



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 310 E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013 · (855) 271-9801 FAX
www.nass.usda.gov

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 18, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 17, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 11.9 inches in Marathon (Monroe County). The average mean temperature ranged from 68.5°F in Lake City (Columbia County) to 79.7°F in Naples (Collier County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region experienced seasonably warm temperatures. Daily highs were in the mid 80s to low 90s. The highest reading was in Lakeland (Polk County), at 94°F. The greatest rainfall was in Port St. Lucie (St. Lucie County), at 1.7 inches, followed by Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County), at 1.5 inches. Most of the remaining citrus region had less than half an inch. According to the May 14, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, drought conditions were present in the citrus growing region. The western area, the lower portion of the central area, and the Indian River district were abnormally dry. The remainder of the citrus region continued showing moderate or severe drought.

Valencia harvest dropped below three million boxes per week. Grapefruit harvest was winding down for the season. Tangerine and tangelo harvest finished.

Next season's crop was doing well in groves that are well cared for. Next year's fruit was variously sized, ranging from quarter size to approximately golf ball size on orange varieties, and golf ball size on grapefruit. Grove activities included mowing, applying herbicide under trees, spraying nutritionals and insecticides, 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		
	May 12, 2019 (Actual)	Apr 26 2020 (Final)	May 3 2020 (Final)	May 10 2020 (Preliminary)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	3,363	3,256	3,211	2,987
Red grapefruit....	11	14	12	4
White grapefruit..	0	1	0	0
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	2	0	0	0
Total.....	3,376	3,271	3,223	2,991

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

Crops

A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested and brought to market in the southern peninsula. Watermelon harvesting began in the central and northern peninsula and continued winding down in the southern peninsula. Significant rain events in the southern peninsula damaged some of the melons which remained in the field. Some cabbage was disced under in the southern peninsula due to diamond moth pressures. Dry conditions in the Panhandle allowed for grasshoppers to become a problem in some row crop fields. Cotton and peanut planting continued at a rapid pace in the Panhandle and northern peninsula; however, there were some producers whose planting was slowed due to the lack of soil moisture. Some small grains were harvested in the Panhandle. Potato harvesting continued in the central and northern peninsula. Sugarcane harvesting began winding down for the season.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. With the exception of small portions of the southern peninsula, most pastures continued declining as a result of dry conditions and warm temperatures. Some producers in the Panhandle began feeding hay.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/17/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	12	8
Short.....	49	56
Adequate.....	39	35
Surplus.....	0	1

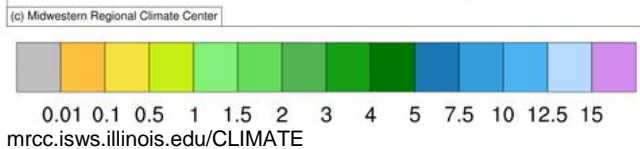
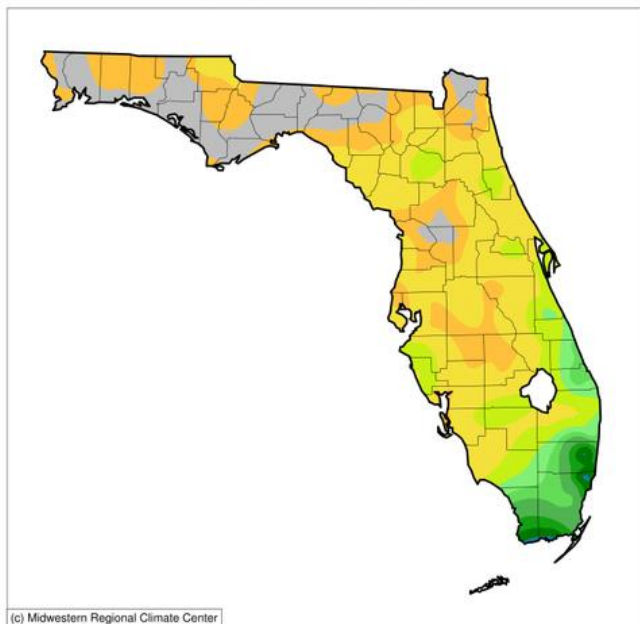
Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/17/20

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	42	15	38	35
Peanuts - Planted.....	67	40	68	61

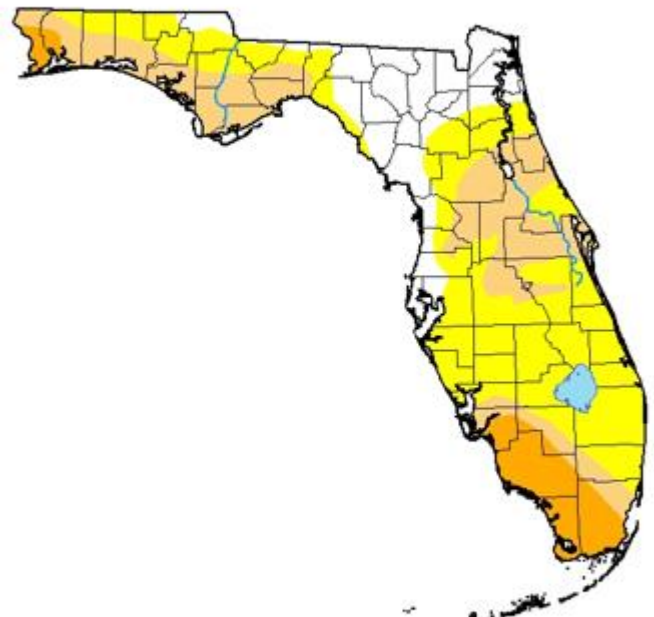
Condition for Week Ending 05/17/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	5	35	50	9
Pasture & range	2	15	42	35	6

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 11, 2020 to May 17, 2020



U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



May 12, 2020 (Released Thursday, May 14, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>