



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.

April 24, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 23, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 4.3 inches at Nettles Island (Saint Lucie County). The average mean temperature ranged from 64.5°F at Crestview Airport (Okaloosa County) to 81.2°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures remained above average in the citrus growing region last week, with highs in the mid 80’s. The hottest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) reaching 87 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reading 86 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light rainfall associated with the passage of a frontal boundary during the reporting period. The most rain fell in Sebring (Highlands County), measuring 2.1 inches of precipitation. According to the April 20, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, severe drought conditions covered the majority of the citrus growing region, while an area of extreme drought formed on the west coast of the peninsula from Tampa Bay northward and the previous pocket of extreme drought in the southern extent of the citrus growing area was mitigated due to recent rainfall events.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, topping, hedging, removal of dead trees, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run statewide, while water levels in canals and ditches were very low. Field personnel reported the spring flush of vegetative growth continuing and the fruitlets of next year’s crop growing nicely.

Packinghouses were shipping red grapefruit and late oranges. Processors were handling Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations and field run fruit.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Apr 2, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 9, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 16, 2023 (Preliminary)	Apr 17, 2022 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia Oranges	1,125	1,012	983	1,730
Red Grapefruit.....	6	1	0	14
White Grapefruit..	0	1	0	3
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	4	0	0	3
Total	1,135	1,014	983	1,750

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

Crops

Much of the state received very little rainfall last week, with the central and southeastern coastal regions being the only areas with significant precipitation. Some fields in the southeastern region of the state were still negatively impacted by heavy precipitation the week prior. Operators elsewhere took advantage of the dry weather and made good progress in peanut planting. Some operators also started to plant cotton. Fruit and vegetables that were planted and harvested last week include squash, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, blueberries, and watermelon. Reporters noted that rice operators were forced to wet seed due to unfavorable ground conditions. Potato harvest began and will continue for approximately the next month and a half.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reported to be in mostly fair to good condition, while pastures were reported to be in mostly poor to fair condition. Reporters noted that due to poor pasture conditions in some areas, operators had to provide supplemental feed for their cattle.

Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/23/23

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	2	0	2	2
Peanuts - Planted.....	13	12	19	15

Conditions for Week Ending 4/23/23

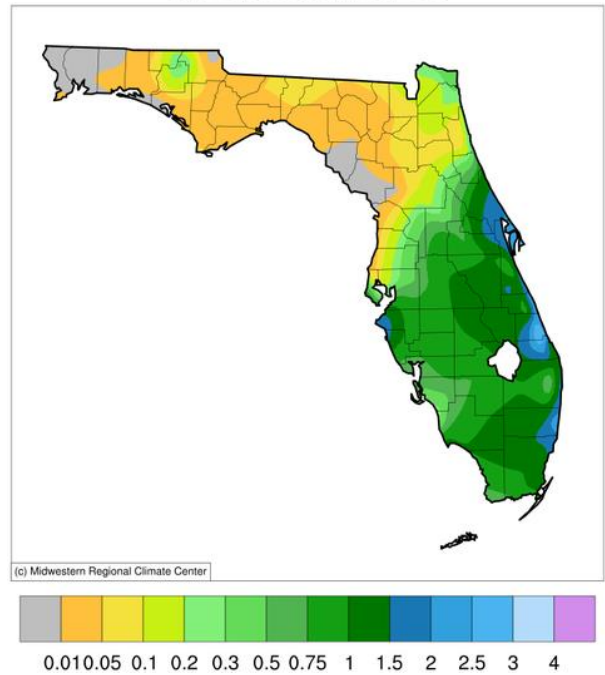
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	13	40	44	2
Pasture & range...	9	33	40	18	0

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/23/23

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	18	17
Short.....	27	30
Adequate.....	45	46
Surplus.....	10	7

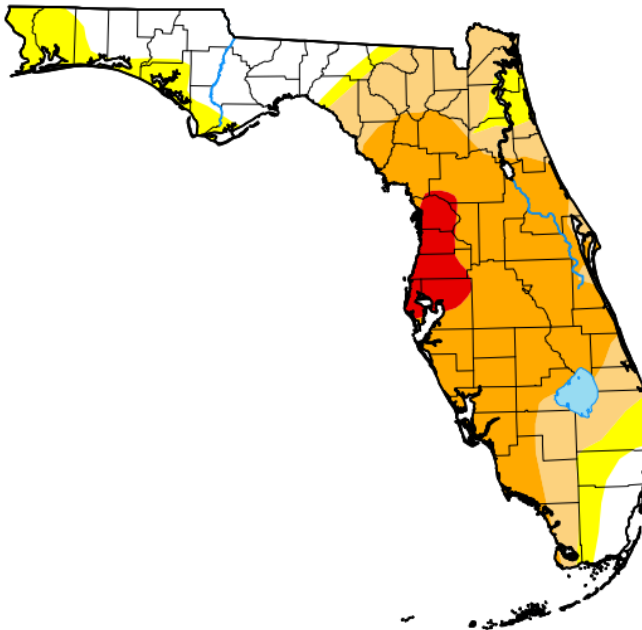
Accumulated Precipitation (in)

April 17, 2023 to April 23, 2023



<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



April 18, 2023

(Released Thursday, Apr. 20, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	19.01	80.99	67.37	45.77	4.71	0.00
Last Week 04-11-2023	14.00	86.00	64.82	53.39	0.96	0.00
3 Months Ago 01-17-2023	57.86	42.14	29.17	16.18	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 04-19-2022	66.45	33.55	21.44	3.55	0.00	0.00

Intensity:

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

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu