



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

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 8, 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 7, 2024. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 2.1 inches at Gainesville Regional Airport (Alachua County). The average mean temperature ranged from 62.6°F at Crestview Airport (Okaloosa County) to 77.3°F at Fort Lauderdale International Airport (Broward County).

late tangerines, was nearly complete. Processing 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 Sebring (Highlands County), hitting 84 degrees, followed by Clermont (Lake County) reaching 83 degrees, and Kenansville (Osceola County) reading 82 degrees. The citrus belt received widespread light to moderate rainfall during the reporting period associated with the passage of a cold front. The most rain fell in Apopka (Orange County), reporting 1.38 inches of precipitation, followed by Ruskin (Hillsborough County) registering 1.36 inches, and Winter Haven (Polk County) measuring 1.14 inches. According to the April 4, 2024, U.S. Drought Monitor, the area of abnormal dryness generally centered around Tampa Bay persisted 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
	Mar 17, 2024 (Preliminary)	Mar 24, 2024 (Preliminary)	Mar 31, 2024 (Preliminary)	Apr 2, 2023 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	0	11	0	4
Valencia oranges	965	1,306	1,417	1,170
Red grapefruit....	36	22	9	6
White grapefruit..	2	11	7	9
Tangerines and Tangelos	3	2	3	4
Total.....	1,006	1,352	1,436	1,193

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

Crops

Most of the state received light showers and favorable temperatures throughout the week. Good weather conditions allowed more time for harvest operations of sugarcane and sweet corn. Rice planting progressed as well. Other crops planted and harvested include green beans, zucchini, squash, okra, boniato, potatoes, broccoli, and cabbage.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were in mostly good to fair condition as were pastures and rangelands.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, laying herbicide, fertilizing, mowing, hedging, topping, removal of dead trees, site pollination, bactericide trunk injection, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run regularly statewide. Bloom was waning in groves across the state, with the pea sized fruitlets of next season’s crop developing. The spring flush of vegetative growth continued to fill out trees in all areas of citrus cultivation.

Harvest of Valencia oranges for the fresh and processed markets increased again, to nearly a million and a half boxes per week. Harvest of red and white grapefruit, along with

Crop Progress for Week Ending 4/7/24

Crop	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted.....	2	NA	1	2

NA – Not Available

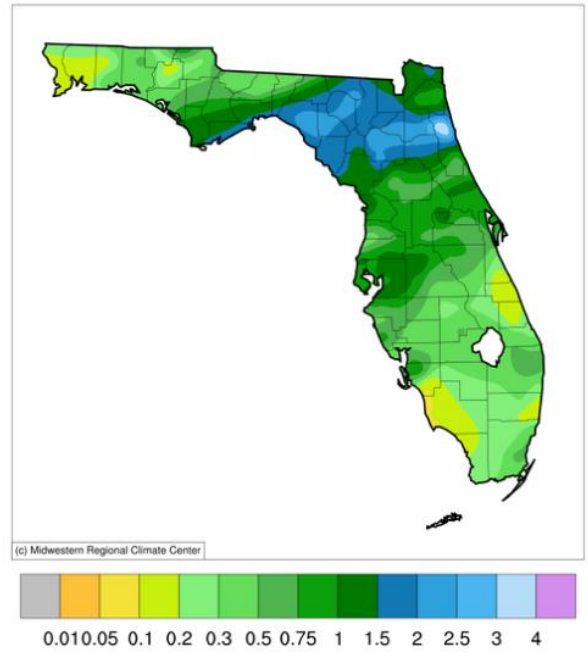
Conditions for Week Ending 4/7/24

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle.....	2	4	33	46	15
Pasture & range...	1	12	40	38	9

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 4/7/24

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	2
Short.....	9	15
Adequate.....	86	82
Surplus.....	2	1

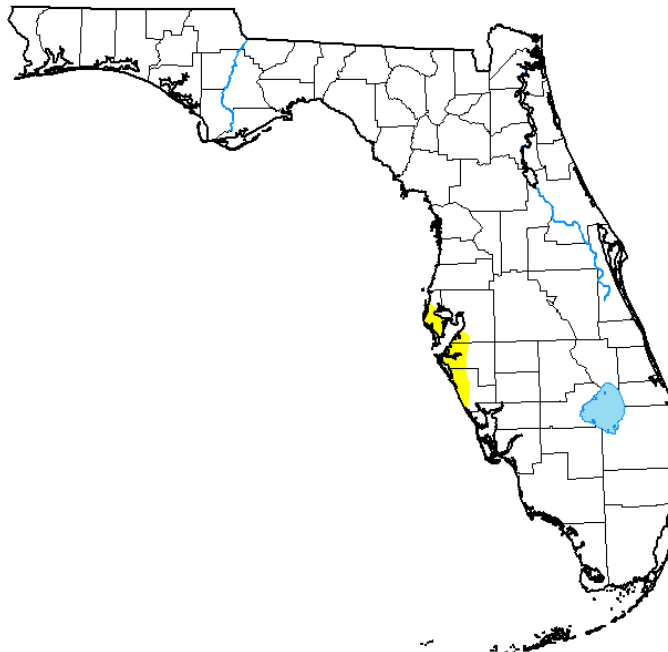
Accumulated Precipitation (in)
April 01, 2024 to April 07, 2024



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

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida

April 2, 2024
(Released Thursday, Apr. 4, 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:

Brad Pugh
CPC/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu