



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.

May 4, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 3, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain in multiple locations to 3.7 inches in St. Petersburg (Pinellas County). The average mean temperature ranged from 63.9°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 79.4°F in Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region had seasonably warm temperatures all week. Highs were continuously in the mid to high 80s. The highest reading was in Central Florida (Lake County), at 89°F. The majority of the citrus producing counties received between 0.8 and 1.5 inches of rain. The greatest rainfall was in Palm Dale (Glades County), at 2.4 inches. According to the April 30, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions continued to lessen throughout the citrus region from moderate drought to abnormally dry.

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

Next season’s crop was doing well in groves which were well cared for. Oranges were from marble to quarter size and grapefruit ranged from marble to golf ball size. Most groves were hedged and topped for the new season. Reports from the field indicated the pushing of old trees as well as preparations for replanting new ones. Grove activities included spraying nutritionals and insecticides, fertilizing, mowing, and 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 28, 2019 (Actual) (boxes)	Apr 12 2020 (Final) (boxes)	Apr 19 2020 (Final) (boxes)	Apr 26 2020 (Preliminary) (boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	3,400	3,056	3,412	3,170
Red grapefruit....	6	46	21	4
White grapefruit..	0	1	1	1
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	2	3	0	0
Total.....	3,408	3,106	3,434	3,175

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

Crops

Some fruit and vegetable producers began to see markets stabilizing. A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested and brought to market in the southern peninsula. Whitefly pressures in the southern peninsula remained, but producers continued controlling them by applying pesticides. Cotton and peanut planting continued in the Panhandle and northern peninsula. Some planting activities were slowed by rains in the Panhandle. Potato harvesting continued in the northern peninsula. Hay cutting was reported in the Panhandle. Sugarcane harvesting was winding down with projections that it could be a bumper crop.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. Newborn calves were seen in the southern peninsula. Cattle markets remained down, both in prices and number of animals marketed. Pastures throughout the state continued to improve. Cool nighttime temperatures in the Panhandle slowed some warm season pasture regrowth.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/03/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	4	3
Short.....	20	30
Adequate.....	65	64
Surplus.....	11	3

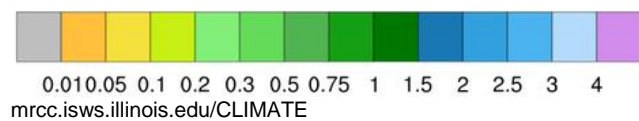
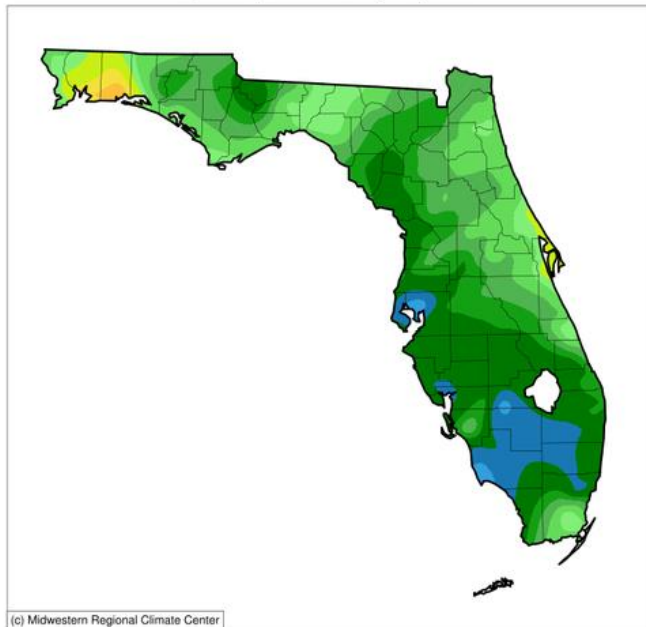
Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/03/20

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	9	3	9	11
Peanuts - Planted.....	30	15	28	25

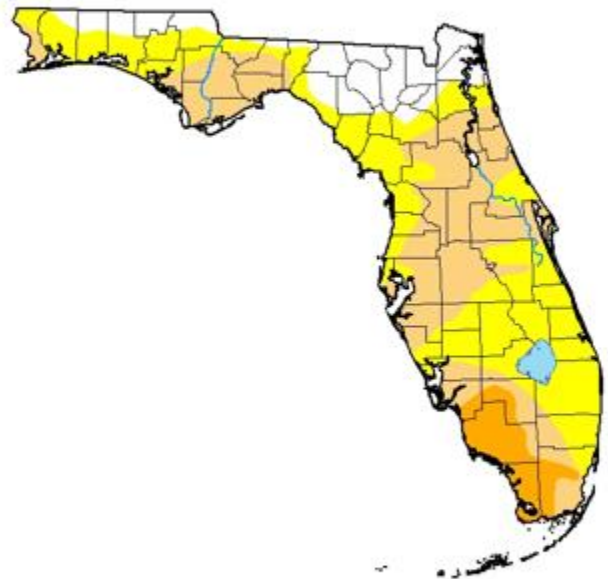
Condition for Week Ending 05/03/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	6	30	54	9
Pasture & range	2	12	43	37	6

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 27, 2020 to May 03, 2020



U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

April 28, 2020 (Released Thursday, Apr. 30, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>