

Hawaii Avocados

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



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Output remains unchanged

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service (HASS) estimates the State's 1998 avocado crop at 500,000 pounds, unchanged from 1997. Farm prices declined 2 percent from a year earlier to an average of 52.0 cents per pound in 1998.

Growers endure market and weather adversities

A soft market for local avocados was a major factor in limiting production during 1998. Hawaii's inability to penetrate the U.S. mainland market meant that growers were largely confined to the local market, Alaska, and other winter markets outside the continental U.S. The larger commercial growers who are able to delivery quantity and quality had an edge in marketing their harvests. Smaller growers who makeup the bulk of the industry, on the other hand, reported that demand was low or nonexistent for their fruits.

Another factor that limited production was the dry conditions that were associated with an El Niño episode that started in 1997 and extended into 1998. Farmers dependent on rainfall suffered lower yields, while those with irrigation experienced relatively good yields. Particularly hard hit were farmers in the Kona area of the Big Island where conditions were very dry.❖



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

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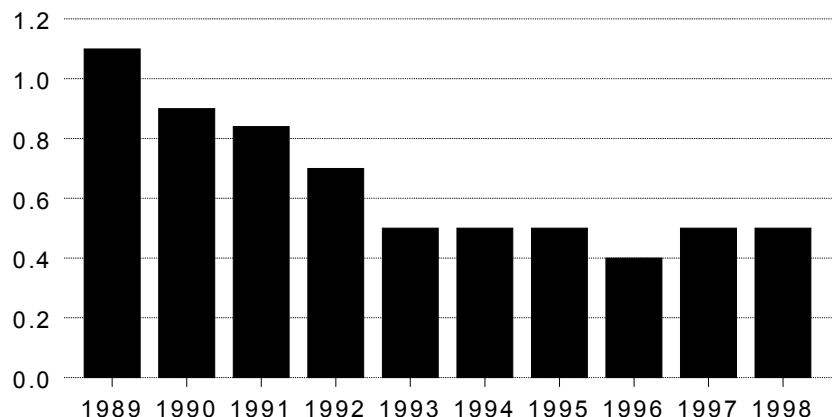
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Production of Hawaii Avocados State of Hawaii, 1989-1998

Mil. pounds



AVOCADOS: Number of farms, acreage, yield, production, price, and value.
State of Hawaii, 1979-98

Year	Farms	Acreage ¹		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>
1979	142	340	165	7.7	1,270	26.6	338
1980	145	350	200	7.6	1,510	24.5	370
1981	155	370	200	6.0	1,200	26.4	317
1982	160	440	240	6.7	1,600	22.5	360
1983	160	450	250	4.7	1,170	26.1	305
1984	165	505	270	4.3	1,150	25.9	298
1985	160	525	320	3.8	1,220	24.5	299
1986	160	540	330	3.9	1,300	25.6	333
1987	145	500	300	3.0	900	31.5	284
1988	145	580	290	4.1	1,200	36.5	438
1989	140	550	250	4.4	1,100	38.0	418
1990	120	500	250	3.6	900	45.0	405
1991	110	550	280	3.0	840	47.0	395
1992	100	500	220	3.2	700	46.0	322
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	250	2.0	500	53.0	265
1998	95	330	240	2.1	500	52.0	260

¹ At end of year.

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