

In cooperation with:



Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

September 20, 2006

MODERATE TRADE WINDS DURING AUGUST

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

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Production statistics and comments on selected crops.

Moderate trade winds prevailed throughout much of the month of August. Continuing the mostly dry stable conditions, which the State has experience since June. Although dry conditions enveloped much of the State, generally wet conditions had embraced the island of Kauai.

Conditions on Kauai were wet. Above-normal rainfall totals resulting from several unstable low pressure weather systems influenced the island's weather during the earlier and later part of August. 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 also at below-normal levels. Statewide, vegetable and melon crops made fair progress.

Expected vegetable acres for harvest in September when compared with the acres harvested in August were mixed. Increases in the expected acres for harvest are anticipated for **snap beans** (14%), **head cabbage** (16%), **sweet corn** (18%), **cucumbers** (4%), **head lettuce** (40%), and **romaine** (29%). Decreases in harvested acreage are expected for **Chinese cabbage** (-24%), **mustard cabbage** (-10%), **dry onions** (-55%), and **green onions** (-9%). Acreage for harvest for **semi-head lettuce** is expected to remain unchanged.

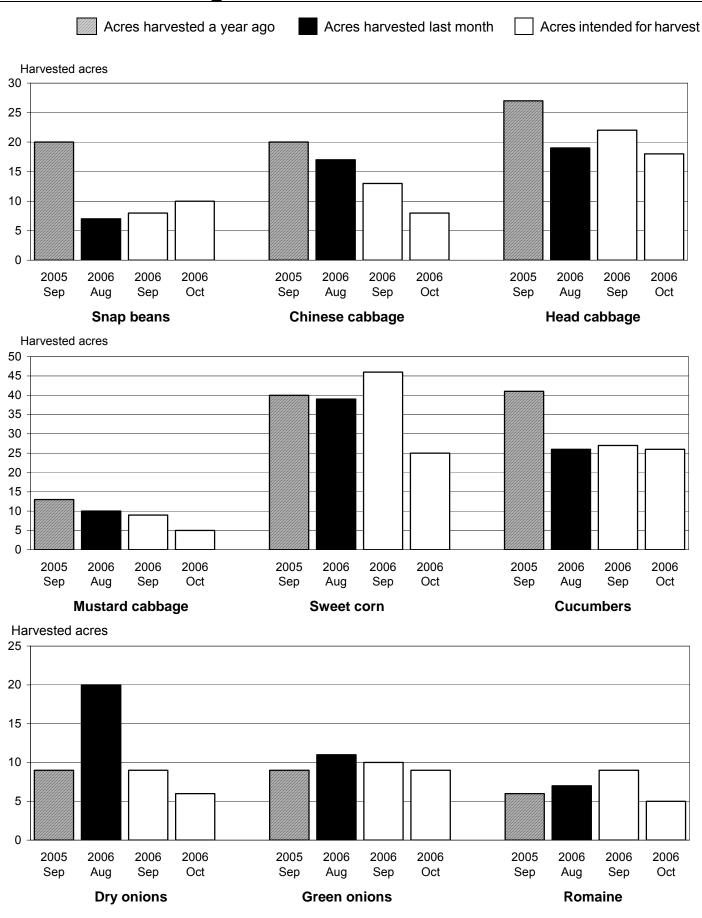
Acreage

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

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Jul 2006	Aug 2006	Jul 2006	Aug 2006	Sep 2006	Oct 2006
Beans, snap	8	10	12	7	8	10
Cabbage, Chinese	16	14	21	17	13	8
Cabbage, head	18	24	47	19	22	18
Cabbage, mustard	9	9	9	10	9	5
Corn, sweet	28	20	25	39	46	25
Cucumbers	24	25	30	26	27	26
Lettuce, head	5	7	4	5	7	3
Lettuce, semi-head	5	4	5	5	5	4
Onions, dry	8	9	8	20	9	6
Onions, green	11	10	10	11	10	9
Romaine	6	9	8	7	9	3

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

Harvested acreage charts



August Review

Chinese cabbage production totaled 400,000 pounds in August, fractionally below July. Improved yields generally offset the decrease in acreage harvested to maintain production virtually unchanged from the previous month. Dry weather conditions in combination with steady irrigation helped to maintain the crop in fair to good condition. Insect and disease incidences were light.

Head cabbage growers produced an estimated 426,000 pounds in August, a decrease of 55 percent and 20 percent from July 2006 and August 2005, respectively. The decrease in production was the direct result of the decrease in acreage for harvest. 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.

Sweet corn producers produced a total of 242,000 pounds in August, an increase of 70 percent from July

Sweet Corn Production Up

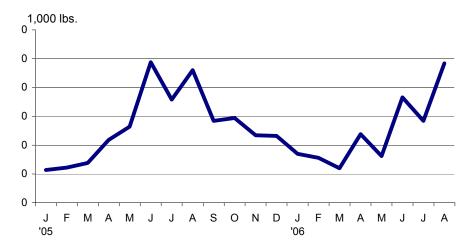
2006. Much of this increase in production was the direct result of the increase in acreage for harvest. The crop was in fair to good condition. Crop progress was good with good ear sizes.

Cucumber production totaled 425,000 pounds in August, 22 percent below a month ago. This decrease in production was the

result of less acreage for harvest and a lower yield from July. The very warm temperatures during August contributed to this decline in yield.

Tomato production is estimated at 1.4 million pounds for August, a 12 percent decrease from a year ago. The decrease in production was the result of a decline in average yield. Crop conditions were rated in fair to good condition.■

Hawaii Sweet Corn Monthly Production, 2005 – 2006



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

Crop	Total acres on Sep. 1	August 2006				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2005 ^{2/}	2006	Change
	-		1,000 lbs		Cents per lb.	1,000 lbs		Percent
Beans, snap	18	7	5.1	36	87.9	445	468	5
Cabbage, Chinese	22	17	23.5	400	30.8	3,861	4,233	10
Cabbage, head	40	19	22.4	426	32.9	6,792	7,417	9
Cabbage, mustard	12	10	10.7	107	62.0	929	935	1
Corn, sweet	67	39	6.2	242	73.4	1,081	990	-8
Cucumbers	50	26	16.3	425	48.4	3,525	3,461	-2
Lettuce, head	9	5	14.0	70	58.5	475	537	13
Lettuce, semi-head	8	5	5.8	29	95.1	217	275	27
Onions, dry	31	20	12.3	245	112.5	1,708	1,138	-33
Onions, green	21	11	11.7	129	91.6	770	898	17
Peppers, green	3/	22	11.5	253	60.6	2,002	2,052	2
Romaine	11	7	16.0	112	61.8	1,121	922	-18
Tomatoes	3/	57	25.2	1,438	63.4	9,171	9,603	5

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