



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 · 851 Trafalgar Court Suite 310E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013  
www.nass.usda.gov

December 23, 2019

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, December 22, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from trace amounts of rain in multiple locations to 6.65 inches in Key West (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 49.8°F in Whiting Field NAS (Santa Rosa County) to 74.9°F in John Key West (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Maximum temperatures in the citrus growing region ranged from the low to upper 80s. The highest maximum reading was in Vero Beach (Indian River County), which reached 87°F. The greatest rainfall was in Vero Beach (Indian River County), at 2.71 inches. According to the December 19, 2019, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions covered the complete southern area, the majority of the Indian River District, and almost all of the western and central growing areas, while the southern part of Collier County has moderate drought conditions. Only the northern area remained mainly drought free.

White and red grapefruit, early and midseason oranges, Navels, early tangerines and Tangelos were being harvested for the fresh market.

Processing plants were open and ran early and mid-season oranges as well as red and white grapefruit. According to the Florida Citrus Mutual Market News Bulletin, most plants will be closed December 24 and 25 start receiving fruit on December 26.

Other grove activities included mowing, spraying, fertilizing, and general grove maintenance.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

| Crop                          | For week ending              |                              |                               | Previous Year            |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                               | Dec 1, 2019<br>(Preliminary) | Dec 8, 2019<br>(Preliminary) | Dec 15, 2019<br>(Preliminary) | Dec 16, 2018<br>(Actual) |
|                               | (boxes)                      | (boxes)                      | (boxes)                       | (boxes)                  |
| Early and Mid-oranges .....   | 68                           | 1,521                        | 2,405                         | 2,874                    |
| Navel oranges ....            | 37                           | 74                           | 83                            | 74                       |
| Red grapefruit ....           | 90                           | 118                          | 74                            | 146                      |
| White grapefruit..            | 7                            | 11                           | 10                            | 28                       |
| Tangerines and Tangelos ..... | 12                           | 29                           | 34                            | 43                       |
| <b>Total .....</b>            | <b>214</b>                   | <b>1,753</b>                 | <b>2,606</b>                  | <b>3,165</b>             |

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

**Fruits and Vegetables**

A wide range of fruits and vegetables were planted while others were harvested and brought to market. Crops planted and harvested included green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, bitter melon, and Asian vegetables.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Winter forage planting continued in multiple counties throughout the state. Low lying pastures in Brevard and Indian River counties are accumulating excess moisture due to widespread rainfall. Cattle are looking good, but staying out of muddy areas.

**Field Crops**

Planting of late cover crops continued. Sugarcane harvest was slowed by rainy conditions.

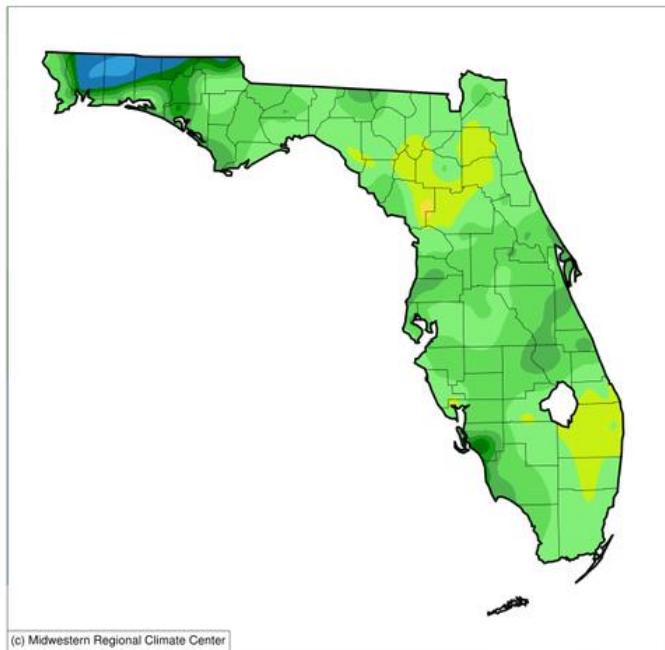
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 12/22/19

| Topsoil         | This week | Previous week |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
|                 | (percent) | (percent)     |
| Very short..... | 1         | 1             |
| Short.....      | 12        | 23            |
| Adequate.....   | 77        | 71            |
| Surplus.....    | 10        | 5             |

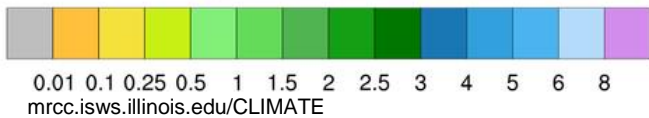
### Condition for Week Ending 12/22/19

| Crop                  | Very poor | Poor      | Fair      | Good      | Excellent |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                       | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Cattle .....          | 1         | 2         | 21        | 63        | 13        |
| Pasture & range ..... | 6         | 12        | 32        | 43        | 7         |

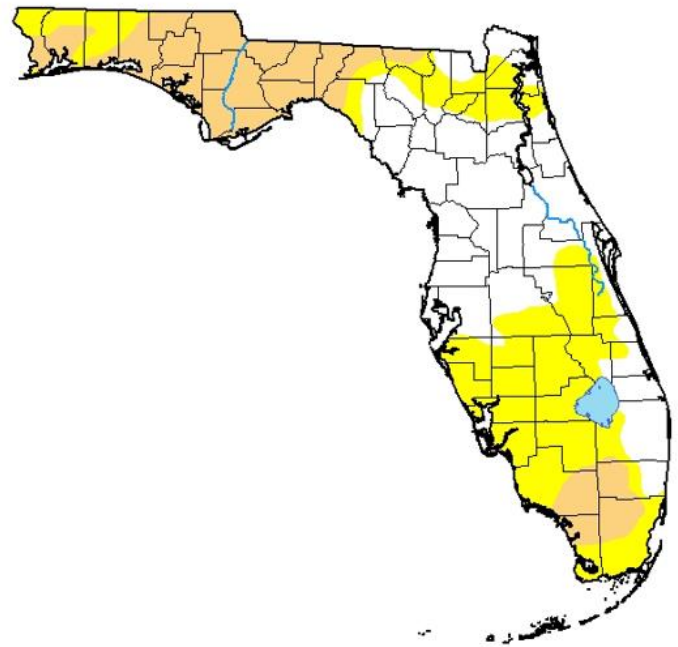
**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**  
December 16, 2019 to December 22, 2019



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



### U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

December 17, 2019 (Released Thursday, Dec. 19, 2019)  
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>