



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
**FLORIDA CROP PROGRESS &
CONDITION REPORT**



In cooperation with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the UF/IFAS Extension Service
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Week Ending: February 15, 2015

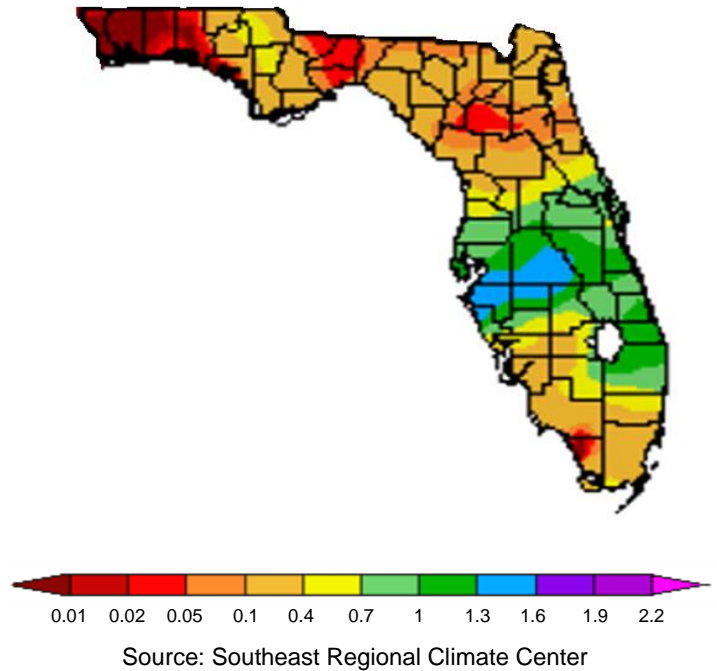
Cold in North, Warm in South

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from 0.02 of an inch to 1.6 inches across the State. Balm (Hillsborough County) and Kenansville (Osceola County) received the most rain with 1.6 inches. Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, Florida was 78 percent drought free this past week. Temperatures ranged from 26 degrees for night time lows to 81 degrees for day time highs, across the State. The highest temperature was 81 degrees in Fort Lauderdale (Broward County). The lowest temperature in the State was 26 degrees in Lecanto (Citrus County).

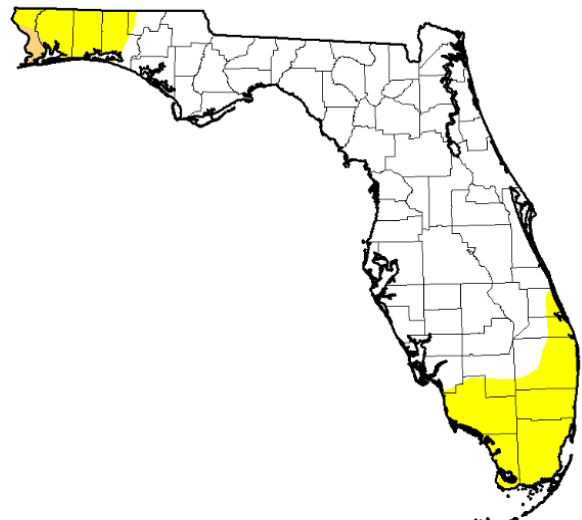
Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	0	0	0
Short	25	23	8
Adequate	70	73	85
Surplus	5	4	7

Precipitation (in)–Florida: Feb. 9-15, 2015



U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: Feb. 10, 2015



Intensity:

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

Field Crops: There was an average of 6.4 days suitable for field work this past week, up slightly from the previous week. Field work and soil preparation for spring plantings continued in the Panhandle. Soil moisture continued to be high across most of the State due to rains from previous weeks. Various areas reported standing water in fields. Sugarcane harvest continued in Palm Beach County.

Fruit and Vegetables: Farmers in Suwannee County began planting potatoes and were preparing land for watermelon and corn planting. In Bradford County, strawberries, onions, cabbage, and greens were being harvested. Flagler and Putnam county farmers continued planting potatoes and harvesting cabbage and leafy greens. Crops harvested in Miami-Dade County were green beans, pole beans, yellow squash, zucchini, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, sweet corn, boniato, bitter melon, avocados, herbs, malanga, strawberries, and other tropical fruits.

Livestock and Pastures: Some pastures in the Panhandle, north, and central Florida, continued to be in poor condition due to standing water and frost. Cool season forage crops growth slowed due to cold weather and frost. Pastures in south and southwest Florida improved following rainfall. Statewide, the cattle condition was mostly good, while the winter forage and pasture condition was fair to good.

Cattle and Pasture Condition

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	Current week	Previous week	Current week	Previous week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very poor	0	0	2	2
Poor	4	4	19	19
Fair	32	32	37	37
Good	60	60	41	42
Excellent	4	4	1	0

Citrus: Temperatures were typical for this time of the year. Daytime highs reached the mid 70s on most days and nighttime temperatures were in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Rainfall was very sporadic in citrus producing counties. Okeechobee (Okeechobee County) had the least at 0.36 inches, while Kenansville (Osceola County) and Balm (Hillsborough County) both had 1.6 inches. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated February 10, 2015, abnormally dry conditions are now present in Collier County and parts of Hendry County, as well as in the lower half of the Indian River District.

Processing plants were still up and running at normal capacities. According to the Market News Bulletin (February 9, 2015), “Most plants plan on finishing early and midseason oranges this month, while one may run into March.” Navel orange harvest and early tangerine harvest were relatively over for the season. Honey tangerines and colored grapefruit were now the primary varieties being harvested for fresh market. A small amount of early oranges and white grapefruit were also going fresh.

Grove activity included mowing, irrigation, and some hedging and topping after harvest. Field workers across the citrus region have noticed some bloom and new growth in well cared for groves.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending:		
	Feb 1, 2015	Feb 8, 2015	Feb 15, 2015
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Early & mid oranges	4,434	3,876	3,483
Temples	8	8	10
Navel oranges	13	9	4
Valencia	4	11	33
White grapefruit	135	114	117
Colored grapefruit	450	442	426
Sunburst tangerines	5	2	2
Tangelos	49	35	24
Honey Tangerines	48	52	49
Total	5,146	4,549	4,148

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