



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Vegetables

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May 2004

Wet season ends with more rain

Hawaii's wet season stayed true to form as the season ended with showery weather in April. Four shear lines passed through the island chain during the month, all bringing light-to-moderate showers. The most significant of these shear lines swept through the State from April 9-12. This particular shear line stalled over the Big Island on April 10, drenching the island with very heavy showers. Over a 3-day period, parts of the Big Island experienced 14 to over 21 inches of rain. Flooding and standing water was evident in many low-lying fields. April's showers slowed fieldwork in many areas although losses were relatively light. Crop progress was also slowed by the cloudy skies and inconsistent temperatures.

Changes in harvested acreage will be mixed in May. Decreases in harvested acreage are expected for **snap beans** (-32%), **Chinese cabbage** (-32%), **mustard cabbages** (-35%), **head lettuce** (-17%), **dry onions** (-83%), and **romaine** (-25%). Increases in harvested acreage will be led by a doubling of **semi-head (Manoa) lettuce** to 4 acres. Other crops anticipated to show an increase in harvested acreage during May are **head cabbage** (+9%), **sweet corn** (+13%), **cucumbers** (+3%), and **green onions** (+22%)

Most vegetable crops are expected to show a decrease in harvested acreage for June. The only exception is **dry onions** which is forecast to show a 300 percent increase to 36 acres.

Harvested acreage charts page 2

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

April review page 3

Production statistics and comments on selected crops.

U.S. per capita vegetable consumption page 4

Overall consumption expected to rise 1 percent.



Acreage

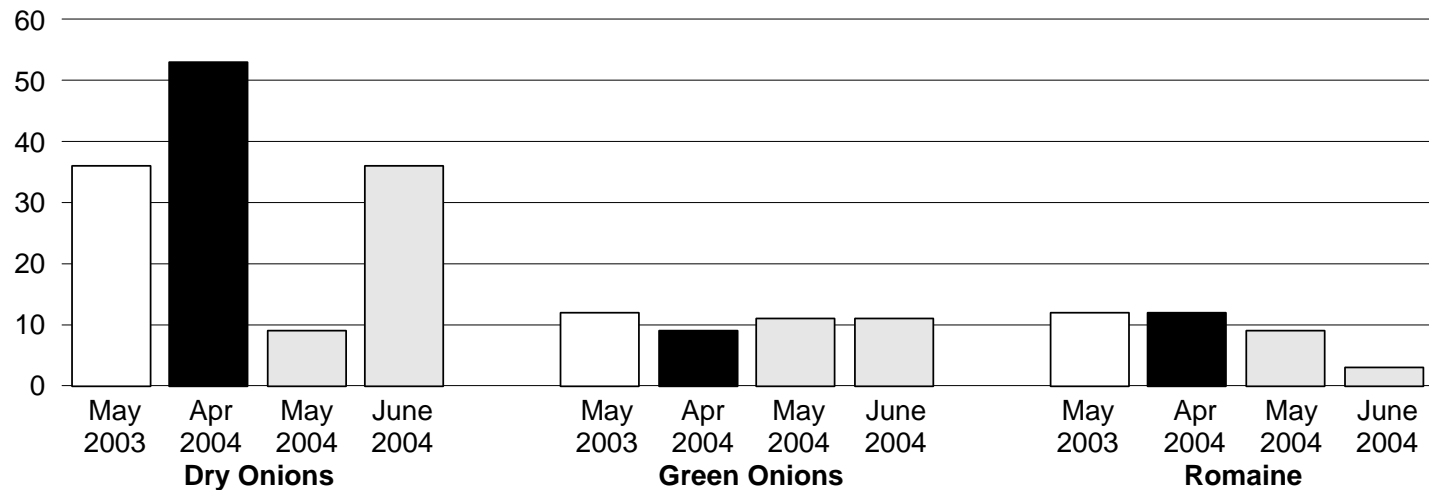
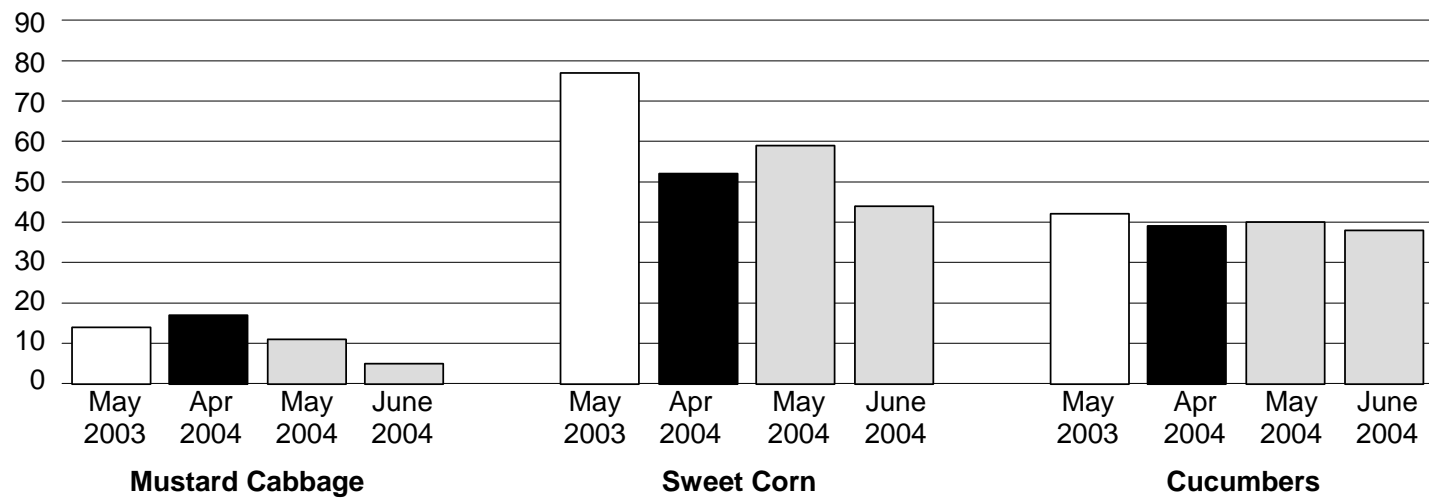
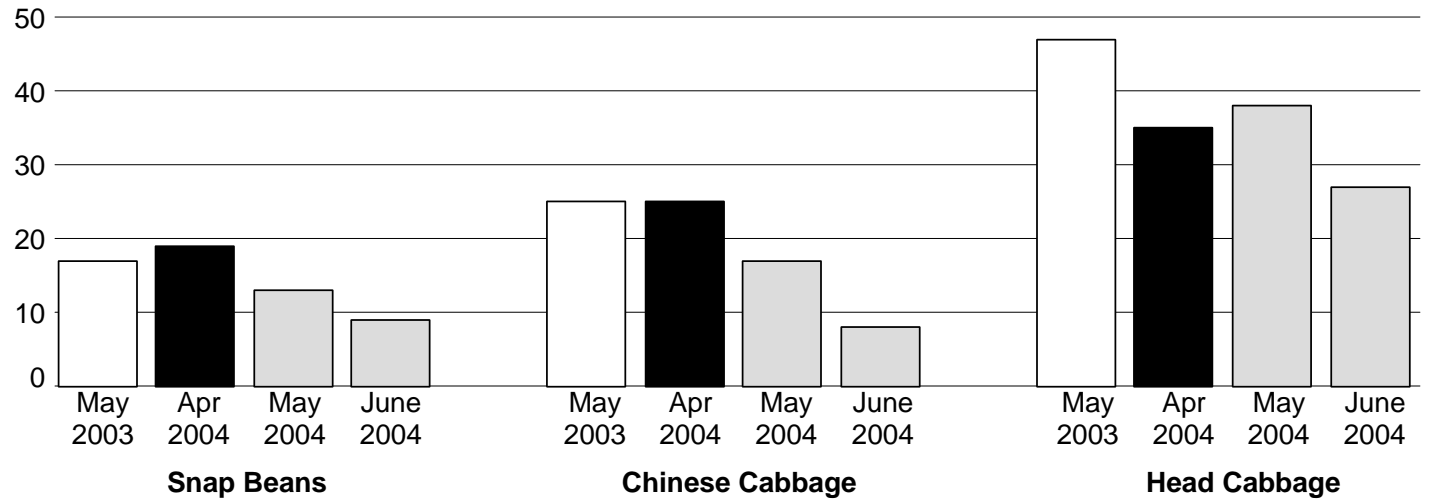
Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Mar 2004	Apr 2004	Mar 2004	Apr 2004	May 2004	Jun 2004
Beans, snap	13	10	13	19	13	9
Cabbage, Chinese	22	16	20	25	17	8
Cabbage, head	37	30	28	35	38	27
Cabbage, mustard	12	11	17	17	11	5
Corn, sweet	53	49	51	52	59	44
Cucumbers	39	38	39	39	40	38
Lettuce, head	6	5	5	6	5	2
Lettuce, semi-head	2	4	2	2	4	4
Onions, dry	5	13	9	53	9	36
Onions, green	10	12	8	9	11	11
Romaine	9	8	14	12	9	3

Harvested acreage charts

Acres harvested a year ago
 Acres harvested last month
 Acres intended for harvest

Acres



April review

Production increases for most vegetables

CHINESE CABBAGE production is estimated at 390,000 pounds for April, down 15 percent from the previous month and down 41 percent from a year ago. Heavy showers and flooding in March adversely affected production in April as crops made spotty growth and disease was a problem in some fields.

HEAD CABBAGE production totaled 879,000 pounds in April, up 51 percent from March but down 22 percent from a year ago. Most of the increase in production occurred on Oahu where some areas produced good-sized heads.

SWEET CORN production is estimated at 125,000 pounds, up 37 percent from last month but down 55 percent from a year ago. Crop conditions have improved due to warmer temperatures and longer daylight hours.

CUCUMBER production is estimated at 395,000 pounds for April, up 32 percent from last month but down 1

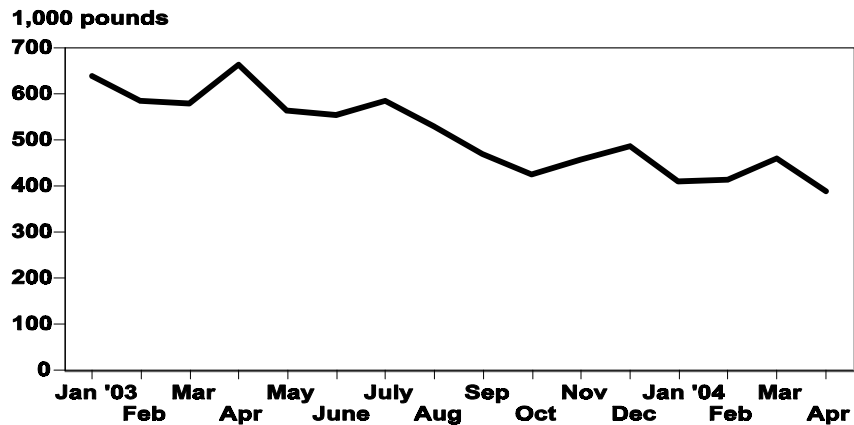
percent from a year ago. Improved weather conditions are responsible for the boost in yields. Production is expected to increase in the coming weeks as harvesting recovers to previous levels.

DRY ONION production is pegged at 165,000 pounds for April, more than triple the 50,000 pounds produced in March. Diminished rainfall in the major growing areas and increased

sunlight contributed to improved growing conditions.

TOMATO production is estimated at 1.4 million pounds in April, up 78 percent from last month but down 3 percent from a year ago. Improved weather conditions greatly aided crop growth during April. Overall, crop conditions were fair to good with favorable flower and fruit sets.

**Hawaii Chinese Cabbage:
Monthly Production, 2003 - 2004**



Acres, average yield, sales, and average farm price, April 2004, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on May 1 st	April 2004				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2003 ^{2/}	2004	Change
				----- 1,000 lbs. -----	Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs -----		Percent
Beans, snap	22	19	4.1	77	111.7	279	240	-14
Cabbage, Chinese	26	25	15.6	390	29.4	2,469	1,675	-32
Cabbage, head	67	35	25.1	879	26.0	5,192	2,586	-50
Cabbage, mustard	15	17	9.7	165	57.1	453	467	3
Corn, sweet	124	52	2.4	125	54.3	697	416	-40
Cucumbers	64	39	10.1	395	53.1	1,544	1,225	-21
Lettuce, head	7	6	10.0	60	55.0	260	241	-7
Lettuce, semi-head	8	2	12.0	24	72.4	124	73	-41
Onions, dry	59	53	3.1	165	130.2	1,097	287	-74
Onions, green	27	9	11.1	100	103.6	468	315	-33
Peppers, green	^{3/}	20	12.1	242	101.3	1,041	983	-6
Romaine	13	12	10.0	120	45.9	673	460	-32
Tomatoes	^{3/}	60	23.7	1,424	64.9	5,605	4,330	-23

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

U.S. Per Capita Vegetable Consumption

Vegetable Consumption Expected To Rise in 2004

Per capita vegetable use (consumption) is forecast to increase about 1 percent in 2004 to 449 pounds (fresh-weight basis). Increased use is expected for fresh market vegetables, melons, and canning vegetables, with declining use expected for potatoes and sweet potatoes. Assuming continued favorable weather into the fall and a strengthening economy, consumption of several fresh-market vegetables could reach record-highs in 2004. Fresh-market tomato production is expected to recover from the weather-reduced levels of 2003 and help push domestic tomato use above the 2002 record-high of 18.2 pounds per person. Similarly, increased acreage could push onion production higher in 2004, which could allow use of fresh dry-bulb onions to exceed the 1997 record high.

According to preliminary estimates for 2003, per capita use of fresh-market vegetables (excluding melons, potatoes, and mushrooms) remained virtually unchanged at 144.3 pounds. Including melons, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms, fresh-market vegetable consumption totaled 225.3 pounds - up 1 percent from a year earlier.

Disappearance (use) of vegetables for freezing (excluding potatoes) increased 4 percent to 6.4 billion pounds (23.2 billion including potatoes) in 2003. On a per capita use basis, freezing vegetables (excluding potatoes) increased 3 percent to 22.1 pounds last year. Per capita use of canning vegetables (excluding potatoes) declined fractionally to 97.0 pounds.

U.S. Fresh-market vegetables, per capita use

Item	Average			
	1997-2001	2002	2003	2004 ¹
	--Pounds/person--			
Asparagus	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.1
Snap beans	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.1
Broccoli	5.7	5.3	5.7	5.8
Cabbage	8.6	8.5	7.7	8.1
Carrots	11.8	9.5	10.9	10.7
Cauliflower	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.3
Celery	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4
Sweet corn	9.0	9.2	9.8	9.9
Cucumbers	6.5	6.7	6.3	6.5
Garlic	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
All lettuce	30.9	32.5	30.7	31.3
Head lettuce	23.3	22.7	21.1	21.6
Other lettuce	7.6	9.8	9.6	9.7
Onions 1/	18.4	18.6	18.7	19.0
Bell pepper	6.6	6.8	6.8	7.0
Spinach	1.2	1.7	1.9	1.9
Tomatoes 2/	17.4	18.2	17.3	18.7
Others 3/	9.4	13.7	14.0	13.9
All fresh	138.9	144.5	144.3	147.5

¹ = ERS forecast. 1/ Fresh dry bulb. 2/ Excludes domestic hot-house tomatoes. 3/ Excludes melons, potatoes, and mushrooms. After 1999, also includes leafy greens, okra, and pumpkins.

Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.