



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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This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

April 20, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.4 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 19, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain in multiple locations to 6.0 inches in Live Oak (Suwannee County). The average mean temperature ranged from 66.0°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 84.4°F in Miami (Miami-Dade County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region had warmer than average temperatures all week. Maximum temperatures ranged from the upper 80s to upper 90s. The highest reading was in Palm Dale (Glades County), which reached 98°F. Beneficial rainfall fell over much of the citrus region. Counties in the Indian River District received between 1 and 2 inches of rainfall. Most other areas received between 0.5 and 1.5 inches. According to the April 16, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, the western area and portions of the northern and central areas began to show severe drought, while the remaining portion of the citrus region continued showing moderate drought.

Valencia harvest continued at over three million boxes per week. Grapefruit harvest was winding down for the season. Tangerine harvest was nearly over.

The trees formed an abundance of pea sized fruit for next season. Normal fruit drop continued as the trees were setting the new crop. Reports from the field indicated the pushing of old trees and preparing for the planting of new ones. Grove activities included spraying nutritionals, fertilizing, hedging, disking, and performing general grove maintenance. Growers and caretakers were irrigating regularly in all areas.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	Previous Year	For week ending		
	Apr 14, 2019 (Actual) (boxes)	Mar 29 2020 (Final) (boxes)	Apr 5 2020 (Final) (boxes)	Apr 12 2020 (Preliminary) (boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	0	2	11	0
Valencia oranges.....	3,552	3,538	3,402	3,030
Red grapefruit....	42	154	119	37
White grapefruit..	2	27	21	0
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	14	9	6	3
Total.....	3,610	3,730	3,559	3,070

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

Crops

COVID-19 market disruptions continued to impact many fruit and vegetable producers. Some producers have donated to food banks as well as allowed free u-pick options to the public where possible. Sugarcane harvesting winding down. Peanut and field corn planting activities continued in the Panhandle, as did preparations for additional row crop planting. Potato harvesting activities were reported in the northern peninsula. Some leaf blight was observed on potatoes and hay in the northern peninsula.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. Some cattle producers in the central peninsula held back cull cows due to concerns over COVID-19 impact on dairy cow inventories, which in turn may lower cull cow prices. Supplemental feeding and watering continued in drier parts of the state. Pasture conditions continued declining due to the drought conditions.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 04/19/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	18	9
Short.....	46	36
Adequate.....	35	50
Surplus.....	1	5

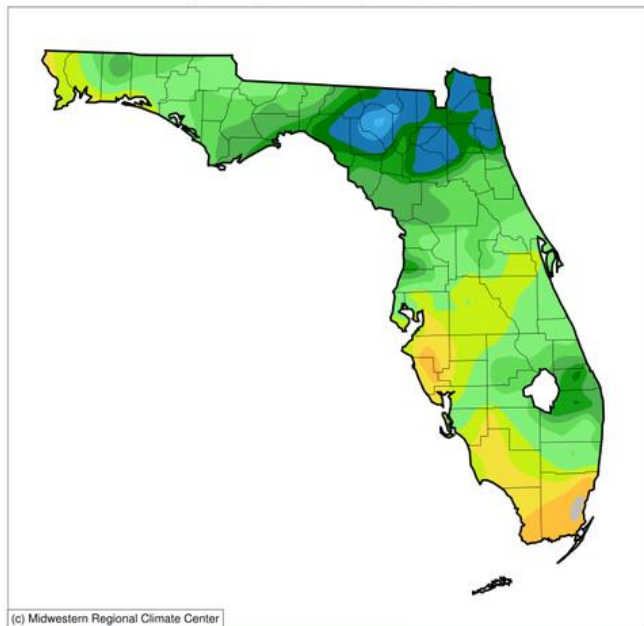
Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/19/20

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	1	0	0	2
Peanuts - Planted.....	12	4	13	8

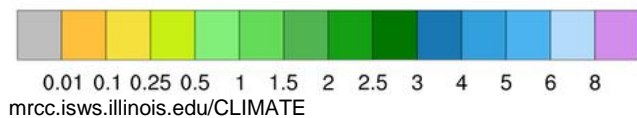
Condition for Week Ending 04/19/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	12	34	47	6
Pasture & range	4	21	41	30	4

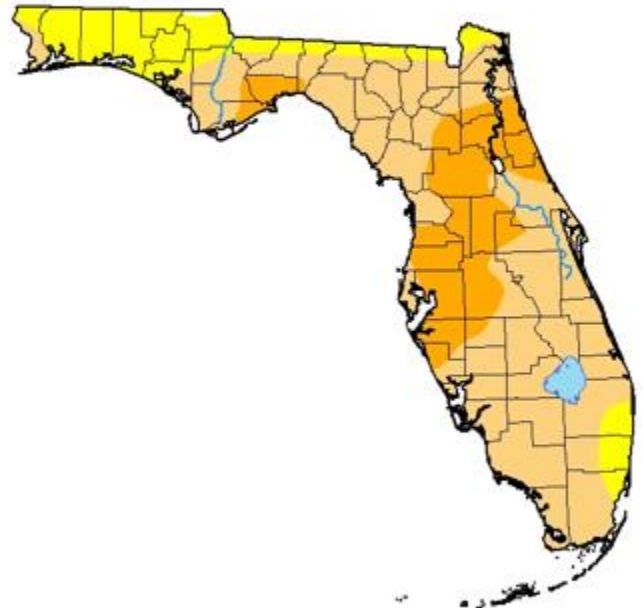
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 13, 2020 to April 19, 2020



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:



April 14, 2020 (Released Thursday, Apr. 16, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>