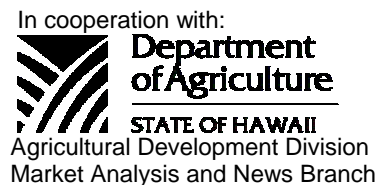




HAWAII PAPAYAS



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MARCH OUTPUT UP FROM LAST YEAR

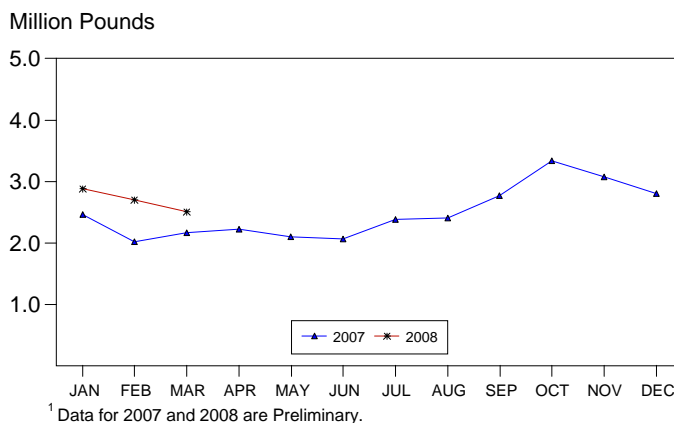
Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 2.5 million pounds for March 2008, down 7 percent from February 2008, but up 7 percent from March 2007. Cumulative sales for the first quarter are estimated at 8.1 million pounds, 18 percent more than the January to March period last year.

Total in crop acreage for March is estimated at 2,020, down 3 percent from a year ago. Harvested area totaled 1,425 acres in March, up 10 percent from March last year.

Weather for March was mostly sunny and dry with some periods of heavier rainfall. Warm conditions were beneficial for fruit development and ripening. Growers were able to catch up on their regular field maintenance schedules. Increased efforts were made to control the aphid population, to limit the spread of the papaya ringspot virus during the warm and dry period.

Hawaii fresh papaya farm price for March is estimated at 50.0 cents per pound, up 16 percent (7.0 cents) from last month and 6 percent (3.0 cents) more than a year ago.

PAPAYA: Fresh Utilization, State of Hawaii, 2007-2008¹



FRESH PAPAYA UTILIZATION, STATE OF HAWAII, 2008 WITH COMPARISONS¹

Month	Sales				Year ago	Year-to-date	
	Local ²	Intrastate	Out-of-State	Total fresh		2007	2008
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>						
February	220	1,190	1,285	2,695	2,015	4,480	5,575
March	217	1,133	1,155	2,505	2,345	6,825	8,080

¹ Data are preliminary for 2007 and 2008.

² On island of production.

PAPAYA ACREAGE, STATE OF HAWAII, 2008 WITH COMPARISONS ¹

County	Total acreage in crop							
	March		June		September		December	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Hawaii.....	1,895	1,820	1,540		1,905		1,860	
Honolulu/Kauai/Maui ²	185	200	195		200		190	
State.....	2,080	2,020	1,735		2,105		2,050	

Total harvested acres ³								
Hawaii.....	1,175	1,300	675		1,240		1,135	
Honolulu/Kauai/Maui ²	120	125	125		135		120	
State.....	1,295	1,425	800		1,375		1,255	

¹ Data are preliminary for 2007 and 2008. ² Kauai and Maui combined with Honolulu to avoid disclosure of individual operations. ³ Bearing acres where papayas were harvested.

FRESH PAPAYA FARM PRICE, STATE OF HAWAII, 2007-2008 ¹

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
	<i>Cents per pound</i>												
2007	38.0	41.0	47.0	48.0	49.0	52.0	47.0	40.0	37.0	37.0	37.0	37.0	
2008	41.0	43.0	50.0										

¹ Data are preliminary for 2007 and 2008.

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