



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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Released: May 4, 2015 (4 PM EST)

Week Ending: May 3, 2015

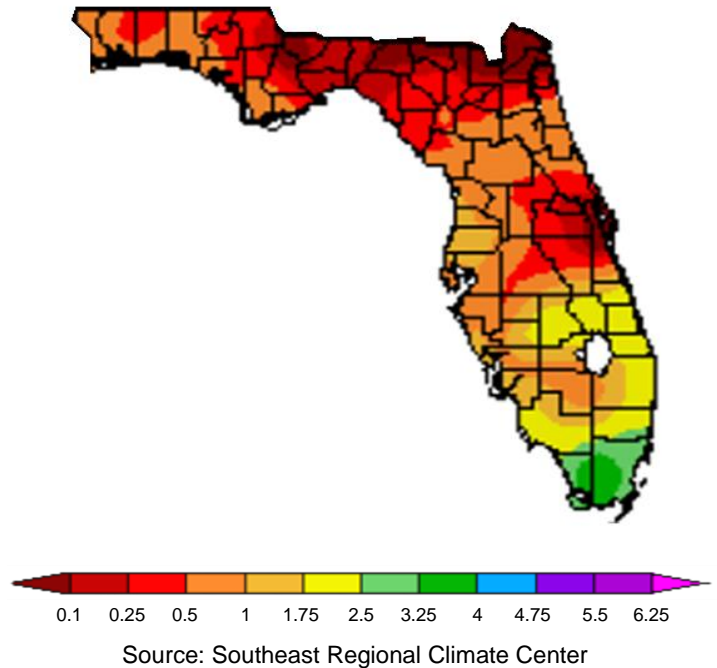
Planting and Harvesting Continued

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from no rain to 4.81 inches across the State. Homestead (Miami-Dade County) received the most rain with 4.81 inches. Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, Florida was 90 percent drought free this past week. Temperatures ranged from 46 degrees for night time lows to 95 degrees for day time highs, across the State. The highest temperature was 95 degrees in Homestead (Miami-Dade County). The lowest temperature in the State was 46 degrees in five locations across north Florida.

Soil Moisture Ratings

| Moisture Rating | Topsoil | | |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Current week | Previous week | Previous year |
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Very short | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Short | 15 | 16 | 15 |
| Adequate | 79 | 75 | 75 |
| Surplus | 5 | 9 | 10 |

Precipitation (in)–Florida: April 27-May 3, 2015

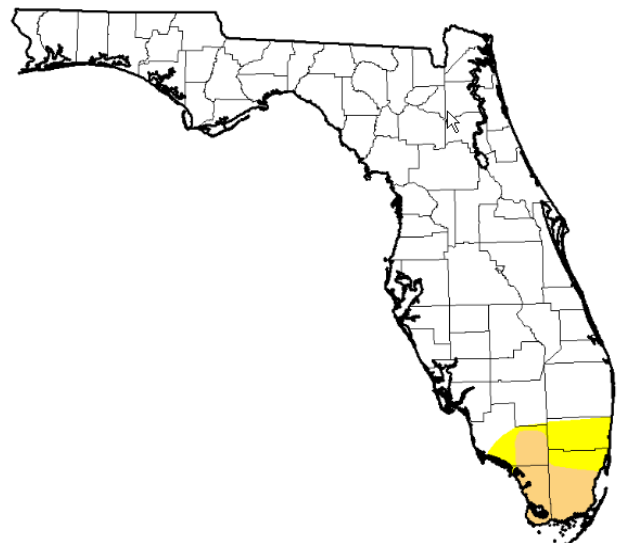


Field Crops: There was an average of 5.9 days suitable for field work this past week, down from 6 days in the previous week. Hay was cut in Jackson, Leon, Walton, Pasco, Putnam, and Flagler counties this past week. Farmers in Jackson, Walton, and Washington counties planted cotton. Corn planting finished in Walton and Dixie counties. In Leon County some corn was already head high. Peanut and cotton planting was increasing in Washington County as field conditions improved.

Peanut Progress

| Stage | 5-year average | Previous year | Current week |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| | (percent) | (percent) | (percent) |
| Planted | 25 | 23 | 11 |

U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: April 28, 2015



Intensity:

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

Fruit and Vegetables: Watermelon harvest was active in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, and Hendry counties this past week, while Dixie County farmers finished their harvest. Blueberry and peach harvests were complete in Citrus, Hernando, and Sumter counties but continued in

Charlotte and Glades counties. Farmers in Flagler, Putnam, and Saint John's counties began potato harvest. Green bean harvest was completed in Dixie County. Palm Beach County received rain this past week with some isolated fields flooding which slowed harvesting and washed out newly planted seeds. Vegetables and fruits harvested in southwest Florida were cantaloupe, cabbage, cucumbers, herbs, peppers, squash, and tomatoes.

Livestock and Pastures: In Washington County, warm season perennial pastures were growing well. The south Florida pasture condition continued to improve with rain received. Statewide, the cattle condition was mostly good, while the 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 | 0 | 0 |
| Poor | 3 | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Fair | 25 | 26 | 33 | 34 |
| Good | 64 | 63 | 56 | 51 |
| Excellent | 8 | 7 | 6 | 6 |

Citrus: Temperatures were typical for this time of year, reaching the low to mid 80s on most days. Low nighttime and early morning temperatures were mostly in the 60s. Rainfall was heavy in the southern portion of the citrus growing region. Okeechobee (Okeechobee County) and Joshua (Desoto County) both had three inches of rainfall, while Umatilla (Lake County), Lake Alfred (Polk County), and Kenansville (Osceola County) all had less than a half-an-inch. As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated April 28, 2015, abnormally dry conditions cover only the southern half of Collier County. The remainder of the citrus area is drought free.

Valencia weekly preliminary utilization was over four million boxes, but is still less than last season's weekly utilization at this time of the year. Only Valencia oranges had a significant amount of fruit harvested for the fresh market. All the white grapefruit that was harvested went to processing plants. All other varieties were finished or winding down for the season.

Most grove owners continued to irrigate several times a week. Field workers reported spraying, hedging and topping of harvested varieties, mowing in preparation for late orange harvesting, irrigation maintenance and treatment for greening. Various stages of fruit for next season's crop, from pea size to marble size, were apparent on later varieties. Fruit for next season's crop on early oranges and grapefruit in many cases is quarter size and larger.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

| Crop | For week ending: | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | April 19, 2015 | April 26, 2015 | May 3, 2015 |
| | (boxes) | (boxes) | (boxes) |
| Early & mid oranges | 2 | 0 | 186 |
| Temples | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Navel oranges | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Valencia | 4,074 | 4,048 | 4,030 |
| White grapefruit | 250 | 173 | 50 |
| Colored grapefruit | 85 | 35 | 23 |
| Tangelos | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Honey Tangerines | 13 | 3 | 2 |
| Total | 4,428 | 4,261 | 4,291 |

This report is available, at no cost, on the NASS web site: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Subscribe_to_FL_Reports/index.asp. To set-up this free subscription, send e-mail message to listserv@newsbox.usda.gov and in the body, type "subscribe to Florida crop weather." The drought monitor index used in this report originates from the U.S. Drought Monitor website. Visit <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu> maintained by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The precipitation and temperature data used in this report originates from the Florida Automated Weather Network (FAWN). Visit <http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu> maintained by UF/IFAS Information Technologies.