



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Attachment 5: 2007 Valdosta Regional Irrigation Assessment

Risk Management
Agency

Valdosta
Regional Office

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The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation LAM provides that Regional Offices will assist in a clearing house capacity for information concerning regional irrigation assessments in order to identify areas, water districts, aquifers, reservoirs, and other water sources where inadequate irrigation is suspected. Based on this requirement, the Valdosta Regional Office is providing the following assessment.

Nursery - South Florida

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. To manage water shortages in an organized and efficient manner, the SFWMD has adopted a Plan and a Rule to restrict water use when supplies fall short (Sec. 373.246, Florida Statutes; Ch. 40E-21, Florida Administrative Code).

South Florida is experiencing one of the driest times in history. Much of the state is under some level of drought. This widespread and severe drought is having significant impacts on the region. Rainfall in 2006 and 2007 has been very far below normal. Water levels in Lake Okeechobee -- as well as in other areas where rainfall is stored -- are near record lows, and threaten to continue falling.

The SFWMD has established specific water-use restrictions according to the severity of the water shortage – PHASE I, moderate; PHASE II, severe; PHASE III, extreme; and, PHASE IV, critical – each requiring and increasing larger reduction in water use.

Due to the drought, the SFWMD has implemented the following **MANDATORY WATER RESTRICTIONS**. Counties currently affected by the restrictions include all or a part of Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, and St Lucie counties.



The Risk Management Agency Administers
And Oversees All Programs Authorized Under
The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

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South Florida Water Management District

WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY:

Restrictions Now In Effect



- Lake Okeechobee Service Area - **Phase II & Phase III**
- Northern Indian Prairie & Lake Istokpoga - **Phase II & III**
- Upper East Coast (Martin & St. Lucie counties) - **Phase II**
- Lower East Coast (Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade & Monroe counties) - **Phase II & III**
- Lower West Coast (Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee and parts of Charlotte counties) - **Phase II**

Detailed information concerning the drought and restrictions can be found at the SFWMD webpage at <http://www.sfwmd.gov>.