



A Look at *Florida* Agriculture

Capital: Tallahassee

Population: 21,477,737

Founded: March 3, 1845 (27th)

State Bird: Mockingbird

State Tree: Sabal Palmetto

State Flower: Orange Blossom

Number of Counties: 67

Largest City: Jacksonville - 911,507

Nickname: Sunshine State

Number of Farms: 47,000

Average Farm Size: 201 acres

Total Farmland: 9.25 million acres



www.agclassroom.org/fl

Climate & Soil

- The climate of Florida is very mild.
- The temperatures across the state average in the low 80's.
- The growing season ranges from 100-200 days or longer.
- Florida receives an average of 54 inches of precipitation each year. Central Florida is known as the lightning capital of the United States.
- Myakka fine sand soil is unique to Florida. This soil is recognized as the state soil because it occurs in 1.5 million acres of flatwoods, making it the single most extensive soil in the state.

Crops & Livestock

- Florida produces 44% of the annual US production of citrus. About 93% of commercial orange production in the state is destined for processing, mostly as orange juice.
- Greenhouse and nursery products are Florida's top leading crops financially yielding \$2.088 billion.
- Florida ranks 2nd in US production of fresh vegetables.
- Florida ranks 3rd in the Southeast and 13th nationally in the production of beef calves.
- Florida is consistently ranked in the top 10 states in total overall aquaculture value. Florida produces the greatest variety of aquatic species of any state in the nation.
- The top 5 agricultural commodities in 2018 were: greenhouse/nursery products, oranges, sugarcane, cattle and calves, and dairy products.
- The Florida Thoroughbred industry has produced 52 National Champions, 28 breeders cup winners, and a Triple Crown-winner.

General

- Florida ranks 20th nationally for total agricultural sales in the United States.
- Agriculture is the second largest industry in the state, tourism is the largest.