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.

February 21, 2023

Media Contact: Mark Hudson

General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Florida, there were 6.6 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, February 19, 2023. Precipitation for the state ranged from no rain to 0.6 inches at Miami International Airport (Miami-Dade County). The average mean temperature ranged from 55.9°F in Monticello (Jefferson County) to 79.9°F at Key West Naval Air Station (Monroe County).

Citrus

Temperatures remained above average in the citrus growing region last week, with highs in the high 70's to low 80's. The warmest readings were recorded in Sebring (Highlands County) at 82 degrees, followed by the Central Florida station (Lake County) at 80 degrees. The citrus belt received negligible rainfall, if any, during the reporting period. According to the February 16, 2023, U.S. Drought Monitor, abnormally dry conditions continued to cover the majority of the citrus growing region. The exception was an area centered on the west coast of the peninsula, which remained drought free. Additionally, areas of moderate drought had encroached upon the borders of the citrus growing region in both the north and south due to continued low precipitation levels and higher than average temperatures.

Grove operations included spraying pesticides and nutritionals, fertilizing, spraying herbicides, mowing, topping, hedging, removal of dead trees, and general grove maintenance. Irrigation was being run statewide. Field personnel reported bloom in groves across multiple areas of the state, giving way to the spring flush of vegetative growth. In a few locations, the fruitlets of next year's crop had appeared.

Packinghouses were shipping red and white grapefruit, mid-season and late oranges, and tangerines. Processors were handling Valencia orange packinghouse eliminations, and a small amount of field run fruit. Processing of Valencia oranges was expected to ramp up through February into March.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending			Previous Year
	Jan 29, 2023 (Preliminary)	Feb 5, 2023 (Preliminary)	Feb 12, 2023 (Preliminary)	Feb 13, 2022 (Actual)
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early and Mid-oranges	47	17	9	488
Navel oranges	1	0	0	0
Valencia Oranges	19	12	226	901
Red grapefruit	84	80	90	171
White grapefruit	4	9	12	57
Tangerines and Tangelos	15	13	9	24
Total	**170**	**131**	**346**	**1,641**

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

Crops

The entire state received very little rain last week, with only the southeastern and northern regions of the state receiving any notable amounts of precipitation. Warmer than average temperatures persisted across much of the state as well. Rice planting began in the southeastern region of the state, with peak planting expected in the coming weeks. Fruits and vegetables that were planted and harvested last week include green beans, yellow squash, zucchini, tomato, eggplant, strawberries, and avocado. Helped by the dry weather, sugarcane harvest continued to make strong progress.

Livestock and Pastures

Cattle were reported to be in mostly good to fair condition, while pastures were reported to be in mostly poor to fair condition. Reporters in some regions noted pastures began to green up due to the warm temperatures.

Conditions for Week Ending 2/19/23

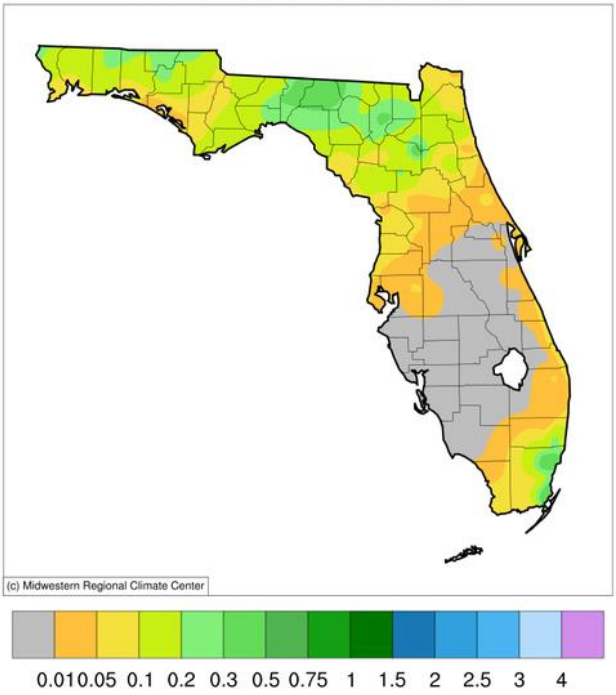
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Cattle……..	1	12	35	46	6
Pasture & range…	4	44	35	12	5

Soil Moisture for Week Ending 2/19/23

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short……....	3	3
Short……..	19	28
Adequate……..……..	76	67
Surplus……..	2	2

Accumulated Precipitation (in)

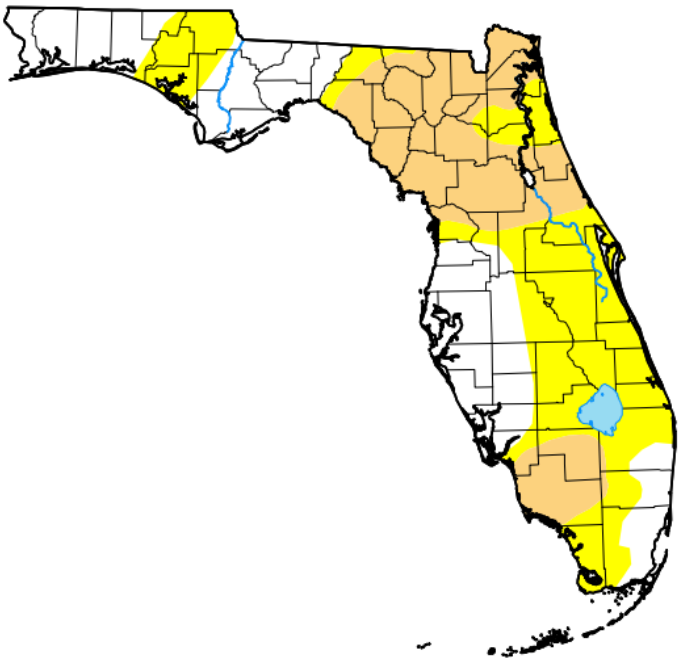
February 13, 2023 to February 19, 2023



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

U.S. Drought Monitor

Florida



February 14, 2023

(Released Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	32.72	67.28	29.51	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 02-07-2023	30.99	69.01	16.47	7.97	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 11-15-2022	68.30	31.70	29.86	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	56.61	43.39	30.80	19.77	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	91.16	8.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 02-15-2022	47.24	52.76	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

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droughtmonitor.unl.edu