



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Taro Millings

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Taro for poi millings show second quarter gain

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics estimates poi millers utilized 1.2 million pounds of taro during the second quarter of 2004, up 4 percent from the previous quarter and 30 percent higher than a year ago. The second quarter started with 410,000 pounds of taro harvested for poi in April. Production decreased 5 percent in May to 390,000 pounds before rebounding to 430,000 pounds of taro for poi in June. June's total was also the highest monthly total for 2004.

Production for the first half of 2004 totaled 2.4 million pounds, up 16 percent from the 2.1 million pounds produced during the first six months of 2003.

April is the final month in Hawaii's wet season and weather conditions held true to form as four shear lines passed through the State. As a result, many areas of the State received above normal rainfall.

Hardest hit during the month was the Big Island which experienced 14 to 21 inches of rain over a 3-day period starting on April 10th. Weather conditions remained relatively wet in May as most areas continued to receive above normal amount of rain. However, showers were less frequent compared to April and most crops made improved growth. June brought the advent of more summer-like weather as temperatures warmed and showers decreased. This shift in weather from the rainy season to the drier season resulted in a general improvement in crop conditions.■

Monthly Taro for Poi Millings, State of Hawaii, 5-year average, 2003, and 2004.

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
<i>1,000 Pounds</i>													
5-year average ¹	486	471	495	451	473	476	498	517	497	502	480	503	5,850
2003	404	362	365	326	306	317	386	395	413	469	456	501	4,700
2004	390	370	420	410	390	430							
<i>Percent</i>													
<u>Percent changes:</u>													
2004/5-year	80	78	85	91	82	90							
2004/2003	97	102	115	126	127	136							

¹ Years: 1999-2003.

Monthly Taro for Poi Millings
State of Hawaii
2003, 2004, and 5-year Averages

