

In cooperation with:



# Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

August 15, 2006

## MODERATE, DRY TRADE WINDS DOMINATE MUCH OF JULY

Harvested acreage charts.....page 2 Year-ago, month-ago, and upcoming harvested acreage.

July
Review.....page 3
Production statistics and comments on selected crops.

Moderate trade winds persisted for much of the month of July. This continued the stabe dry conditions which existed since June around the State. Conditions were momentarily destabilized around July 19 and 20 from the remnants of former Tropical Depression Bud and July 28 from the remnants of former Hurricane Daniel, which brought an increase in showers along windward slopes of the islands. A strong upper level low pressure system also produced some heavy showers over the northern islands on July 30 and 31

Conditions on Kauai were dry as rainfall totals were mostly below normal, except for July 30 and 31. On Oahu, rainfall totals were below normal for all locations. Water usage from the Waimanalo Reservoir continued under the 30% restriction. Rainfall amounts on Maui were below normal for all areas, especially for leeward sectors. Rainfall totals for the Big Island were mixed as most northern and eastern sectors received near-normal to above-normal rainfall, while most leeward sectors received below-normal precipitation. Statewide, vegetable and melon crops made fair progress.

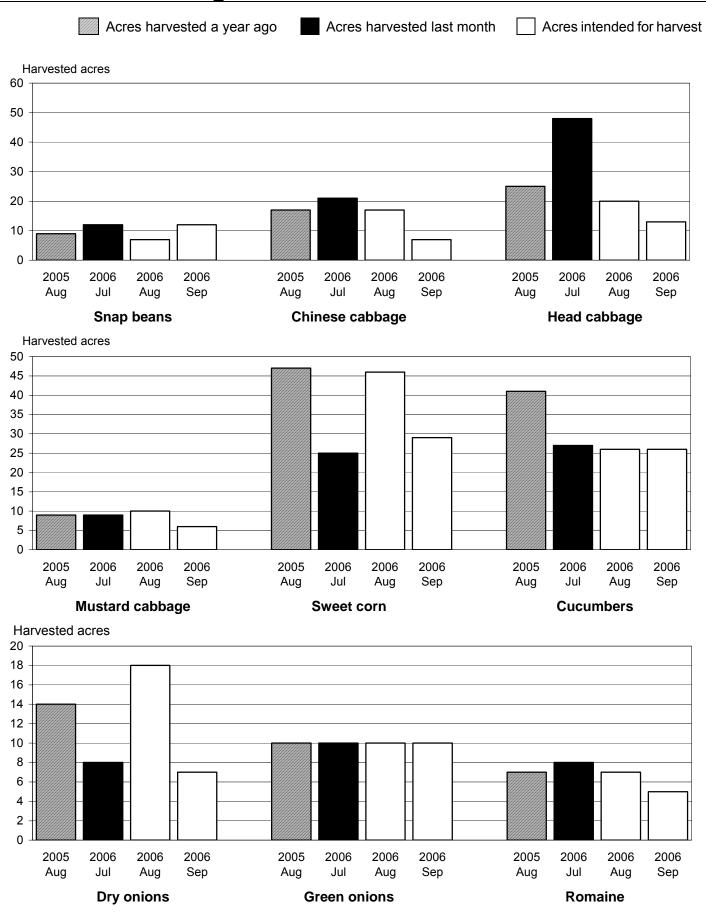
Expected vegetable acres for harvest in August when compared with the acres harvested in July were mixed. Increases in the expected acres for harvest are anticipated for **mustard cabbage** (11%), **sweet corn** (84%), **head lettuce** (25%), and **dry onions** (125%). Decreases in harvested acreage are expected for **snap beans** (-42%), **Chinese cabbage** (-19%), **head cabbage** (-58%), **cucumbers** (-4%), and **romaine** (-13%). Acreage for harvest for **semi-head lettuce** and **green onions** are expected to remain

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

|                    | Acres planted |             | Acres harvested |             | Acres for harvest |             |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Crop               | Jun<br>2006   | Jul<br>2006 | Jun<br>2006     | Jul<br>2006 | Aug<br>2006       | Sep<br>2006 |
| Beans, snap        | 10            | 9           | 8               | 12          | 7                 | 12          |
| Cabbage, Chinese   | 18            | 13          | 27              | 21          | 17                | 7           |
| Cabbage, head      | 21            | 16          | 40              | 48          | 20                | 13          |
| Cabbage, mustard   | 8             | 8           | 13              | 9           | 10                | 6           |
| Corn, sweet        | 41            | 24          | 33              | 25          | 46                | 29          |
| Cucumbers          | 23            | 24          | 27              | 27          | 26                | 26          |
| Lettuce, head      | 5             | 5           | 5               | 4           | 5                 | 2           |
| Lettuce, semi-head | 5             | 5           | 5               | 5           | 5                 | 5           |
| Onions, dry        | 7             | 8           | 22              | 8           | 18                | 7           |
| Onions, green      | 10            | 10          | 7               | 10          | 10                | 10          |
| Romaine            | 7             | 6           | 8               | 8           | 7                 | 3           |

Mark E. Hudson, Director Steve Gunn, Deputy Director Nils Morita, Research Statistician

## Harvested acreage charts



#### **Head Cabbage Production Higher In Spite of Lower Yields**

Chinese cabbage producers produced 401,000 pounds in July, 15 percent above a year ago, but 21 percent below June 2006. Much of the change in production was related to the changes in the amount of acreage available for harvest. Steady irrigation maintained crops in fair to good condition. The hot, dry weather contributed to an increase in insect and disease incidences.

Head cabbage growers produced an estimated 950,000 pounds in July, an increase of 48 percent and 5 percent from July 2005 and June 2006, respectively. The increase in production was the direct result of the increase in acreage for harvest, since yields had declined during this same time period. The warm, dry weather had contributed to an increase in insect infestation and the resultant smaller head sizes for harvest. Heavy irrigation was necessary to help maintain the crop in fair condition.

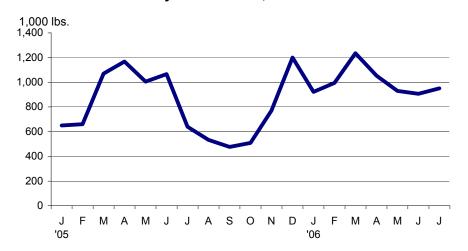
**Cucumber** production totaled 546,000 pounds in July, 8 percent below a year ago. This decrease in

production was the result of the decline in acreage for harvest as yields were above a year ago levels. The warm, dry weather condition kept the cucumber crop in fair to good condition.

**Tomato** production is estimated at 1.6 million pounds for July, an increase from both a year ago and previous month. The majority of the

tomato fields which were affected by the adverse weather conditions earlier in the year are no longer in the ground. As a result, yields obtained from these new fields were above previous months. Crop conditions were rated in fair to good condition from these new fields.

#### Hawaii Head Cabbage Monthly Production, 2005 – 2006



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, July 2006, State of Hawaii.

| Crop               | Total acres<br>on<br>Aug. 1 | July 2006          |                                |                |                    | January-to-date sales |       |         |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------|---------|
|                    |                             | Acres<br>harvested | Average<br>yield <sup>1/</sup> | Total<br>sales | Average farm price | 2005 <sup>2/</sup>    | 2006  | Change  |
|                    | _                           |                    | 1,000 lbs                      |                | Cents per lb.      | 1,000 lbs             |       | Percent |
| Beans, snap        | 18                          | 12                 | 7.5                            | 90             | 103.3              | 390                   | 432   | 11      |
| Cabbage, Chinese   | 22                          | 21                 | 19.1                           | 401            | 28.2               | 3,484                 | 3,833 | 10      |
| Cabbage, head      | 34                          | 48                 | 19.8                           | 950            | 26.6               | 6,259                 | 6,991 | 12      |
| Cabbage, mustard   | 13                          | 9                  | 11.8                           | 106            | 59.4               | 816                   | 828   | 1       |
| Corn, sweet        | 73                          | 25                 | 5.7                            | 142            | 69.0               | 851                   | 748   | -12     |
| Cucumbers          | 49                          | 27                 | 20.2                           | 546            | 41.8               | 2,991                 | 3,036 | 2       |
| Lettuce, head      | 7                           | 4                  | 17.5                           | 70             | 58.5               | 415                   | 467   | 13      |
| Lettuce, semi-head | 8                           | 5                  | 6.4                            | 32             | 88.7               | 198                   | 246   | 24      |
| Onions, dry        | 40                          | 8                  | 18.8                           | 150            | 125.8              | 1,438                 | 893   | -38     |
| Onions, green      | 22                          | 10                 | 11.8                           | 118            | 92.7               | 668                   | 769   | 15      |
| Peppers, green     | 3/                          | 21                 | 13.1                           | 276            | 63.0               | 1,761                 | 1,799 | 2       |
| Romaine            | 10                          | 8                  | 13.8                           | 110            | 61.8               | 1,001                 | 810   | -19     |
| Tomatoes           | 3/                          | 58                 | 28.2                           | 1,636          | 62.7               | 7,867                 | 8,165 | 4       |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1/</sup> Total sales divided by acres harvested. <sup>2/</sup> Revised. <sup>3/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

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