



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.

January 22, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 5.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, January 21, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from trace amounts of rain to 4 inches in Nettles Island (Saint Lucie County). The average mean temperature ranged from 39.6°F in Crestview Airport (Okaloosa County) to 73.6°F at John Pennekamp State Park (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures were below average once more in the citrus growing region last week, with highs from the high-60s to the low-70s. The warmest readings were recorded in Sebring (Highlands County), hitting 71 degrees, followed by Kenansville (Osceola County) reaching 70 degrees, and Clermont (Lake County) reading 69 degrees. Overnight low temperatures dipped to at or near freezing in parts of the northern reaches of the citrus area over the weekend. The citrus belt received widespread moderate to locally heavy rainfall during the reporting period associated with the passage of successive strong cold fronts. The most rain fell in Kenansville (Osceola County), reporting 4.09 inches of precipitation, followed by Frostproof (Polk County) registering 3.06 inches, and Fellsmere (Indian River County) measuring 2.85 inches. According to the January 18, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, further rainfall across the citrus area resulted in the complete erasure of extreme and severe drought conditions in the citrus growing counties along the Gulf coast, along with reductions in coverage of moderate drought and abnormal dryness to the vicinity of Tampa Bay. The rest of the citrus growing region continued to be drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run on an as-needed basis statewide. Field personnel reported color break progressing well in Valencia orange groves. Early bloom was observed in many groves across the state.

Harvest of Orri, Tango, and Juicy Crunch tangerines; Navel, midseason, and Valencia oranges; and red and white grapefruit for the fresh market continued steadily. Thirteen packinghouses were active last week. Processing plants were finishing early and midseason oranges while preparing to begin juicing Valencia oranges.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Dec 31, 2023 (Preliminary)	Jan 7, 2024 (Preliminary)	Jan 14, 2024 (Preliminary)	Jan 15, 2023 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	821	700	556	240
Navel oranges	2	3	3	1
Valencia oranges	0	9	47	7
Red grapefruit.....	54	63	76	85
White grapefruit...	6	13	21	10
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	5	9	29	44
Total	888	797	732	387

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

Crops

There was light rainfall in many areas, with the southern half of the state experiencing heavier rainfall amounts. The cold and icy conditions delayed time spent in the field for many farmers. Despite the cold temperatures, there were no reported crop losses. Crops planted and harvested include sugarcane, cabbage, green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, sweet corn, bonito, bitter melon, other Asian vegetables, avocado, and other tropical fruits. Fields are being prepped for rice planting next month.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reported in mostly good to fair condition, with pastures reported in mostly fair to good condition. The cold temperatures were reported to negatively impact pastures.

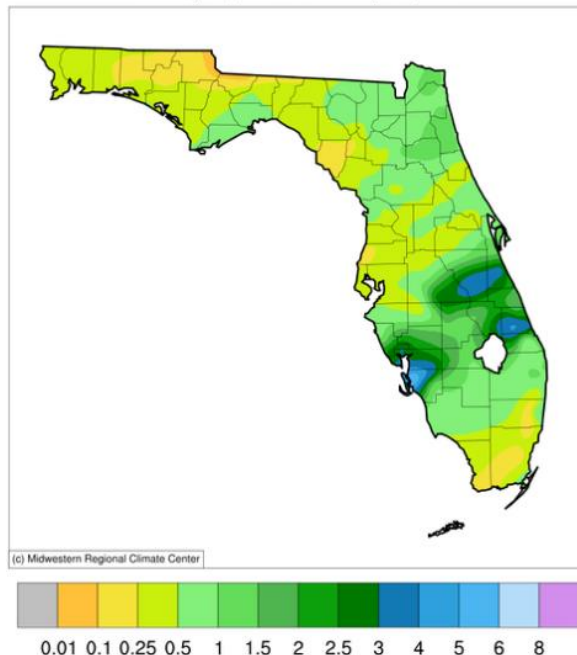
Conditions for Week Ending 1/21/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	3	5	39	42	11
Pasture & range...	4	14	41	33	8

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 1/21/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	1	1
Short.....	8	7
Adequate.....	69	73
Surplus.....	22	19

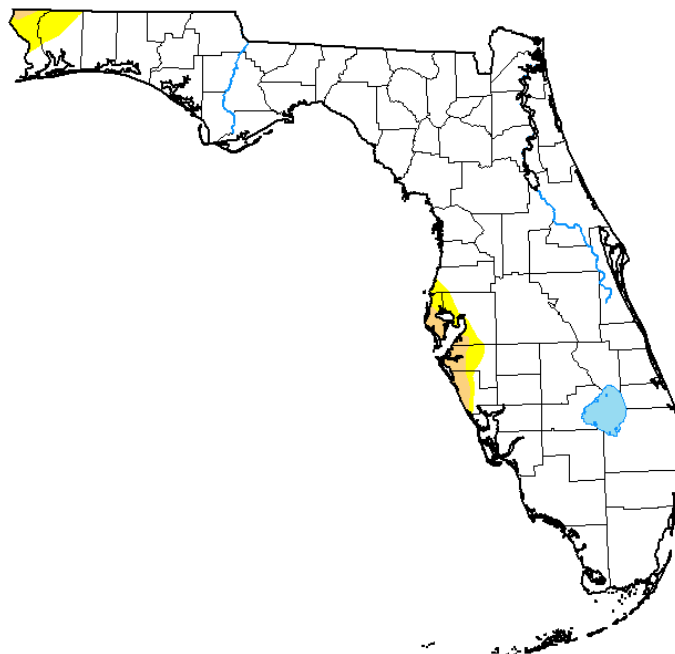
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
January 15, 2024 to January 21, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

January 16, 2024
(Released Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



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