



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 22, 2024

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, April 21, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 0.4 inches at Leesburg Municipal Airport (Lake County). The average mean temperature ranged from 69.1°F at Apalachicola Airport (Franklin County) to 80.8°F at Bahia Honda State Park (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures were above average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs from the high 80’s to the low 90’s. The warmest average readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County), hitting 90 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) and Winter Haven (Polk County), both reaching 88 degrees. The citrus belt received negligible to no rainfall during the reporting period. According to the April 18, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions had reemerged in the citrus area, affecting a large swath of the peninsula immediately around Lake Okeechobee and emanating generally to the north and east thereof. The rest of the citrus growing region remained drought free.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, discing, removal of dead trees, replanting young trees, site pollination, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run regularly statewide. Field personnel reported the pea sized fruitlets of next season’s crop growing nicely.

Harvest of Valencia oranges for the fresh and processed markets remained steady at nearly a million and a half boxes per week. Harvest of red and white grapefruit, along with late tangerines, was nearly complete. Processing plants were accepting 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
	Mar 31, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 7, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 14, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 16, 2023 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges .....	16	0	0	0
Valencia oranges .....	1,473	1,413	1,414	985
Red grapefruit....	22	0	1	0
White grapefruit..	13	4	1	0
Tangerines and Tangelos .....	9	3	3	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,419</b>	<b>985</b>

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

**Crops**

The northern half of the state received scattered light showers while the southern half of the state received little to no precipitation. Warm and drier weather last week allowed many farmers to continue land preparations for planting. Peanuts planted progressed nicely and many of these early planted peanuts were for the green, boiled peanut market. Cotton planting was just getting started thanks to the mostly dry and sunny conditions. Rice planting and sugarcane harvest continued throughout the week. In Swannee County, carrots were gathered for processing. Other crops planted and harvested included potatoes, okra, boniato, bitter melon, green beans, tomatoes, peppers, sweet corn, other Asian vegetables, and tropical fruits.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition while pastures and range were in mostly fair to good condition. Pastures have greened up nicely; however, were not keeping up with grazing needs in some areas.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/21/24

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	1	0	5	2
Peanuts - Planted.....	17	3	11	14

### Conditions for Week Ending 4/21/24

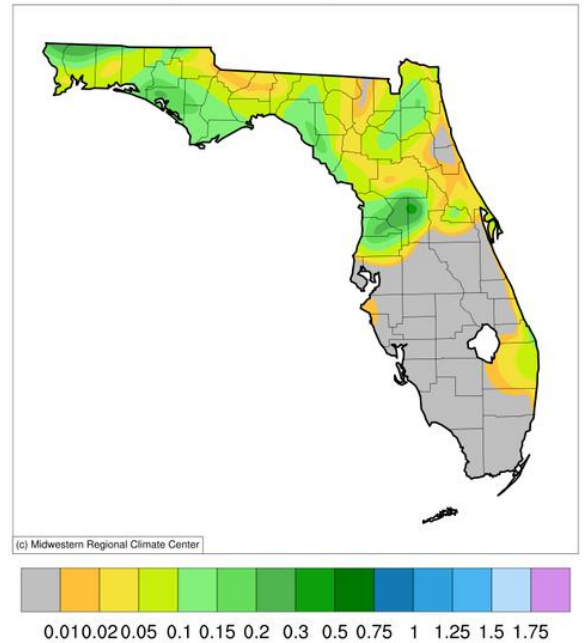
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	1	3	30	52	14
Pasture & range...	1	15	51	24	9

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/21/24

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	2
Short.....	16	25
Adequate.....	75	71
Surplus.....	7	2

### Accumulated Precipitation (in)

April 15, 2024 to April 21, 2024



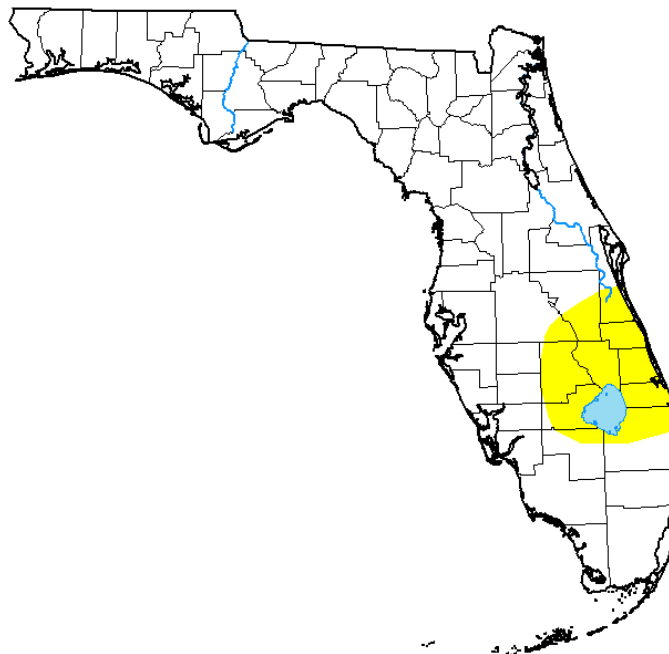
<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

April 16, 2024

(Released Thursday, Apr. 18, 2024)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



#### 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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