



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Taro Millings

Donald A. Martin, State Agricultural Statistician

June 13, 2003

Taro for poi millings off to slow start in 2003

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service estimates poi millers utilized 1.15 million pounds of taro during the first quarter of 2003, down 16 percent from the fourth quarter of 2002 and down 15 percent compared to the first quarter of last year. February's taro for poi output of 370,000 pounds is also the lowest monthly total since June 1997.

It is difficult to pinpoint the exact reason for the decline in taro for poi millings during the first quarter, but it is likely to be a combination of untimely rains, cool temperatures, and continuing problem with pests.

Monthly Taro for Poi Millings, State of Hawaii, 5-year average, 2002, and 2003.

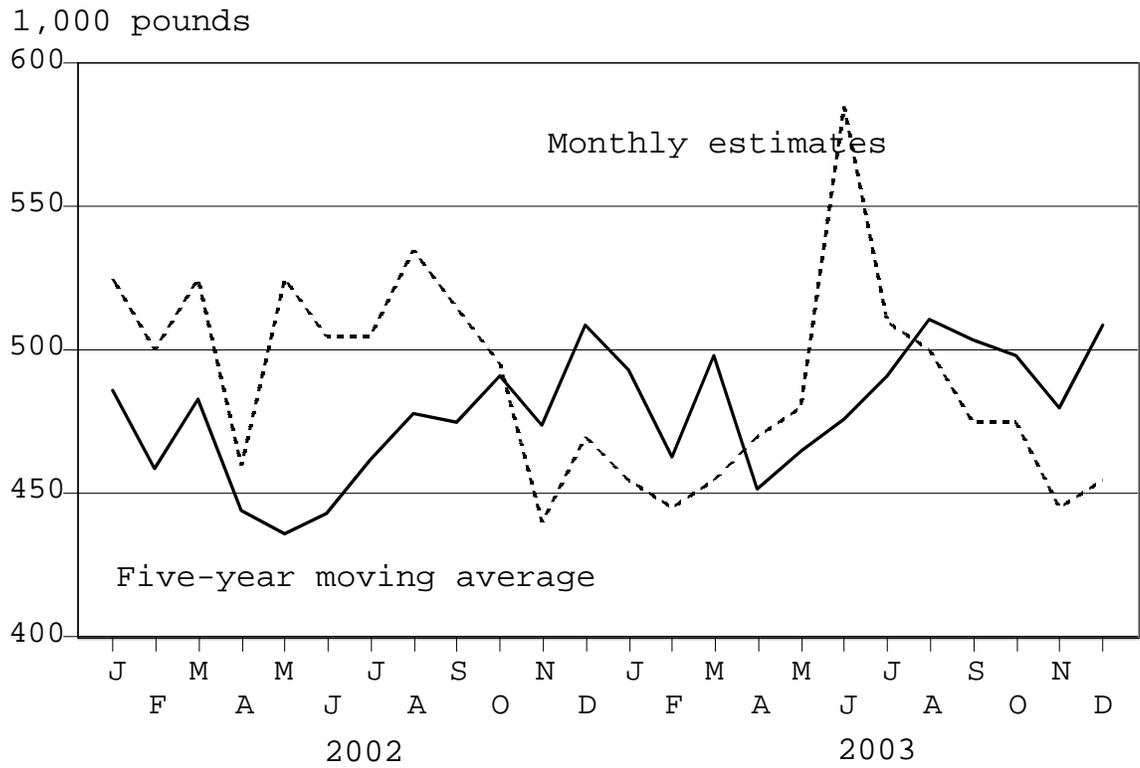
Year	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	Tota
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>												
5-year average	499	485	516	471	490	499	513	536	516	493	479	493	5,99
2002	455	445	455	470	480	485	510	500	475	475	445	455	5,65
2003 ²	400	370	380										
	<i>Percent</i>												
<u>Percent</u>													
2003/5-year	80	76	74										
2003/2002 .	88	83	84										

¹ Years: 1998-2002.

² Revised.



Monthly Taro for Poi Millings
State of Hawaii
2001, 2002, and 5-year averages



.....