



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 26, 2020

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 24, 2020. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 6.1 inches in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County). The average mean temperature ranged from 76.3°F in Crestview (Okaloosa County) to 83.2°F in Big Pine Key (Monroe County).

Citrus

The citrus growing region had warmer than average temperatures all week. Daily highs were mostly in the mid 80s to mid 90s. The highest reading was in Mt. Plymouth (Lake County), at 97°F. Dry weather continued over much of the state’s citrus region, with the majority of stations in the northern, western and central areas reporting less than an inch of rainfall for the week. Counties in the southern area had scattered showers on one or two days, bringing just over two inches of rainfall to Palmdale (Glades County) and Labelle (Hendry County). According to the May 21, 2020, U.S. Drought Monitor, the northern and southern areas remained under abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions. Much the middle portion of the citrus region transitioned to a drought free status.

Valencia harvest dropped to just below 2.60 million boxes for the week. Grapefruit, tangerine and tangelo harvests were relatively over for the season.

Groves still looked good in most areas. Fruit sets were generally average or better. Next year’s fruit was in various sizes, ranging from quarter size to golf ball size on orange varieties, and golf ball size and larger on grapefruit. Grove activities included mowing, applying herbicide under the trees, spraying nutritionals and insecticides, and taking care of resets. 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 19, 2019 (Actual)	May 3 2020 (Final)	May 10 2020 (Final)	May 17 2020 (Preliminary)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia oranges.....	3,056	3,291	2,960	2,586
Red grapefruit....	1	12	8	0
Total.....	3,057	3,303	2,968	2,586

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 continued in the central and northern peninsula and was almost complete in the southern peninsula. With the vegetable season nearly done in much of the southern peninsula, growers were cleaning up and fallowing fields. Cotton and peanut planting continued at a rapid pace in the Panhandle and northern peninsula despite rain events intermittently preventing fieldwork. Hay cutting was underway in areas of the state that received minimal rain. Sugarcane harvesting concluded in some areas.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle remained in mostly good condition throughout the state. Overall pasture condition improved rapidly with nearly statewide rain.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/24/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	8	5
Short.....	56	27
Adequate.....	35	57
Surplus.....	1	11

Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/24/20

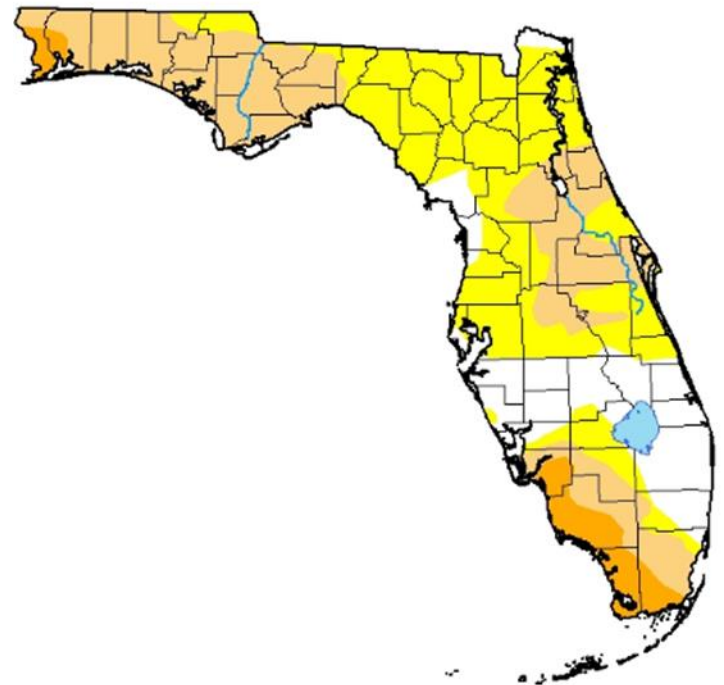
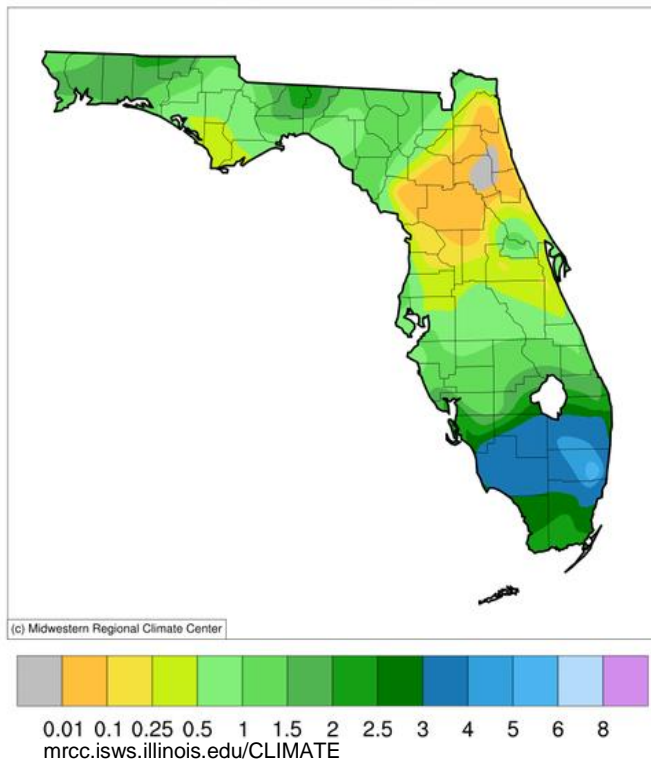
Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted	68	38	69	62
Peanuts - Planted.....	83	68	85	77

Condition for Week Ending 05/24/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	2	3	27	58	10
Pasture & range	2	8	36	48	6

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
May 18, 2020 to May 24, 2020



Intensity:

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

May 19, 2020 (Released Thursday, May 21, 2020)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>