

# Hawaii Vegetables

Mark E. Hudson, Director

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## Rainfall picks up significantly

### Harvested acreage charts ..... page 2

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

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Production statistics and  
comments on selected crops.

### California fall season acreage ..... page 4

Fall season (Oct.-Dec.) acreage  
for selected California vegetables  
and melons.

Following a relatively dry August, rainfall increased significantly in most parts of the State during September. Three episodes of heavy rain accounted for most of September's wet weather. The first heavy rain event occurred from September 13 through 15 and primarily affected the north- and east-facing areas of Kauai, Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii islands. The heavy showers inundated low-lying areas and caused Kauai's Hanalei River to overflow its banks. On September 22 and 23 another round of heavy showers pelted the State with Oahu Island receiving the bulk of the rain. The final round of heavy rains started on September 30 and extended into October. Hawaii, Maui, and Oahu again received the bulks of the heavy showers. Overall, crop progress and field activities were slowed by the rains, but clearer weather between the showers helped farmers to catch-up on activities, allowed fields to dry-out, and crops to recover.

October will see double-digit percentage declines in harvested acreage for **snap beans** (-40%), **Chinese cabbage** (-10%), **head cabbage** (-15%), and **mustard cabbage** (-38%). Harvested acreage for **cucumbers** will also be down, but only by an acre, or 2 percent. Three vegetable crops are expected to show an increase in harvested acreage in October: **sweet corn** (+20%), **dry onions** (+289%), and **romaine** (+33%). Harvested acreage is forecast to remain unchanged for the remaining vegetables: **semi-head (Manoa) lettuce**, **head lettuce**, and **green onions**.■

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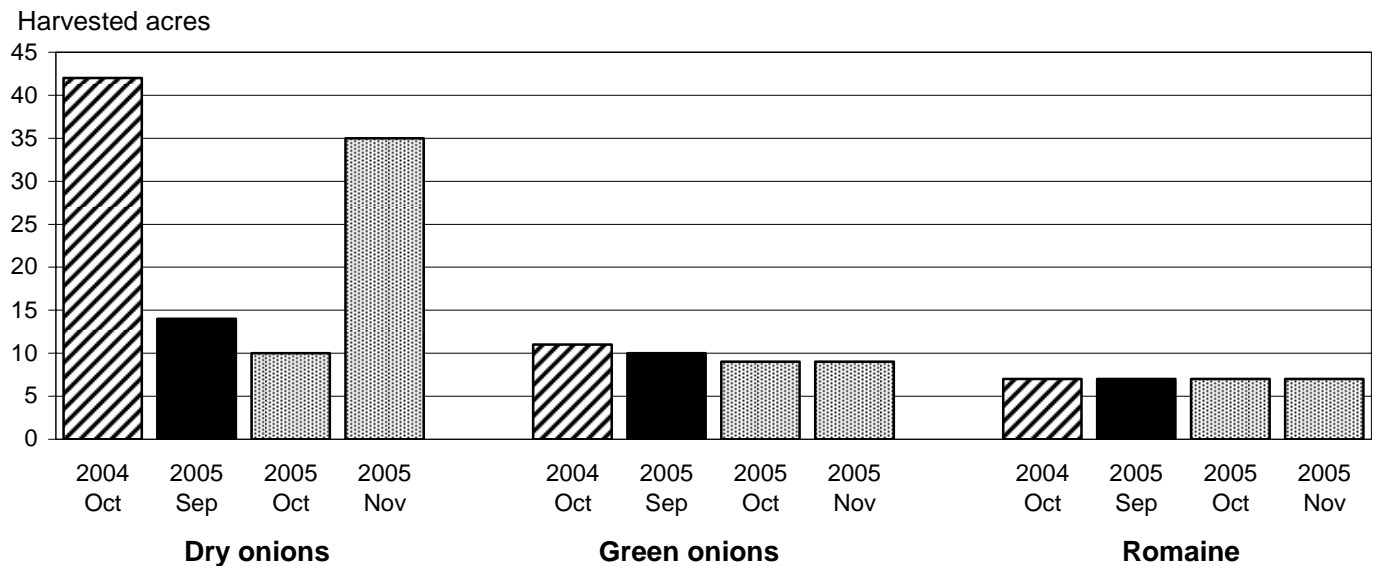
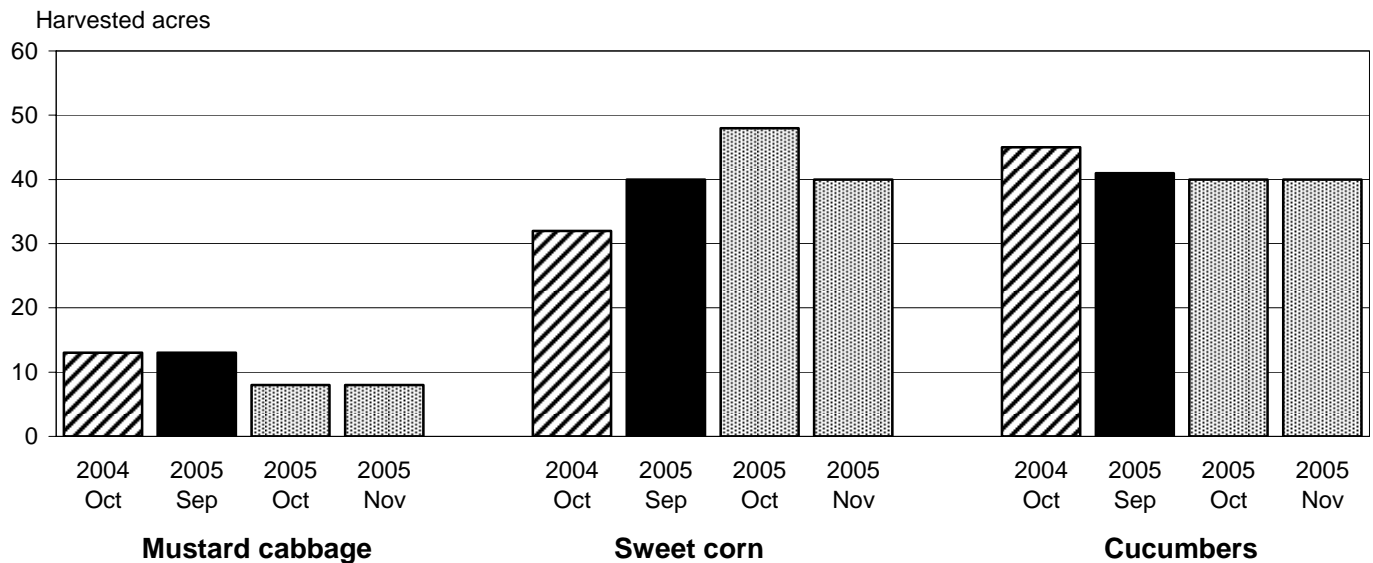
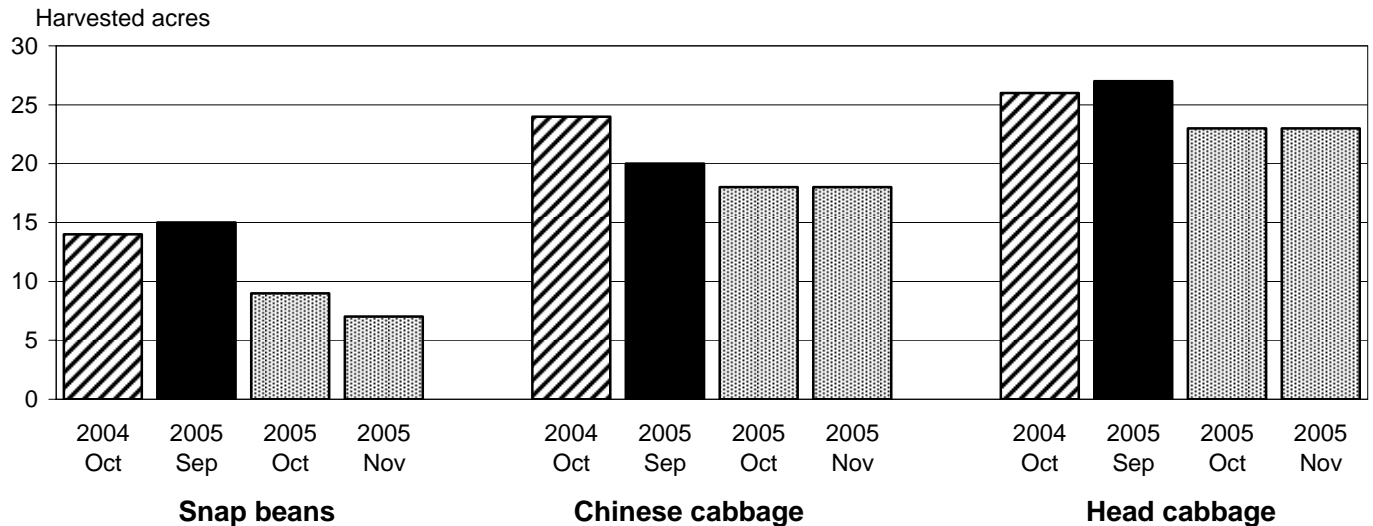
## Acreage

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

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Aug 2005	Sep 2005	Oct 2005	Nov 2005
Beans, snap	13	7	9	15	9	7
Cabbage, Chinese	19	16	17	20	18	6
Cabbage, head	26	32	25	27	23	23
Cabbage, mustard	13	8	9	13	8	4
Corn, sweet	44	38	47	40	48	40
Cucumbers	41	40	41	41	40	40
Lettuce, head	7	7	4	7	7	1
Lettuce, semi-head	5	5	5	5	5	5
Onions, dry	23	12	14	9	35	28
Onions, green	9	10	10	9	9	9
Romaine	7	7	7	6	8	3

# Harvested acreage charts

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



# September Review

## Head Cabbage Production Drops to Lowest Level Since 1962

**SNAP BEANS** production totaled 73,000 pounds in September, up 33 percent from August but down 25 percent from a year ago. Heavy rains and cloudy skies in the major growing areas slowed production during September.

**HEAD CABBAGE** production is estimated at 477,000 pounds in September, down 11 percent from August and lowest monthly output since August 1962. Warm temperatures and insects continued to hamper production.

**SWEET CORN** production is estimated at 142,000 pounds for September, down 38 percent from August, but more than double that of a year ago. Corn fields in leeward areas made fair to good progress while those in windward areas made mostly fair progress due to cloudy skies.

**CUCUMBER** production is estimated at 493,000 pounds for September, down 8 percent from August and down 4 percent from a year ago. Crop conditions varied from fair to good.

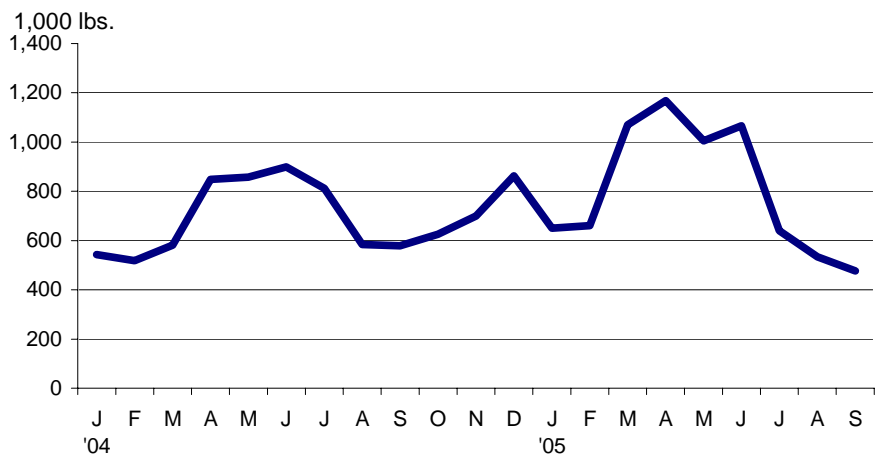
**DRY ONION** production totaled 146,000 pounds in September, down 46 percent from August and down 10 percent from a year ago. Crop conditions varied as weather conditions begin to transition from summer to fall.

**GREEN PEPPER** production is estimated at 227,000 pounds for September, down 6 percent from August and 13 percent below a year

ago. Crop conditions were fair to good with heavy irrigation.

**TOMATO** production is pegged at 1.3 million pounds for September, down 3 percent from August and down 10 percent from a year ago. Greenhouse plantings were in generally good condition with minimal insect damage while field plantings were in fair to good condition.■

**Hawaii Head Cabbage  
Monthly Production, 2004 – 2005**



### Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, September 2005, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Oct 1 <sup>st</sup>	September 2005				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield <sup>1/</sup>	Total sales	Average farm price	2004 <sup>2/</sup>	2005	Change
Beans, snap	16	15	4.9	73	97.1	656	518	- 21
Cabbage, Chinese	25	20	18.0	360	33.6	3,789	4,221	11
Cabbage, head	53	27	17.7	477	28.6	6,222	7,269	17
Cabbage, mustard	11	13	10.8	140	47.2	1,042	1,069	3
Corn, sweet	96	40	3.6	142	57.5	1,068	1,223	15
Cucumbers	72	41	12.0	493	41.8	4,138	4,018	- 3
Lettuce, head	7	7	7.9	55	58.5	588	530	- 10
Lettuce, semi-head	9	5	4.6	23	84.7	264	240	- 9
Onions, dry	100	9	16.2	146	143.9	1,089	1,854	70
Onions, green	23	9	11.9	107	88.8	857	877	1
Peppers, green	<sup>3/</sup>	22	10.3	227	58.8	2,298	2,229	- 3
Romaine	11	6	17.5	105	62.6	1,089	1,226	13
Tomatoes	<sup>3/</sup>	63	20.1	1,268	60.7	11,695	10,439	- 11

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

## California Fall Fresh Market Vegetable and Melon Acreage

**Broccoli:** Conditions have been favorable for this season's broccoli crop. The planting season began under good conditions, but recent hot temperatures have caused some bolting.

**Cantaloupe:** The crop is progressing well with no major insect or disease problems reported.

**Carrots:** Cooler California weather this fall is providing excellent growing conditions for the carrot crop.

**Cauliflower:** California's fall crop development is mostly good with minor quality issues reported such as yellowing, mold spotting, and brown spotting. Weather conditions have been favorable for cauliflower development.

**Celery:** Celery quality was excellent in late summer and early fall with no pest or disease problems reported. Higher fuel prices and hauling food for Hurricane Katrina victims have caused a shortage in trucks to haul celery and other California vegetables to Eastern markets.

**Corn, Sweet:** The crop is in good condition with no insect or disease problems reported.

**Honeydew:** The California crop is progressing well with no major insect or disease problems reported.

**Lettuce, Head:** Planting of the fall season crop in California is ongoing. Development is good in the

**California Fall Season (Oct.-Dec.) Fresh Market Vegetable And Melon Acreage**

Crop	Harvested		For Harvest 2005	2005
	2003	2004		2004
	Acres			Percent
Broccoli <sup>1/</sup>	28,000	30,500	31,600	104
Cantaloupe	3,400	3,300	4,800	145
Carrots	14,500	13,300	16,000	120
Cauliflower <sup>1/</sup>	9,000	9,000	9,600	107
Celery	6,900	6,600	6,500	98
Corn, sweet	5,000	4,900	4,800	98
Honeydew	2,900	2,500	2,400	96
Lettuce, head	31,000	31,000	30,000	97
Tomatoes	8,800	9,600	9,400	98

<sup>1/</sup> Includes fresh market and processing.

San Joaquin Valley, while growing regions along the Central Coast have reported some quality problems.

**Tomatoes:** California growers reported normal conditions during planting. Harvest is ongoing and fungicides are being applied as needed.

Source: *California Vegetable Review*, USDA, National Statistics Service, California Field Office, October 11, 2005.