



USDA, NASS, Hawaii Field Office

In cooperation with:



Department of Agriculture

STATE OF HAWAII

Agricultural Development Division

Hawaii Taro Millings

February 14, 2007

2006 Taro for poi production 5 percent above year ago

The USDA, NASS, Hawaii Field Office estimates taro for poi production at 1.2 million pounds for the fourth quarter of 2006. This was 2 percent below the fourth quarter of a year ago but 5 percent above the third quarter of 2006.

In the fourth quarter, taro millers used 405,000 pounds of taro in October, 5 percent more than in September 2006. Taro for poi millings then dipped 4 percent in November to 390,000 pounds. The amount of taro used for poi milling then increased 1 percent in December to 395,000 pounds.

Taro for poi production totaled 4.4 million pounds in 2006, an increase of 5 percent from 2005.

Weather conditions, during the fourth quarter of 2006, were mixed. Intermittent moderate to heavy rains occurred during the first part of the last quarter. Drier conditions prevailed during the remainder of the quarter. Heavy rains and thunderstorms occurred during mid-October producing some localized flooding. Rainfall was the heaviest over Maui, with Oahu also receiving ample precipitation. Most of the rains which fell on the island of Hawaii fell in the southern half of the island, including the Kona area. Unstable weather conditions produced moderate to heavy rains throughout most of the State during early November, with drier conditions prevailing over the second half of the month. The month of December was mostly dry as stable weather conditions suppressed any significant

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 ¹	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
2006 ²	380	365	365	300	355	315	350	395	385	405	390	395	4,400
<u>Percent changes:</u>	<i>Percent</i>												
2006/5-year	91	91	86	77	89	77	80	87	87	90	91	85	
2006/2005.....	113	111	103	103	122	103	109	100	107	101	101	91	

¹ Years: 2001-2005.

² Revised.

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

