



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  
Southern Region, Florida Field Office · 851 Trafalgar Court Suite 310 E · Maitland, FL 32751 · (800) 253-4419 · (855) 271-9801 FAX  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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 29, 2024

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.9 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 28, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 1.3 inches at Fort Lauderdale International Airport (Broward County). The average mean temperature ranged from 65°F in Chipley (Washington County) to 80.8°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

plants were accepting Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations and field run fruit.

**Citrus**

Temperatures were about average in the citrus growing region last week, with average highs in the low to mid 80’s. The warmest average readings were recorded in Clermont (Lake County), hitting 86 degrees, followed by Sebring (Highlands County) reaching 85 degrees, and Winter Haven (Polk County) reading 84 degrees. The citrus belt as a whole received little to no rainfall during the reporting period. Those locations that did have measurable rainfall quantities fell in the path of widely scattered pop-up storms. The most rain fell in Mount Plymouth (Lake County), reporting 0.60 inches of precipitation. According to the April 25, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions had expanded westward across the peninsula, affecting the majority of the counties in the central and southern portions of the citrus area. 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, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run frequently 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 dropped a bit last week, to about a million and a quarter boxes per week. Harvest of red and white grapefruit, along with late tangerines, was nearly complete. Processing

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Apr 7, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 14, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 21, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 23, 2023 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges .....	4	0	0	0
Valencia oranges .....	1,394	1,413	1,250	878
Red grapefruit....	2	1	1	1
White grapefruit..	4	1	1	0
Tangerines and Tangelos .....	3	3	3	0
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,407</b>	<b>1,418</b>	<b>1,255</b>	<b>879</b>

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

**Crops**

Most of the state received little to no rain throughout the week. The low precipitation and higher temperatures caused drier soil conditions, forcing many producers to run irrigation. Peanuts and cotton planting were underway and in full force. Sugarcane and sweet corn harvest continued throughout the week. Rice planting continued. In Levy County, watermelons are approaching the halfway point to maturity. Other crops planted and harvested included potatoes, okra, boniato, bitter melon, green beans, tomatoes, peppers, other Asian vegetables, and tropical fruits.

**Livestock and Pastures**

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition while pastures and range were in mostly poor to fair condition. The lack of rain and warmer temperatures have slowed pasture growth.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/28/24

Crop	Prev year (percent)	Prev week (percent)	This week (percent)	5 Year avg (percent)
Cotton - Planted.....	4	5	6	5
Peanuts - Planted.....	23	11	23	22

### Conditions for Week Ending 4/28/24

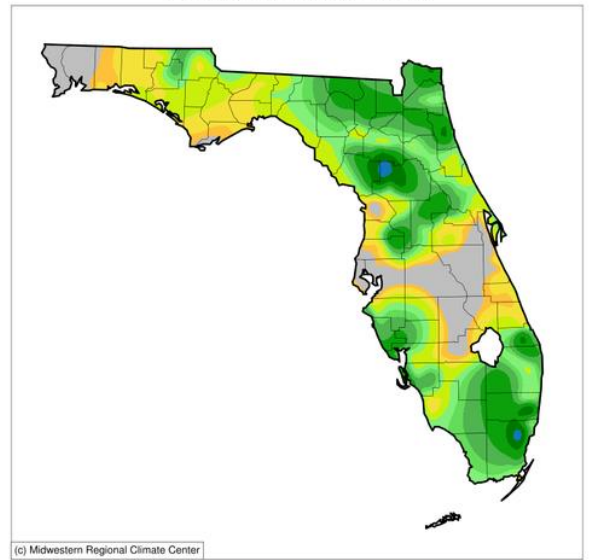
Crop	Very poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Cattle.....	1	3	30	51	15
Pasture & range...	1	33	32	25	9

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/28/24

Topsoil	Previous week (percent)	This week (percent)
Very short.....	2	9
Short.....	25	38
Adequate.....	71	53
Surplus.....	2	0

### Accumulated Precipitation (in)

April 22, 2024 to April 28, 2024



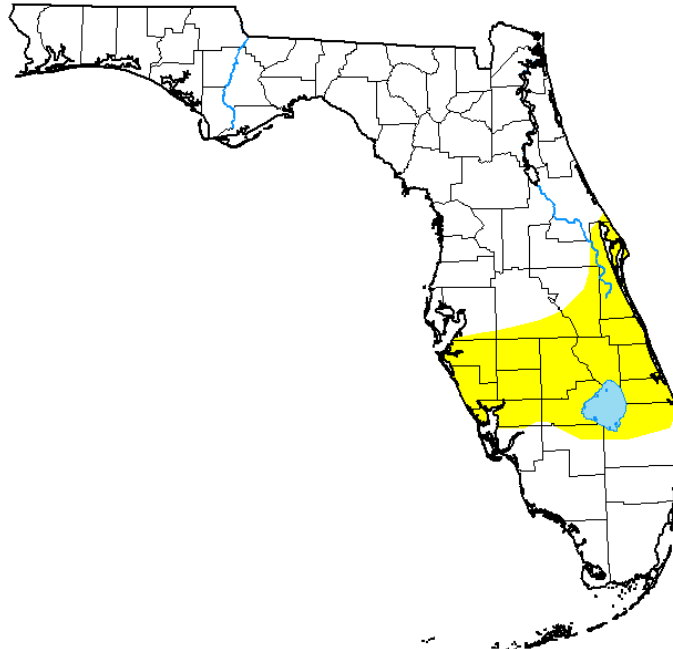
<https://mrcc.purdue.edu/CLIMATE/>

## U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

April 23, 2024

(Released Thursday, Apr. 25, 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>

#### Author:

David Simeral  
Western Regional Climate Center



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)