

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Vegetables

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April 2003

Harvested acreage expected to decline in coming months

Variable weather conditions were generally fair for crop development during March. The National Weather Service reports that March was largely absent of trade winds which allowed local land and sea breezes to dominate. Most of March's rains fell on the northern and central islands with the most significant rain episode occurring at the end of the month when a Kona low dumped heavy showers on west-facing sides of the islands. Hardest hit was Kauai where minor flooding was reported. Although farming activities were slowed, no agricultural losses were reported. At the other end of the island chain, Hawaii island experienced the third driest March on record. Crops dependent on natural rainfall were being stressed in some areas of the Big Island.

Most of the selected vegetables will show a decrease in harvested acreage during March. Double-digit percentage declines in harvested acreage are expected for **head cabbage** (-14%), **head lettuce** (-17%), **dry onions** (-10%), and **romaine** (-14%).

In May, harvested acreage will decline further for many of the cool-weather crops such as **Chinese cabbage** (-30%), **head cabbage** (-14%), **head lettuce** (-60%), and **romaine** (-33%). **Mustard cabbage** (-25%) and **dry onions** (-39%) are two other vegetables expected to show a double-digit percentage decline next month.

Harvested acreage charts page 2 Year-ago, month-ago, current,

Year-ago, month-ago, curre and upcoming harvested acreage.

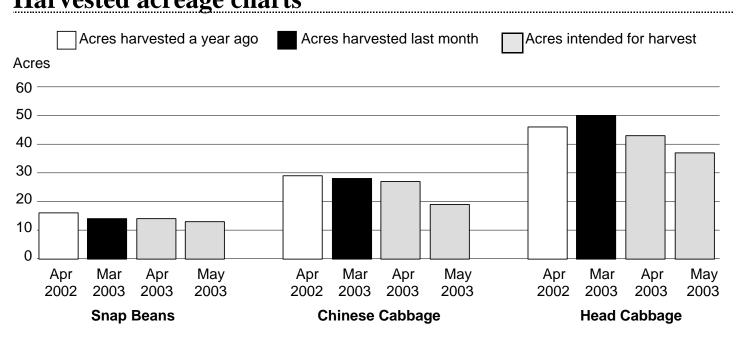
April review page 3 Production statistics and

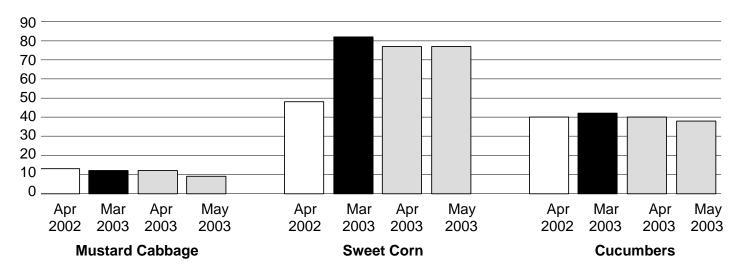
Production statistics and comments on selected crops.

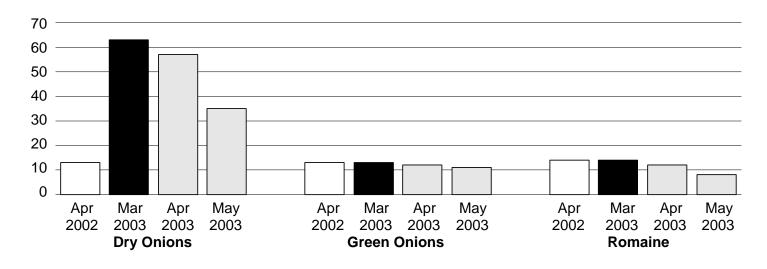
Acreage Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
Crop	Feb 2003	Mar 2003	Feb 2003	Mar 2003	Apr 2003	May 2003
Beans, snap	14	13	17	14	14	13
Cabbage, Chinese	31	27	33	28	27	19
Cabbage, head	43	41	48	50	43	37
Cabbage, mustard	12	12	10	12	12	9
Corn, sweet	75	83	69	82	77	77
Cucumbers	37	38	40	42	40	38
Lettuce, head	5	5	8	6	5	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	37	25	17	63	57	35
Onions, green	13	11	14	13	12	11
Romaine	15	11	12	14	12	8

Harvested acreage charts







Output Lower Than Expected For Dry Onions And Sweet Corn

SNAP BEAN production is estimated at 62,000 pounds, down 5 percent from February. Crop conditions were fair as dry weather in some areas and wet weather in other areas adversely affected plantings.

CHINESE CABBAGE production is estimated at 580,000 pounds for March, down 1 percent from March. Crop conditions were fair to good. Longer daylight hours are expected to boost crop progress.

HEAD CABBAGE production totaled 1.2 million pounds in March, down 12 percent from February. Growing conditions continued to be favorable for the crop. Insect and disease damage was light.

CUCUMBER production is estimated at 372,000 pounds, down slight from last month but down 13 percent from a year ago. Cloudy skies and dry weather in some areas slowed crop progress.

SWEET CORN production is estimated at 169,000 pounds for March, down 16 percent from last month. March's

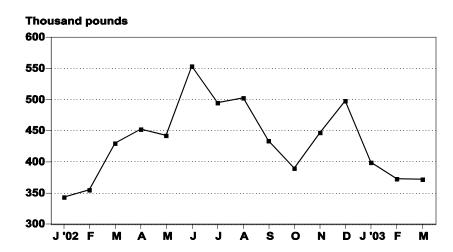
production was lower than expected due to poor germination in some Oahu plantings.

GREEN ONION production 116,000 totaled pounds in March, unchanged from February. Crop conditions were fair although market conditions were slow.

DRY ONION production totaled 255,000 totaled pounds in March, more than double February's 120,000 pounds.

TOMATO production totaled 1.4 million pounds in March, up 2 percent from February. Plantings were in mostly good condition.O

Hawaii Cucumbers: Monthly production, 2002 - 2003



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, March 2003, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Apr 1 st	March 2003				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2002 ^{2/}	2003	Change
			1,000 lbs		Cents per lb.	1,000 lbs		Percent
Beans, snap	28	14	4.4	62	105.5	188	187	-1
Cabbage, Chinese	47	28	20.7	580	18.4	1,867	1,805	-3
Cabbage, head	87	50	23.2	1,160	19.5	3,166	3,774	19
Cabbage, mustard	17	12	8.6	103	51.3	412	327	-21
Corn, sweet	174	82	2.1	169	37.9	473	421	-11
Cucumbers	63	42	8.9	372	47.1	1,129	1,144	1
Lettuce, head	7	6	11.7	70	48.8	200	195	-3
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	8.3	33	79.2	91	81	-11
Onions, dry	152	63	4.0	255	110.1	365	555	52
Onions, green	28	13	8.9	116	87.3	303	347	15
Peppers, green	3/	19	14.1	267	63.4	783	776	-1
Romaine	19	14	12.1	169	38.8	536	492	-8
Tomatoes	3/	70	19.7	1,382	60.1	4,349	4,137	-5

^{1/} Total sales divided by acres harvested. ^{2/} Revised. ^{3/} Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.