



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 14, 2022

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 13, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from little rain to 8.7 inches in Perry (Taylor County). The average mean temperature ranged from 55.5°F at the Whiting Field (Santa Rosa County) to 82.0°F Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures continued to be warmer than average across the citrus growing region this week, with highs in the high-70s to the low-80s. Widespread precipitation, some locally heavy, was associated with a stalled frontal system followed by a strong cold front that swept across the citrus belt during the reporting period. The most rainfall was recorded in Clermont (Lake County), receiving 3.66 inches of rain. According to the March 10, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions enveloped most of the citrus growing region, while moderate drought conditions continued to expand across multiple citrus production areas.

Varieties harvested for the fresh market included Valencia oranges, later variety tangerines, and red and white grapefruit. Processing plants were accepting field run Valencia oranges and grapefruit, and packinghouse eliminations for grapefruit.

Reports from field personnel indicated continued bloom in orange groves, along with widespread color break for Valencia oranges. Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, herbiciding, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Due to the lack of rain over the past several weeks, irrigation was being run frequently in all areas. The water level in canals and ditches remained low across the state.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 20, 2022 (Preliminary)	Feb 27, 2022 (Preliminary)	Mar 6, 2022 (Preliminary)	Mar 7, 2021 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	67	16	2	33
Valencia Oranges	1,189	1,484	1,597	1,972
Red grapefruit	161	120	137	141
White grapefruit..	36	17	30	32
Tangerines and Tangelos	24	25	12	43
Total	1,477	1,662	1,778	2,221

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

Crops

Heavy rainfall alleviated the mild drought but also caused water damage to some crops. Temperatures in the northern part of the state dipped below freezing for two to three hours Sunday morning where blueberries and other planted crops were affected by the hard freeze. A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested last week. Watermelon transplants were covered to prevent the worst of the damage from the cold weather.

Livestock and Pastures

Pastures continued to green up with additional rainfall and mild temperatures for most of the week. Cattle remained in mostly fair and good condition.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/13/22

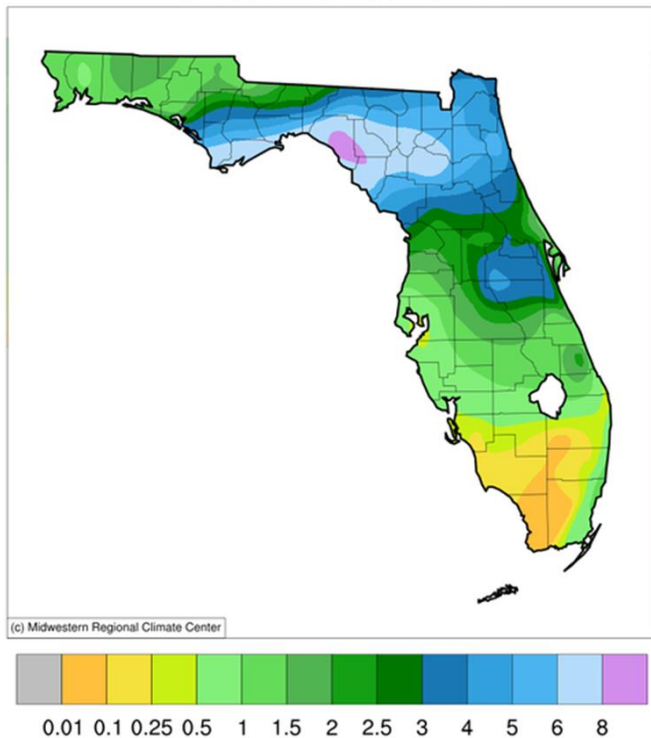
Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	9	5
Short.....	46	14
Adequate.....	45	76
Surplus.....	0	5

Conditions for Week Ending 3/13/22

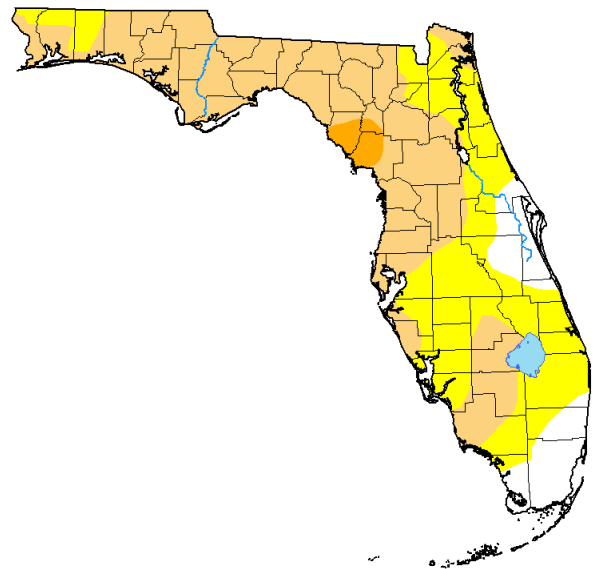
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	8	43	40	8
Pasture & range	7	34	31	20	8

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 07, 2022 to March 13, 2022



mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE



Intensity:

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

Mar 8, 2022 (Released Thursday, Mar 10, 2022)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>