

Fast Facts: Strawberries

Acres planted

- Average 6,940 acres per season (average from the past 10 years)
- Approximately 8,400 acres for the 2006-07 season

Growing season

- Planted October through mid-November
- Harvesting begins mid-December through January
- Most active February through March
- Ends in April through mid-May

Value of annual crop

- 2006-07 season: \$329,344,000

Harvest method

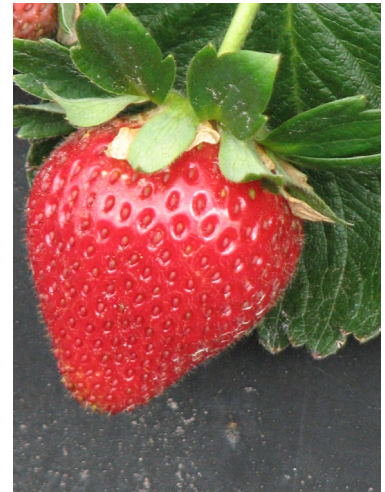
- Strawberries are hand-picked due to their delicate nature

Number of pickings

- When harvesting starts, each plant is picked every 3-4 days and as the weather warms, can be every 2 days.

Common pests and diseases

- Spider mites
- Fall armyworm
- Southern armyworm
- Corn earworm
- Sap beetles
- Colletotrichum diseases
- Powdery mildew
- Angular leaf spot
- Common leaf spot
- Leaf blight/fruit rot
- Leaf scorch



Sources:

2008 Florida Agriculture Statistical Directory
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PG056>