

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 Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 2290 Lucien Way Suite 300 · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013 www.nass.usda.gov

February 11, 2019 Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 10, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 1.10 inches in Melbourne (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 56.5°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 74.9°F in Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were generally average or above in the citrus growing region, with highs on most days in the mid 70s to low 80s. The highest temperature was 85°F set by Winter Haven (Polk County). Rainfall was nominal in the citrus belt for most of the week. Some northern and central area counties received rainfall over the weekend. Totals ranged from trace amounts of rain to just over a half an inch. The most rainfall for the week was in Kenansville (Osceola County) at 0.65 inches.

According to the February 7th, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions continue to improve in the citrus growing region. The western and northern area, and the majority of the southern area are now drought free. Okeechobee County is the only southern area county still showing abnormally dry conditions. Only the northern portion of the Indian River District is under moderate drought; the remaining portion has been reduced to abnormally dry.

Processing plants continued running field-run oranges and some field run grapefruit as well as packinghouse eliminations (PHE). Some processing plants have reported they will be done with early and midseason orange harvest by the middle to end of February. Valencia orange harvest is just beginning, primarily for the fresh market. Tangerine harvest included Tango, Orri, Royal, Murcott (Honey tangerines), and a few other minor varieties.

Grove caretakers continued with normal spray programs, fertilizing, applying herbicide, and taking care of young trees. Irrigation is running everywhere. On the east coast, ditches and reservoirs are low. Caretakers are mowing

groves before harvest. Some accounts of hedging grapefruit have been reported in the Indian River district, and some hedging of oranges has been reported in the interior.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

	F	Previous Year			
Crop	Jan 20,	Jan 27,	Feb 3,	Feb 4,	
	2019	2019	2019	2018	
	(Final)	(Preliminary)	(Preliminary)	(Actual)	
	(boxes)	(boxes) (boxes) (boxes)		(boxes)	
Early and Mid-					
oranges	2,822	2,758	2,698	115	
Navel oranges	31	15	15	2	
Valencia					
oranges	0	9	10	55	
Red grapefruit	171	163	142	184	
White grapefruit	46	36	47	64	
Tangerines and					
Tangelos	67	32	21	40	
Total	3,137	3,013	2,933	460	

Source: Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service Fruit and Vegetable Division

Fruits and Vegetables

Strawberry harvesting activities were reported in Bradford and Hillsborough counties, where botrytis blight was reported on some strawberries. Broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower were harvested in Flagler and Putnam counties. Some lettuce growers in Bradford County reported white mold pressures. Watermelon land preparations are nearly complete in Levy County. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, green beans, herbs, malanga, squash, and zucchini. Crops harvested included Asian vegetables, avocado, bitter melon, boniato, green beans, herbs, malanga, pepper, squash, sweet corn, tomato, and zucchini.

Livestock and Pastures

Some flooding and overflowing banks were reported in Volusia County. Pastures in Brevard and Indian River counties received much needed rain this week, where ranchers are still supplying hay. Pasture quality has declined seasonally due to cooler temperatures and dry conditions in much of the southern peninsula. Cattle remain in mostly good condition.

Field Crops

Potato harvesting has begun in Charlotte, Collier, and Lee counties. Sugarcane harvest is back on track in Glades and Hendry counties after several days off last week due to wet weather.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 02/10/19

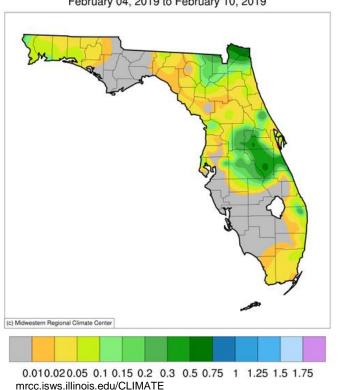
Topsoil	This week	Previous week	
	(percent)	(percent)	
Very short Short Adequate Surplus	3 7 75 15	3 15 65 17	

Condition for Week Ending 02/10/19

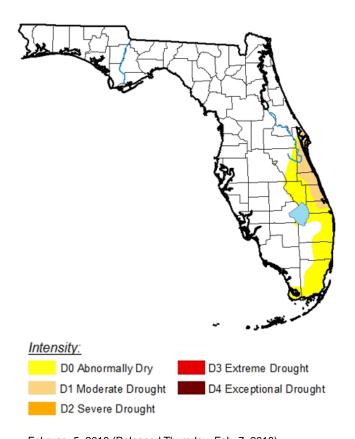
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Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent			
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)			
Cattle Pasture & range	1 5	5 21	33 44	53 24	8 6			

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

February 04, 2019 to February 10, 2019



U.S. Drought Monitor **Florida**



February 5, 2019 (Released Thursday, Feb. 7, 2018) http://droughtmonitor.unl