

### **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 · 2290 Lucien Way Suite 300 · Maitland, FL 32751 · (407) 648-6013 www.nass.usda.gov

May 16, 2016 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, May 15, 2016. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rainfall in several locations throughout the state to 0.38 inches in Jacksonville (Duval County). The average mean temperatures ranged from 73°F in Crestview (Okaloosa County) to 80°F in Miami (Miami-Dade County). With a much dryer week across most of the state many farmers are anxious to receive rain soon before conditions deteriorate.

#### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 05/15/16

Topsoil	This week	Previous week	5 year avg	
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	
Very short	11 41 48 0	4 32 60 4	8 34 56 2	

#### **Citrus**

Temperatures were about average all week in citrus producing counties. Daily highs were in the upper 80s to lower 90s. Lows were mostly in the upper 50s to mid 60s. No counties in the citrus region received significant rainfall this past week. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor last updated May 10, 2016, only Putnam County and a portion of Marion County in the most northern part of the citrus region were abnormally dry. The remainder of the citrus growing counties were drought free.

Weekly Valencia orange harvest was beginning to slow down due to less availability. Most processing plants were planning on finishing up this week or next week. A couple are planning on running until the end of May.

With the season winding down, growers are turning their attention to next season's crop. Field workers reported

seeing irrigation running several days last week. Most trees are holding new fruit as large as golf ball size. Caretakers are very busy taking out old non-productive trees, and taking care of only the younger healthy trees. Growers continued the fight against greening and controlling psyllid population. Other grove activities included spraying, mowing and brush removal.

#### Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crea	For week ending			
Crop	May 1, 2016	May 8, 2016	May 15, 2016	
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	
Valencia	3,159	2,877	2,458	
White grapefruit	3	0	0	
Red grapefruit	5	5	0	
Honey tangerines	11	6	4	
Total	3,178	2,888	2,462	

#### Fruit and Vegetables

Leafy greens and cabbage are being harvested in Flagler County. Watermelon harvest is just beginning this week in Levy County. Potatoes are still being harvested in Flagler and Putnam Counties and some are showing decay issues due to the heat. Blueberries and peaches are winding down in Charlotte and Glades Counties. The vegetable season is winding down across many central and southern counties. Growers are cleaning up and fallowing harvested fields. Crops coming to market this week include boniato, bitter melon, cantaloupe, collards, cucumber, eggplant, herbs, kale, malanga, peppers, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, and watermelons.

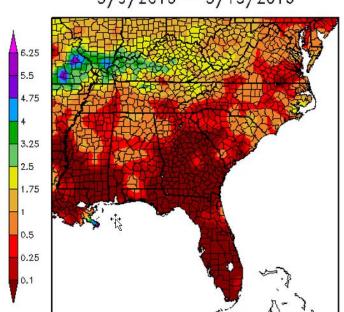
#### **Livestock and Pastures**

Several southern and central counties reported pastures remain in good condition for now, but expressed concern about persisting dry weather and the potential for pasture conditions to deteriorate quickly if they do not receive rainfall soon. Dry conditions in the Panhandle counties have some cattle going back on hay. In general cattle seem to be content throughout the state and remain in mostly good condition.

#### Condition for week ending 05/15/16

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	0	5	32	58	5
Pasture & Range	5	l 11	40	41	3

## Precipitation (in) 5/9/2016 - 5/15/2016



Generated 5/16/16 at HPRCC using provisional data.

Regional Climate Centers.

http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps.php?map=ACISClimateMaps

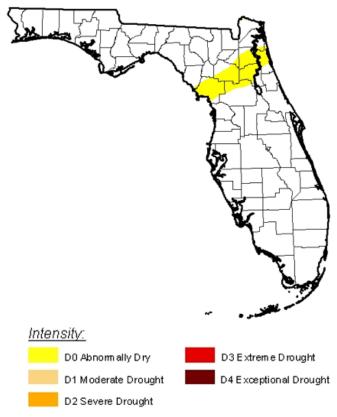
#### **Field Crops**

The dryer weather this week has seen peanut and cotton planting progressing very quickly in Washington, Okaloosa, and Santa Rosa Counties, where conditions were reported to be favorable. Other areas, however, where the moisture level was already low, have halted plantings until some moisture is returned to the soil. Farmers in Jackson and Holmes Counties have stopped planting peanuts and cotton due to the lack of soil moisture. Corn is showing moisture stress in Escambia County. Sugarcane harvest, which is normally complete at the end of April, is ongoing in St. Lucie, Glades, Hendry, and Palm Beach Counties. This is due to a wet fall producing a larger crop and delays during harvest caused by rain.

#### Crop Progress for Week Ending 05/15/16

Crop stage	This week	Prev week	Prev year	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Peanuts - Planted	62	46	52	44

#### U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



May 10, 2016 (Released Thursday May 12, 2016) http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu