



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: May 17, 2015

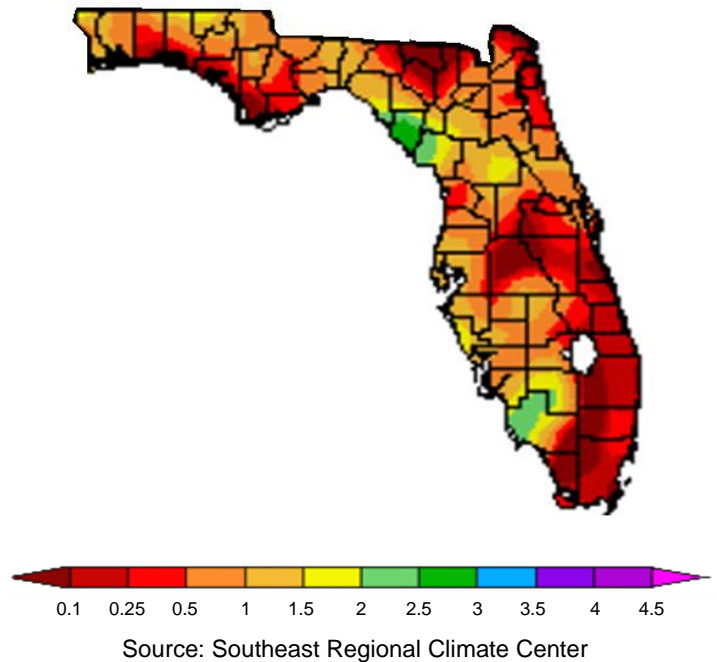
Another Hot Week

Weather Summary: According to Florida’s Automated Weather Network (FAWN), rainfall ranged from no rain to 4.48 inches across the State. Immokalee (Collier County) received the most rain with 4.48 inches. Rainfall for most of the State was less than one inch. Per the U.S. Drought Monitor, Florida was 88 percent drought free this past week. Temperatures ranged from 61 degrees for night time lows to 98 degrees for day time highs, across the State. The highest temperature was 98 degrees in Bronson (Levy County). The lowest temperature in the State was 61 degrees recorded at five locations.

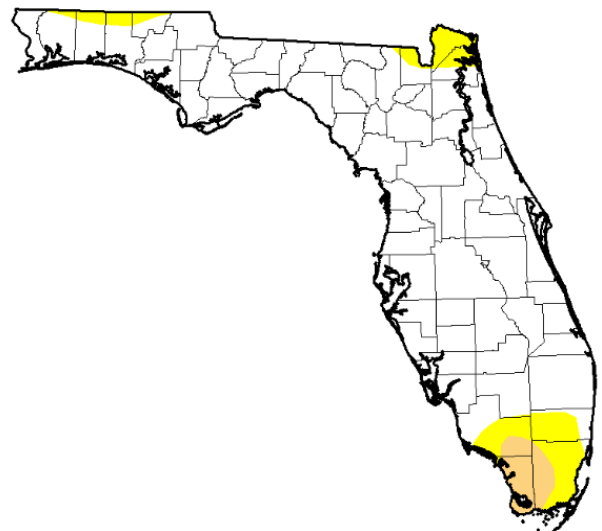
Soil Moisture Ratings

Moisture Rating	Topsoil		
	Current week	Previous week	Previous year
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short	1	2	0
Short	36	31	21
Adequate	60	64	73
Surplus	3	3	6

Precipitation (in)–Florida: May 11-17, 2015



U.S. Drought Monitor–Florida: May 12, 2015



Field Crops: There was an average of 6.6 days suitable for field work this past week, the same as the previous week. Scattered rain was received across the State. Peanut planting continued in the Panhandle and north Florida. Walton County farmers were planting cotton and harvesting wheat and oats. Hay harvesting continued in Pasco County. Cover crops were being planted in Flagler and Putnam counties.

Peanut Progress

Stage	5-year average	Previous year	Current week
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Planted	48	45	59

Fruit and Vegetables: Watermelons were being harvested in Dixie, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, and Manatee counties. Potato harvest continued in Flagler and Putnam counties. Vegetable growers in

Intensity:

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

southwest Florida are cleaning up fields and preparing for summer fallow. Sweet corn harvest continued in Palm Beach County. Crops being planted in Miami-Dade County were okra, boniato, malanga, and bitter melon. All crops in Miami-Dade County were being irrigated.

Livestock and Pastures: The dry conditions and high temperatures have impacted pasture quality throughout the State. 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.....	2	3	6	4
Fair	24	25	35	35
Good.....	67	64	52	54
Excellent.....	7	8	7	7

Citrus: Temperatures were seasonably warm all week reaching the low to mid 80s on most days and moving into the lower 90s in all citrus producing counties over the weekend. Rainfall was very sporadic with totals ranging from no rain in Palmdale (Glades County) to 4.48 inches in Immokalee (Collier County). As per the U.S. Drought Monitor, last updated May 12, 2015, abnormally dry conditions cover only the southern half Collier County. The remainder of the citrus area was drought free.

Valencia orange harvest was still going strong at over four million boxes a week, with the large majority going to processing. Most packinghouses remain open at this time, running only Valencia oranges. 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 for psyllids on a regular schedule, fertilizing, mowing in preparation for late orange harvesting, irrigation maintenance and hedging and topping after harvest. Next seasons oranges were about golf ball size, grapefruit are slightly larger.

Citrus Estimated Boxes Harvested

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

Crop	For week ending:		
	May 3, 2015	May 10, 2015	May 17, 2015
	(boxes)	(boxes)	(boxes)
Valencia	4,216	4,339	4,493
White grapefruit.....	50	11	0
Colored grapefruit.....	23	10	1
Honey Tangerines	2	0	0
Total	4,291	4,360	4,494

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.