



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.

March 28, 2022

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, March 27, 2022. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain in some locations to 3.3 inches in Jacksonville (Duval County). The average mean temperature ranged from 61.4°F at the Niceville (Okaloosa County) to 83.4°F Key West (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures cooled a bit throughout the citrus growing region this week, with highs in the low 80s. Beneficial precipitation fell across the state due to a strong cold front during the reporting period, improving dry conditions in some parts of the citrus belt. The most rainfall was recorded in Mount Plymouth (Lake County), receiving 1.2 inches of rain. According to the March 24, 2022, U.S. Drought Monitor, moderate drought conditions receded from most of the northern and Indian River citrus growing areas, while abnormally dry conditions were likewise reduced in portions of the northern and central citrus growing areas.

Varieties harvested for the fresh market included Valencia oranges, later variety tangerines, and red and white grapefruit. Processing plants were accepting field run Valencia oranges and grapefruit, and packinghouse eliminations for grapefruit.

Reports from field personnel indicated continued bloom and color break in orange groves statewide. Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicide, mowing, hedging, topping, and general grove maintenance. Due to the lack of adequate rain over the past several weeks, irrigation was being run frequently in all areas. The water level in canals and ditches remained low across the state.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Mar 6, 2022 (Preliminary)	Mar 13, 2022 (Preliminary)	Mar 20, 2022 (Preliminary)	Mar 21, 2021 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	39	0	0	0
Valencia Oranges	1,986	1,143	1,242	2,796
Red grapefruit	101	96	125	133
White grapefruit..	12	24	18	27
Tangerines and Tangelos	8	27	26	31
Total	2,146	1,290	1,411	2,987

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

Crops

Wet conditions continued throughout the week in the northern part of the state and the Panhandle. Many northern counties began or continued planting corn as the weather permitted. Strawberry harvest continued closer to completion, and watermelon planting wrapped up with harvest right around the corner. A variety of fruits and vegetables were harvested last week. Sugarcane harvest was close to completion in the southern part of the peninsula.

Livestock and Pastures

Pasture remained in fair to poor condition. Late frost stunted growth but with longer days and warmer temperatures, producers hoped for improved conditions. Cattle remained in mostly fair and good condition.

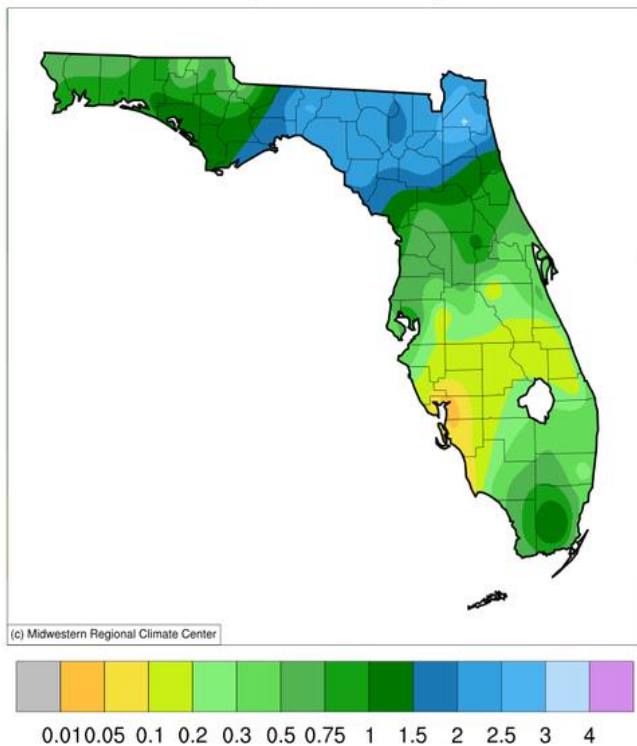
Soil Moisture for Week Ending 3/27/22

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	3	2
Short.....	11	9
Adequate.....	76	81
Surplus.....	10	8

Conditions for Week Ending 3/27/22

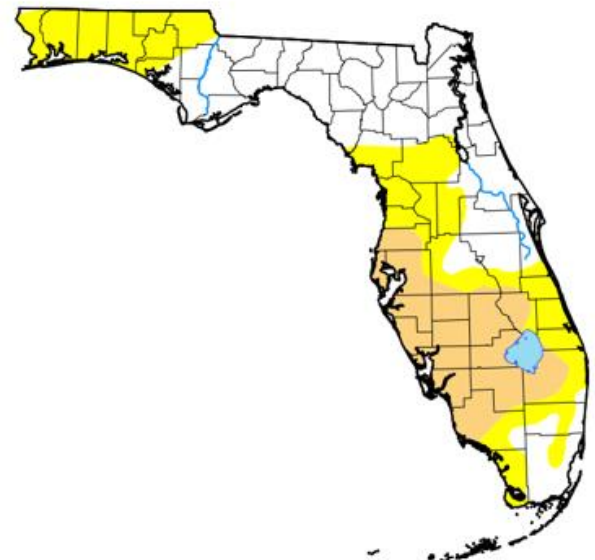
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle	1	5	36	48	10
Pasture & range	1	35	40	19	5

Accumulated Precipitation (in)
March 21, 2022 to March 27, 2022



mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/CLIMATE

U.S. Drought Monitor Florida



Intensity:

- None
- D2 Severe Drought
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

Mar 22, 2022 (Released Thursday, Mar 24, 2022)
<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>