



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 15, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, May 14, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 2 inches in Ocala (Marion County). The average mean temperature ranged from 73.9°F in Fernandina Beach (Nassau County) to 83.9°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures warmed across the citrus growing region last week, with average highs from the high 80’s to the low 90’s. The hottest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County) reaching 92 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) and Winter Haven (Polk County) both hitting 90 degrees. The majority of the citrus belt received no measurable rainfall during the reporting period. The one exception was in portions of Lake County, where the most rain fell in Mount Plymouth, measuring 0.55 inches of precipitation. According to the May 11, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, severe drought conditions remained entrenched near the expanded area of extreme drought stretching from just north of the Manatee River into the Big Bend region of the state, leaving an area of moderate drought and abnormally dry conditions covering the majority of the citrus growing area.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, 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 next year’s fruit sizing well.

Packinghouses were shipping limited amounts of late oranges. Processors were winding down juicing 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 23, 2023<br>(Preliminary) | Apr 30, 2023<br>(Preliminary) | May 7, 2023<br>(Preliminary) | May 8, 2022<br>(Actual) |
|                                 | (boxes)                       | (boxes)                       | (boxes)                      | (boxes)                 |
| Valencia Oranges                | 878                           | 467                           | 153                          | 1,411                   |
| Red Grapefruit....              | 0                             | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       |
| White Grapefruit..              | 1                             | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       |
| Tangerines and<br>Tangelos..... | 0                             | 0                             | 0                            | 0                       |
| <b>Total .....</b>              | <b>879</b>                    | <b>467</b>                    | <b>153</b>                   | <b>1,411</b>            |

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

**Crops**

It was a dry week throughout most of the state; however, central Florida received some rain. Reporters noted since the state has experienced dry conditions, many farmers could proceed with planting, harvesting, and spraying pesticides. Some of the crops harvested this week include rice, sugarcane, and potatoes. Reporters also noted that peppers, squash, melons, beans, blueberries, eggplant, tomatoes, and okra were harvested throughout the state. Farmers in southern Florida have begun land preparation and cover crop plantings.

**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. Cattle were reported to be resting in the shade with the higher temperatures this week.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 5/14/23

| Crop                   | Prev year | Prev week | This week | 5 Year avg |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
|                        | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent)  |
| Cotton - Planted.....  | 26        | 16        | 26        | 27         |
| Peanuts - Planted..... | 56        | 32        | 48        | 55         |

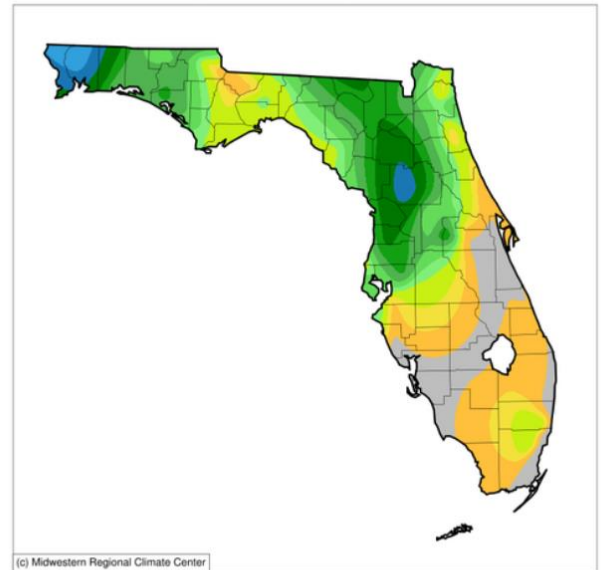
### Conditions for Week Ending 5/14/23

| Crop                | Very poor | Poor      | Fair      | Good      | Excellent |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                     | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Cattle.....         | 1         | 5         | 36        | 49        | 9         |
| Pasture & range.... | 3         | 30        | 43        | 17        | 7         |

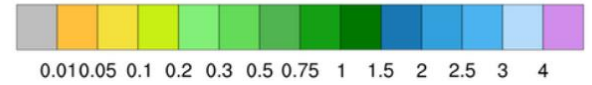
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 5/14/23

| Topsoil         | Previous week | This week |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------|
|                 | (percent)     | (percent) |
| Very short..... | 4             | 5         |
| Short.....      | 23            | 44        |
| Adequate.....   | 69            | 50        |
| Surplus.....    | 4             | 1         |

Accumulated Precipitation (in)  
May 08, 2023 to May 14, 2023

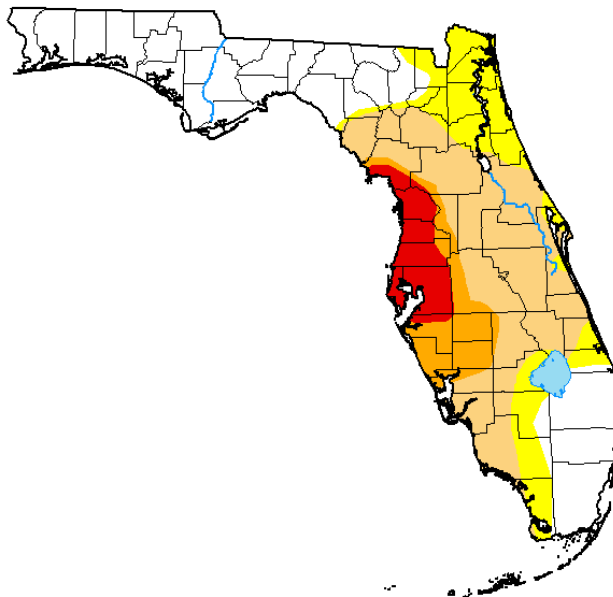


(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



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

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



May 9, 2023

(Released Thursday, May. 11, 2023)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

|   | None  | D0-D4 | D1-D4 | D2-D4 | D3-D4 | D4   |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Current                                 | 38.38 | 61.62 | 45.09 | 14.13 | 6.46  | 0.00 |
| Last Week<br>05-02-2023                 | 35.87 | 64.13 | 47.39 | 14.13 | 5.29  | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago<br>02-07-2023              | 30.99 | 69.01 | 16.47 | 7.97  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| Start of<br>Calendar Year<br>01-03-2023 | 56.61 | 43.39 | 30.80 | 19.77 | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| Start of<br>Water Year<br>09-27-2022    | 91.16 | 8.84  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago<br>05-10-2022              | 63.24 | 36.76 | 15.53 | 2.12  | 0.00  | 0.00 |

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme 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](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)