



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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February 25, 2019

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**General**

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 24, 2019. Precipitation estimates ranged from no rain in multiple locations to 1.14 inches in St. Augustine (St. Johns County). The average mean temperature ranged from 63.9°F in Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 80.6°F in Key West (Monroe County).

**Citrus**

Temperatures were above average in the citrus growing region. Daily highs were in the low to high 80s all week. Rainfall totaled less than a tenth of an inch in most citrus producing counties. A few outlying areas had as much as three-tenths of an inch of precipitation. Winter Haven (Polk County) had the most rainfall at 0.37 inches for the week. According to the February 21, 2019 U.S. Drought Monitor, conditions have been favorable in the citrus growing region. Only the Indian River District is showing abnormally dry conditions; the remaining citrus growing area is drought free.

A few processing plants were running limited amounts of early and midseason oranges. All plants plan to finish by the end of February. It is anticipated there will be a short break between the non-Valencia and Valencia processing.

Most of the newer variety tangerines are nearly over for the season. There were still a few remaining Tangos, Royals, and Honey tangerines to be harvested. Minneola tangelos are replacing the Orlando tangelos at the packinghouses.

A small amount of fresh market oranges were harvested. Pickers were cleaning up the remaining non-Valencia varieties and moving into the Valencia oranges. The remaining grapefruit is mostly going to

processing. Less than one quarter of the harvested grapefruit went fresh.

Grove caretakers were busy with spray programs, fertilizing, applying herbicide, and taking care of young trees. Other activities included disking grove middles, hedging, and topping. Irrigation is running steadily across the region. Bloom is in various stages from trees just beginning to bloom, to those with open flowers.

**Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested**

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Feb 3, 2019 (Final)	Feb 10, 2019 (Preliminary)	Feb 17, 2019 (Preliminary)	Feb 18, 2018 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges.....	2,756	2,451	1,543	34
Navel oranges....	14	8	5	3
Valencia oranges.....	7	64	93	83
Red grapefruit....	170	169	172	157
White grapefruit..	53	61	50	37
Tangerines and Tangelos .....	31	23	18	30
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>3,031</b>	<b>2,776</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>344</b>

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

**Fruits and Vegetables**

Fields in Brevard and Indian River counties have been cleared for planting. Angular leaf spot, botrytis, and leaf scorch were reported again on strawberries in Bradford County. Strawberry and tomato crops in Manatee County are under some pest pressures. Some spring cabbage crops in St. Lucie County are beginning to show good color and size. Crops planted included bitter melon, boniato, green beans, herbs, malanga, squash, and zucchini. Crops harvested included Asian vegetables, bitter melon, boniato, eggplant, green beans, herbs, malanga, pepper, squash, tomato, and zucchini.

### Livestock and Pastures

Pastures were reported as good in Brevard, Indian River, and Jefferson counties. Improving pastures were reported in Alachua, Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Manatee, and Washington counties. Cattle remain in mostly good condition.

### Field Crops

Sugarcane harvest is ongoing in Glades and Hendry counties.

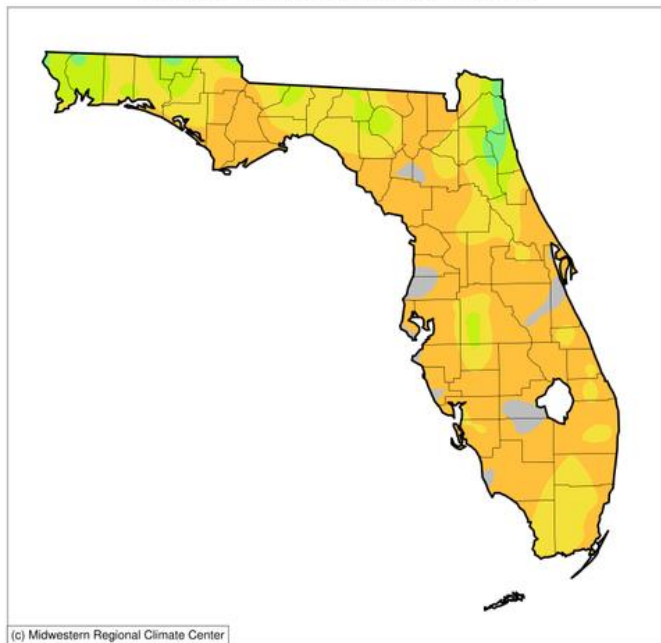
### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 02/24/19

Topsoil	This week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	1
Short .....	14	11
Adequate.....	79	78
Surplus.....	6	10

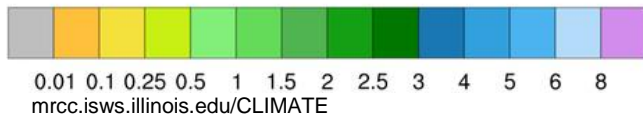
### Condition for Week Ending 02/24/19

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle .....	1	5	27	57	10
Pasture & range .....	3	19	44	28	6

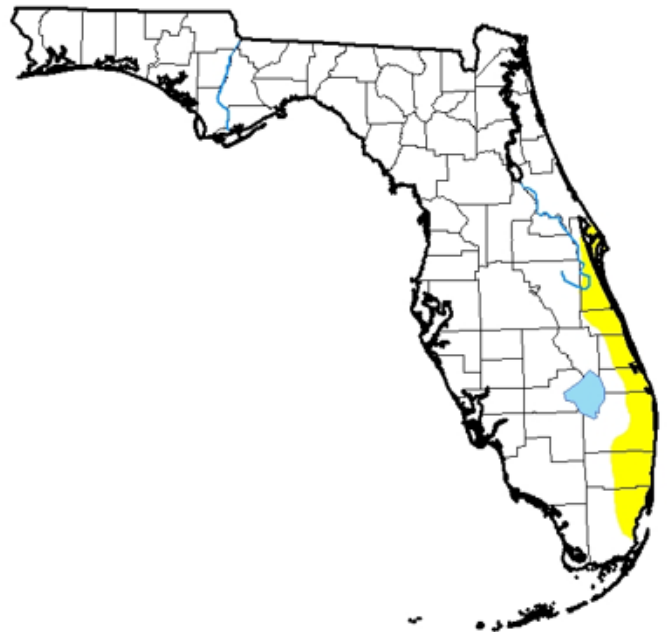
**Accumulated Precipitation (in)**  
February 18, 2019 to February 24, 2019



(c) Midwestern Regional Climate Center



### U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

February 19, 2019 (Released Thursday, Feb. 21, 2018)  
<http://droughtmonitor.unl>