



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.

March 8, 2021

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, March 7, 2021. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in a few locations to 2.4 inches in DeFuniak Springs (Walton County). The average mean temperature ranged from 56.6°F at Whiting Field (Santa Rosa County) to 75.2°F at Curry Hammock State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Maximum temperatures in the citrus growing region were in the 80s in most counties. The highest reading was in Palmdale (Glades County), at 90.0°F. The citrus region received very little rainfall for the week, with only a few stations reporting over a half inch of rain. The greatest rainfall was in Mount Plymouth (Lake County) at 0.9 inches for the week. According to the March 4, 2021, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions were sporadic across all citrus areas. Most counties in all citrus growing areas had patches of abnormally dry conditions. Only Hillsborough, Indian River, Saint Lucie, Citrus, Marion, Lee, Martin, and Okeechobee counties are drought free.

Non-Valencia harvest is relatively over for the season. All processing plants are processing Valencia oranges. Grapefruit harvest is continuing at about two hundred and fifty thousand boxes a week, with almost all the white and a majority of the red grapefruit going to processing.

Mandarin harvest is running behind last season. Harvested varieties included Honey (Murcott) tangerines, Tangos, Royals, tangelos and a few other minor tangerine varieties.

Grove operations included fertilizing, mowing, hedging, applying herbicide, minimal spraying, and taking care of young trees. Irrigation was being run in all areas. Bloom is in various stages from trees just beginning to bloom, to those with open flowers.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 14, 2021 (Final)	Feb 21, 2021 (Preliminary)	Feb 28, 2021 (Preliminary)	Mar 1, 2020 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	207	142	22	257
Navel oranges	1	0	0	1
Valencia Oranges	99	483	981	1,299
Red grapefruit	166	180	144	213
White grapefruit..	32	67	73	59
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	29	31	31	46
Total	534	903	1,251	1,875

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

Crops

A variety of fruits and vegetables were planted and marketed last week. A wet week in the Panhandle and northern part of the state limited planting and harvesting activities throughout the week. Cover crops continued to be planted throughout the state as weather permitted. Insect pressure was noted on vegetable crops in the southern peninsula as a result of warmer conditions over the past few weeks. Sugarcane harvest continued.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pasture conditions remained in mostly fair to good condition throughout the state. Rain and warmer conditions improved pasture quality across the state.

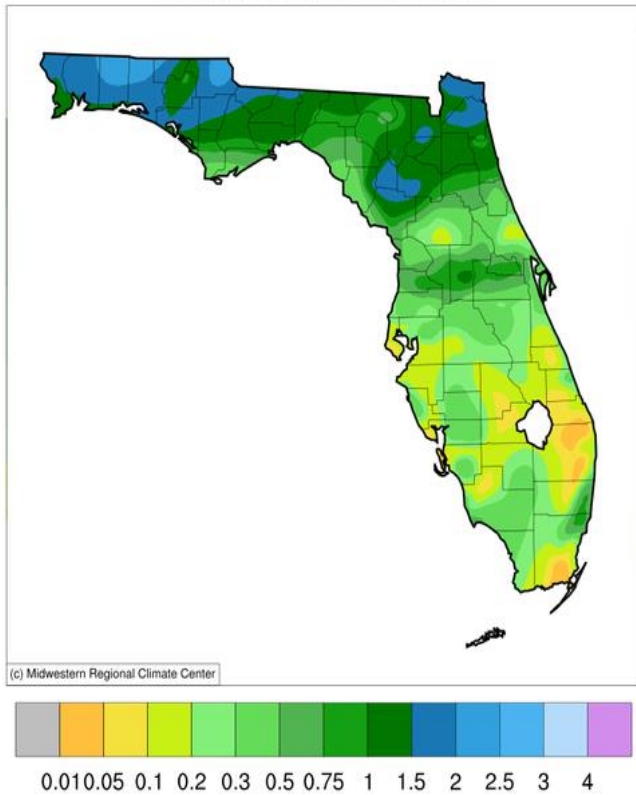
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 03/07/21

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	1
Short.....	17	20
Adequate.....	75	72
Surplus.....	6	7

Condition for Week Ending 03/07/21

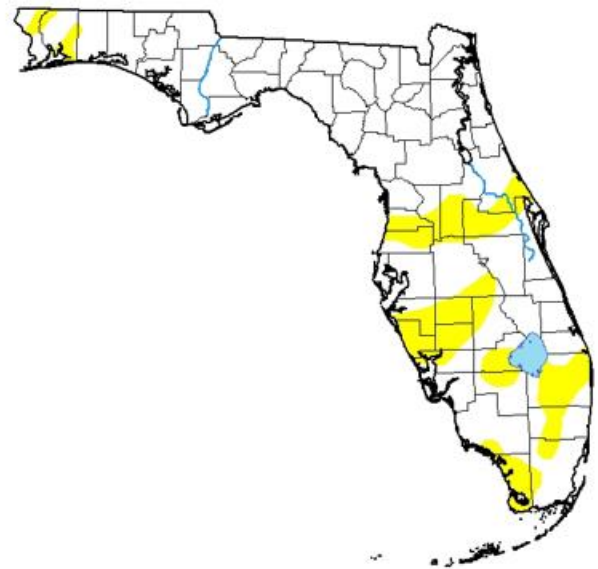
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	7	33	52	7
Pasture & range	2	22	43	28	5

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 01, 2021 to March 07, 2021



mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

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

March 2, 2021 (Released Thursday, Mar. 4, 2021)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>