



USDA, NASS, Hawaii Field Office

In cooperation with:



# Hawaii Taro Millings

May 16, 2006

## Taro for poi production above year ago

The USDA, NASS, Hawaii Field Office estimates taro for poi production at 1.1 million pounds for the first quarter of 2006, up 11 percent from the first quarter of a year ago, but 7 percent lower than the fourth quarter of 2005.

The first quarter of 2006 began with two consecutive months of declining taro for poi millings. In January 2006, taro millers used 390,000 pounds of taro, down 10 percent from December 2005. Taro for poi millings dropped 5 percent in February to 370,000 pounds. March, however, saw a 1 percent increase in taro for poi millings to

375,000 pounds.

Weather conditions, during the first quarter of 2006, began drier than normal, but quickly turned very wet. Heavy rains started to saturate parts of the State by the second half of January. The northern islands recorded heavy rainfall during February, with record rainfall and flooding affecting most of the State during March. The record rainfall during the second half of the first quarter resulted in numerous floodings. Heavy rains and flash flooding began on February 21 over Kauai and Oahu and continued throughout the month of March. ■

Monthly Taro for Poi Millings, State of Hawaii, 5-year average, 2005, and 2006.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>												
5-year average <sup>1</sup> .....	418	399	422	391	398	408	436	453	441	452	429	462	5,110
2005 .....	335	330	355	290	290	305	320	395	360	400	385	435	4,200
<b>2006</b> <sup>2</sup> .....	<b>390</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>375</b>										
<u>Percent changes:</u>	<i>Percent</i>												
2006/5-year .....	93	93	89										
2006/2005.....	116	112	106										

<sup>1</sup> Years: 2001-2005.

<sup>2</sup> Revised.

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## Monthly Taro for Poi Millings State of Hawaii: 2005, 2006, and 5-year averages

