



CITRUS ABANDONED ACRES

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
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Abandoned Acreage Steady Statewide

Abandoned citrus groves were identified during the latest commercial citrus tree inventory. Agricultural personnel evaluated tree condition and made an overall assessment of citrus groves contained in the maps of Florida citrus growing areas. The amount of abandoned citrus acreage is updated and published on an annual basis to keep pace with constant changes. Some citrus groves previously identified as abandoned have been removed and destroyed. Additional groves are added each year when they meet the abandoned grove criteria.

A grove is considered abandoned when the following conditions exist: no production care during the past 2 years, no weed control or grass mowing, livestock present, weather damage, neglected trees that are not economically feasible to maintain, or no commercial harvest during the last 2 seasons. In some cases, property owners or caretakers were contacted regarding future use of their groves.

The Indian River District leads the other areas with 38 percent of the state's total abandoned acreage. Increases occurred in the Indian River and Northern Areas, while decreases continued in the Central, Western, and Southern Areas. The greatest increase of abandoned acres is 1,834 in St. Lucie County, slightly over one-fifth of the state's total. Although twelve of the counties have more abandoned grove acres compared to the last survey, the total has decreased. Understory acres have increased due to additional findings in Marion, Orange, and Pasco Counties. Results of this survey include 5,542 understory acres comprised of pine stands and forested areas with abandoned, unintentional, or feral citrus trees scattered under their canopy. These acres pose a potential threat as a possible source of pests and diseases.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by County and Survey Year

County	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Brevard	589	581	581	5,763	5,166	5,186	70	70	70	5,833	5,236	5,257
Charlotte	191	179	177	2,606	2,431	2,378	-	-	-	2,606	2,431	2,378
Collier	22	17	19	338	256	286	-	-	-	338	256	286
DeSoto	388	364	363	3,498	3,393	3,305	-	-	-	3,498	3,393	3,305
Glades	46	48	47	769	809	800	-	-	-	769	809	800
Hardee	410	384	373	3,152	2,844	2,906	-	-	-	3,152	2,844	2,906
Hendry	434	357	333	12,575	8,809	7,882	37	37	37	12,612	8,846	7,919
Hernando	49	55	57	909	938	944	37	37	37	946	975	981
Highlands	200	206	232	2,393	2,540	3,240	-	-	-	2,393	2,540	3,240
Hillsborough	577	580	548	5,217	4,815	4,308	-	-	-	5,217	4,815	4,308
Indian River	724	734	743	11,947	12,118	12,130	124	124	124	12,071	12,242	12,254
Lake	928	946	1,001	10,230	9,911	10,582	2,287	2,727	2,727	12,517	12,638	13,309
Lee	110	101	97	825	796	767	-	-	-	825	796	767
Manatee	348	324	312	3,460	3,232	3,212	-	-	-	3,460	3,232	3,212
Marion	57	58	68	310	317	244	573	573	691	883	890	935
Martin	451	586	559	17,541	17,368	17,127	-	-	-	17,541	17,368	17,127
Okeechobee	100	145	156	1,984	2,674	2,858	-	-	-	1,984	2,674	2,858
Orange	297	291	285	3,197	3,245	3,026	100	320	360	3,297	3,565	3,386
Osceola	348	347	335	3,036	2,930	2,852	237	-	-	3,278	2,930	2,852
Pasco	227	219	208	2,085	1,963	1,805	316	332	343	2,401	2,295	2,148
Polk	1,266	1,176	1,087	10,791	9,339	8,652	315	410	410	11,106	9,749	9,062
Putnam	13	15	16	101	85	93	-	-	-	101	85	93
St. Lucie	1,019	1,050	1,146	27,321	26,685	28,519	548	548	548	27,869	27,233	29,067
Sarasota	18	18	17	131	131	130	-	-	-	131	131	130
Seminole	79	77	75	483	440	401	8	8	8	491	447	409
Volusia	199	193	199	1,727	1,675	1,684	112	112	112	1,839	1,787	1,796
Others ¹	197	208	195	6,127	6,236	5,676	90	90	76	6,217	6,326	5,752
Total	9,287	9,259	9,229	138,516	131,146	130,991	4,854	5,388	5,542	143,370	136,534	136,533

- Represents zero.

¹ Alachua, Citrus, Palm Beach, and Pinellas counties.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by Production Area and Survey Year

Production Area	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Indian River	2,543	2,621	2,730	50,412	49,874	51,352	784	784	784	51,196	50,658	52,136
Northern Area	1,819	1,820	1,853	18,728	18,191	18,280	3,410	4,086	4,241	22,138	22,277	22,521
Central Area	1,849	1,764	1,689	17,511	16,064	16,035	623	480	480	18,134	16,544	16,515
Western Area	1,743	1,672	1,616	15,500	14,414	13,876	-	-	-	15,500	14,414	13,876
Southern Area	1,333	1,382	1,341	36,365	32,603	31,448	37	37	37	36,402	32,640	31,485
Total	9,287	9,259	9,229	138,516	131,146	130,991	4,854	5,388	5,542	143,370	136,534	136,533

- Represents zero.

