expected due to delays earlier in the season. Producers in Okeechobee County baled and stored hay.

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 5/6/18

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	10	3	6
Short.....	42	35	33
Adequate.....	48	60	56
Surplus.....	0	2	5

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 5/6/18

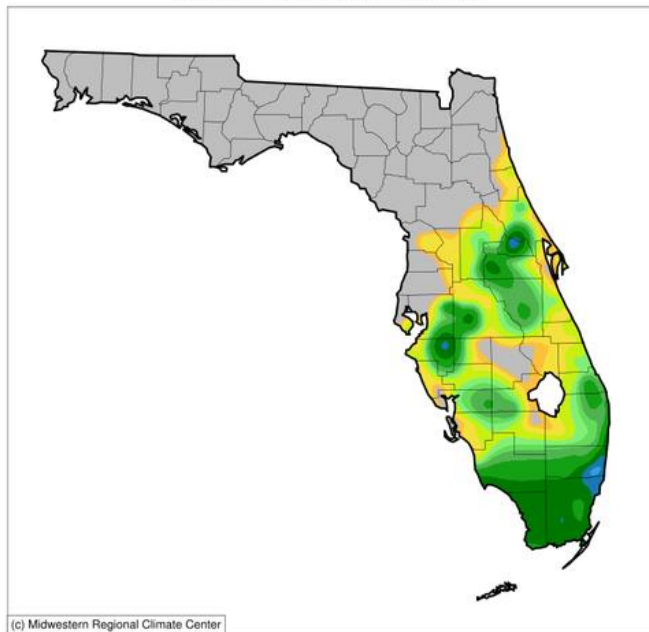
Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted .....	16	9	19	NA
Peanuts - Planted.....	37	21	30	30

### Condition for Week Ending 5/6/18

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	0	2	33	55	10
Pasture & range....	1	13	49	36	1

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

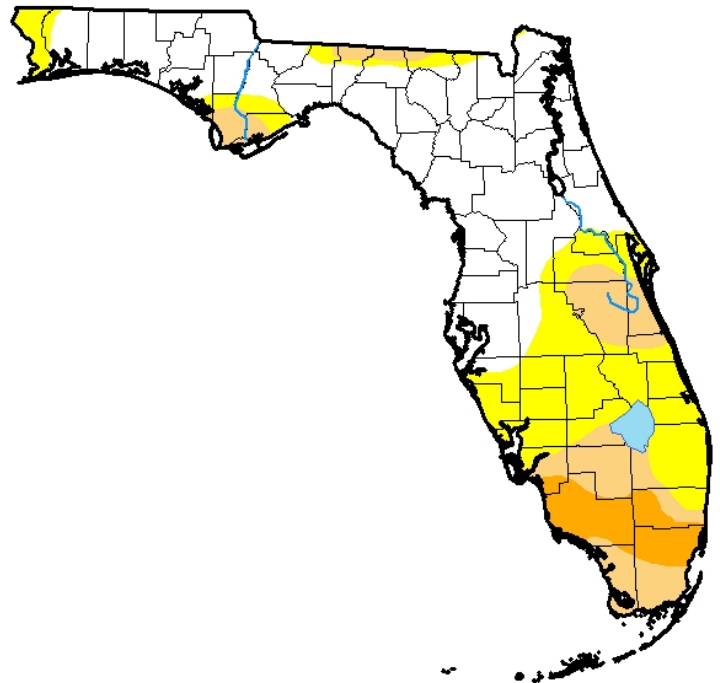
Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
April 30, 2018 to May 06, 2018



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



0.010 0.020 0.05 0.1 0.15 0.2 0.3 0.5 0.75 1 1.25 1.5 1.75  
[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

May 1, 2018 (Released Thursday, May 3, 2018)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>