



# Hawaii Avocados

An annual report on number of farms, acreage, yield, production, farm price, and value



**RELEASE:** September 3, 1998

## Output up 25 percent

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service (HASS) estimates the State's 1997 avocado crop at 500,000 pounds, up 25 percent from last season. Farm prices declined 1 percent from a year earlier to an average of 53.0 cents per pound in 1997.

### Farm sales hampered by weak market

Improved weather conditions and a 22-percent increase in harvested acreage helped to ensure a boost in production for avocado growers in 1997. However, many farmers reported that their overall sales were limited by a sluggish market.

Sharwil is the State's major variety and was developed specifically for the U.S. mainland market. But after being approved for shipment to the U.S. mainland in 1996, exports of locally grown Sharwil avocados have yet to take off. A shipment of treated Sharwil avocados was successfully shipped to the U.S. mainland last fall and there are hopes for expanded shipments to occur this season. Until the U.S. mainland market becomes firmly established, Hawaii growers are confined to the local market, Alaska, and other winter markets outside the continental U.S.

The limited market is reflected in the average farm price for all Hawaii avocados at 53.0 cents per pound in 1997, down 1 percent from the previous year and the lowest farm return since 1994. Farm value for 1997 is estimated at \$265,000, up 24 percent from 1996.❖



**Hawaii Agricultural  
Statistics Service**  
Fact finding for agriculture

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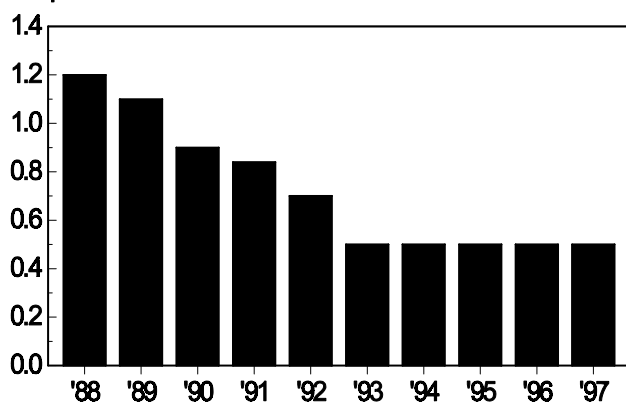
**AVOCADOS:** Number of farms, acreage, yield, production, price, and value.  
State of Hawaii, 1993-97

Year	Farms	Acreage <sup>1</sup>		Yield per acre (Bearing)	Production	Farm price	Value of sales
		In crop	Bearing				
	<i>Number</i>	<i>----- Acres -----</i>		<i>----- 1,000 Pounds -----</i>		<i>Cents per pound</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
1993.....	90	460	250	2.0	500	44.0	220
1994.....	80	440	220	2.3	500	50.0	250
1995.....	80	350	210	2.4	500	54.5	273
1996.....	110	330	180	2.2	400	53.5	214
1997.....	95	340	220	2.3	500	53.0	265

<sup>1</sup> At end of year.

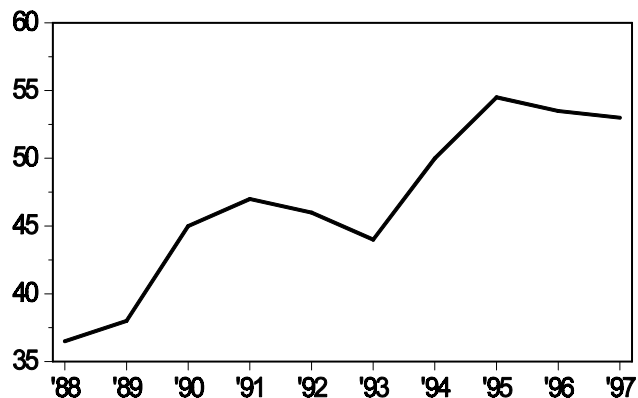
## Avocados: Hawaii production, 1988-97

Mil. pounds



## Avocados: Hawaii farm prices, 1988-97

Cents per pound



## AVOCADOS: Acreage in crop by variety, State of Hawaii, 1989-97

Year	Total area	Area by variety				
		Sharwil	Hass	Kahaluu	Linda	Others <sup>1</sup>
				<i>Acres</i>		
1989.....	550	315	2	2	2	235
1990.....	500	325	2	2	2	175
1991.....	550	370	2	2	2	180
1992.....	500	380	2	2	2	120
1993.....	460	380	2	2	2	80
1994.....	440	380	2	2	2	60
1995.....	350	300	2	2	2	50
1996.....	330	300	2	2	2	30
1997.....	340	330	2	2	2	20

<sup>1</sup> Minor varieties, unknown varieties, and mixed plantings that growers were unable to specify acreage for separately. Of the latter, the most frequently mentioned varieties were: Sharwil, Kahaluu, Nishikawa, Yamagata, Ohata. <sup>2</sup> Not shown separately, but included in "Others" category.

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