



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 1, 2019

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General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 31, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 4.04 inches in Cocoa (Brevard County). The average mean temperature ranged from 55.2°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 76.1°F in Curry Hammock State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were consistently warm all week. Most highs were in the mid 70s to mid 80s. Morning lows were in the mid 50s to low 60s. The citrus region received very little rain for the week. Clermont (Lake County) was one of the few stations recording rainfall, amounting to 2.29 inches. In Orange County, the most rainfall was in Orlando West at 0.63 inches of rainfall. According to the March 28, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, conditions continue to hold steady. For the sixth consecutive week, only the Indian River District is showing abnormally dry conditions; the remaining citrus growing area is drought free.

Valencia harvest is in full swing. All plants are now open and processing the later variety citrus. For the first time this season, weekly harvest of oranges was over three million boxes. Fresh market tangerine and tangelo harvest is slowing down. Small amounts of Honey (Murcott) tangerines and Royal tangerines are still being harvested. Fresh white grapefruit harvest is over for the season, and processed white grapefruit is winding down. Red grapefruit is still being harvested for the fresh and processed markets.

Bloom is finished in all areas. The trees have formed an abundance of pea size fruit for next season. Most growers have finished hedging and topping, and are concentrating on taking care of healthy trees. Caretakers are pulling out non-productive and dying trees and putting them in burn piles. Younger trees and resets are being covered with netting and being sprayed to reduce the potential of spreading the Asian citrus psyllid related to greening. Mowing and herbicide application was also observed. Irrigation is running regularly in all areas.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 10, 2019 (Final)	Mar 17, 2019 (Preliminary)	Mar 24, 2019 (Preliminary)	Mar 25, 2018 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	101	29	1	0
Navel oranges	1	1	0	0
Valencia oranges	1,471	2,797	3,055	2,249
Red grapefruit	188	213	129	18
White grapefruit ..	73	38	16	1
Tangerines and Tangelos	64	35	17	3
Total	1,898	3,113	3,218	2,271

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

Fruits and Vegetables

Green bean planting is finished in Lafayette County. Cabbage, strawberries, and tomatoes are experiencing some disease and pest pressures in Manatee County. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, malanga, okra, and watermelon. A multitude of crops were harvested including eggplant, okra, pepper, and tomato.

Livestock and Pastures

Winter forages and haylage were harvested in Lafayette and Volusia counties. Pastures have been improving seasonally in Washington County. Cattle remain in mostly good condition.

Field Crops

Producers in Dixie and Lafayette counties reported hail damage to corn and tobacco crops. Peanuts and corn were planted in Dixie County. Land preparations continue in Escambia and Washington counties. Burndown applications were sprayed and hay was baled in Escambia County. Sugarcane harvest continues in Glades and Hendry counties.

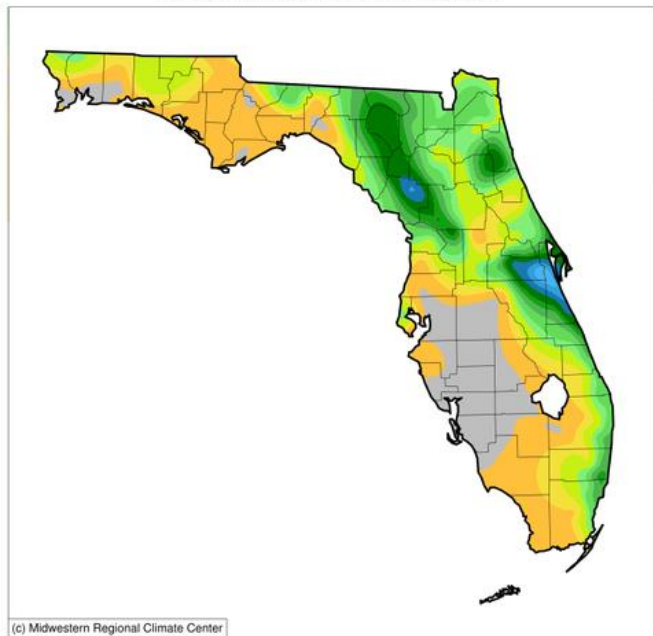
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 03/31/19

Topsoil	This week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	4	1
Short.....	30	21
Adequate.....	63	72
Surplus.....	3	6

Condition for Week Ending 03/31/19

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	4	29	57	10
Pasture & range	1	13	34	41	11

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 25, 2019 to March 31, 2019

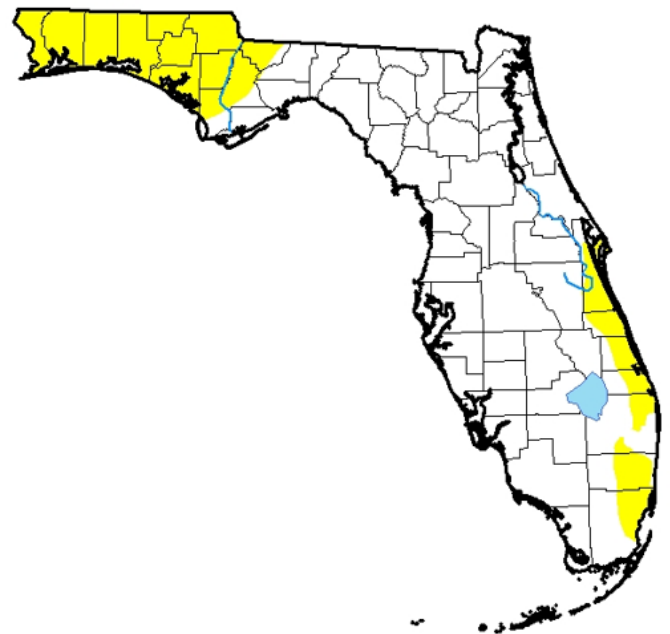


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0.01 0.05 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.5 0.75 1 1.5 2 2.5 3 4
mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

March 26, 2019 (Released Thursday, Mar. 28, 2019)
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>