



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.

February 12, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 11, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 3.3 inches in Chipley (Washington County). The average mean temperature ranged from 49.9°F at Crestview Airport (Okaloosa County) to 72.9°F at Marathon Airport (Monroe County).

accepting Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations while preparing to ramp up for field run fruit.

Citrus

Temperatures continued to be slightly above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 70s. The warmest readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County), Sebring (Highlands County), and Winter Haven (Polk County), all reaching 75 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with the passage of a frontal system. The most rain fell in Frostproof (Polk County), reporting 0.94 inches of precipitation, followed by LaBelle (Hendry County) registering 0.79 inches, and Bartow (Polk County) measuring 0.70 inches. According to the February 6, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the area of moderate drought and abnormal dryness generally centered around Tampa Bay remained unchanged. The rest of the citrus growing region continued to be drought free.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Jan 21, 2024 (Preliminary)	Jan 28, 2024 (Preliminary)	Feb 4, 2024 (Preliminary)	Feb 5, 2023 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	270	91	38	181
Navel oranges.....	4	0	0	1
Valencia oranges	32	84	109	29
Red grapefruit.....	65	65	70	88
White grapefruit...	9	6	6	9
Tangerines and Tangelos.....	35	27	21	49
Total	415	273	244	357

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

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run on an as-needed basis statewide. Field personnel reported Valencia oranges coloring well. Early-stage bloom was observed in many groves in all areas of the state.

Crops

Most of the state received light rain with central Florida mostly dry. It was a slightly warmer week compared to the previous week. The favorable weather conditions allowed many fields to dry despite the rain. Sugarcane planted was behind schedule but should be finished up in the next few weeks. Rice planting is expected to begin soon. Other crops planted and harvested include green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, sweet corn, tomatoes, squash, okra, eggplant, boniato, potatoes, broccoli, and cabbage.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle and pastures were reported in mostly fair to good condition. The light rain and warm temperatures have allowed pastures to green up.

Harvest of Honeybell tangelos; Orri, Tango, W. Murcott, Autumn Honey and Juicy Crunch tangerines; Navel, midseason, and Valencia oranges; and red and white grapefruit for the fresh market continued steadily. Eleven packinghouses were active last week. Processing plants were nearly finished juicing midseason oranges and were

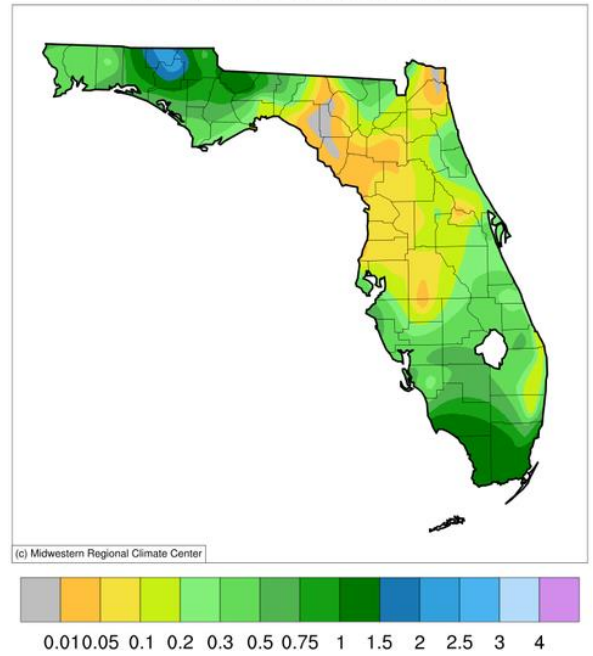
Conditions for Week Ending 2/11/24

Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	7	43	36	13
Pasture & range...	3	15	48	26	8

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 2/11/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	0	1
Short.....	7	11
Adequate.....	81	75
Surplus.....	12	13

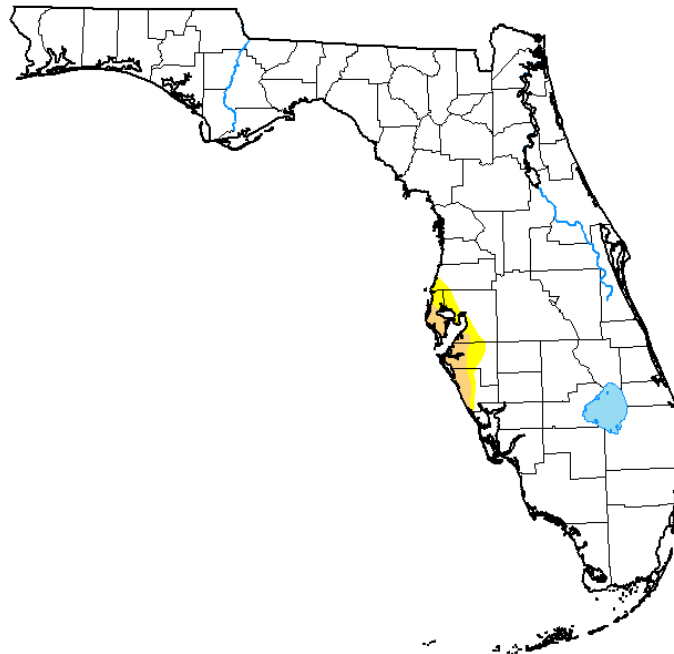
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
February 05, 2024 to February 11, 2024



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

**U.S. Drought Monitor
Florida**

February 6, 2024
(Released Thursday, Feb. 8, 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