

In cooperation with:



Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

March 22, 2006

Relatively Dry Start to Month Ended Wet

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

February
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Production statistics and

comments on selected crops.

Weather for the month of February began somewhat dry, but conditions became much wetter towards the end of the month. Much of the increase in precipitation occurred over the northwestern islands, with smaller increases occurring over the southern end of the State. The vegetable and melon crops made variable progress. Unstable weather conditions over Kauai and Oahu, during the latter half of February, provided for some heavy showers and thunderstorms, resulting in substantial flooding in some locations. Rainfall amounts on Kauai were above normal for most areas of the island, except for areas to the southwest. On Oahu, rainfall totals were above normal for windward locations, with central and leeward locations being drier. Weather conditions for Maui were nearer normal, resulting in no unusual weather occurrences. The bulk of the rainfall on the Big Island occurred over the windward or eastern end of the island, with the Kona area remaining the driest location on the island.

Changes in the expected acres for harvest for vegetables in March compared with acres harvested in February were mixed. Declines in harvested acreage are expected for **snap beans** (-43%), **head cabbage** (-2%), **mustard cabbage** (-11%), **sweet corn** (-20%), **cucumbers** (-16%), and **head lettuce** (-17%). Increases in harvested acreage are expected for: **chinese cabbage** (+17%), **dry onions** (+200%), **green onions** (+25%), and **romaine** (+25%), while **semi-head lettuce** acreage is expected to remain unchanged.

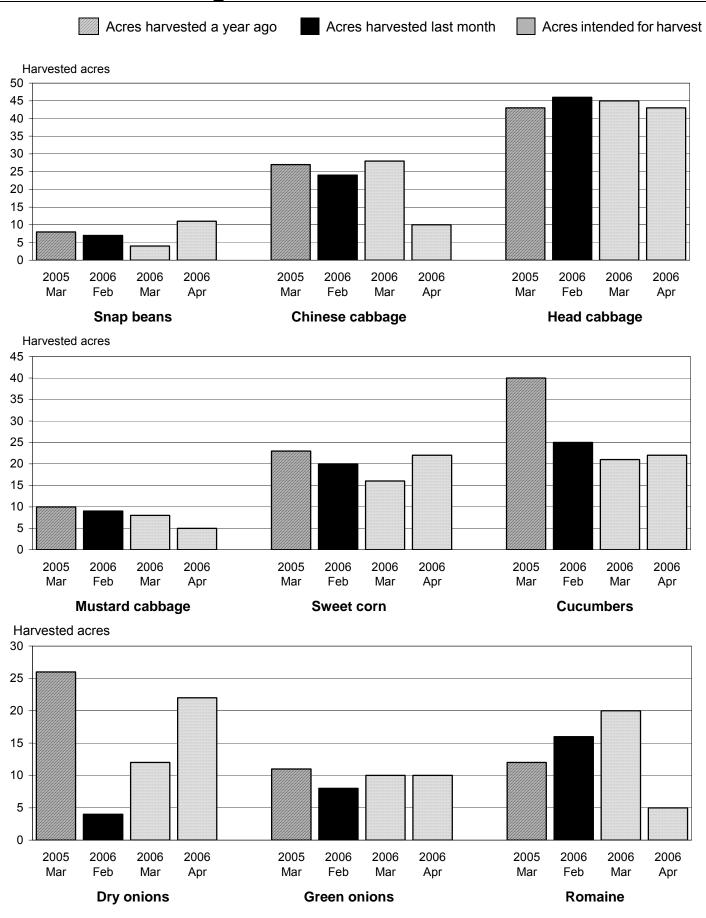
Acreage

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

	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
Crop	Jan 2006	Feb 2006	Jan 2006	Feb 2006	Mar 2006	Apr 2006
Beans, snap	10	12	15	7	4	11
Cabbage, Chinese	23	26	20	24	28	10
Cabbage, head	46	47	49	46	45	43
Cabbage, mustard	8	7	10	9	8	5
Corn, sweet	21	19	16	20	16	22
Cucumbers	28	21	26	25	21	22
Lettuce, head	6	5	4	6	5	7
Lettuce, semi-head	5	5	5	5	5	4
Onions, dry	23	18	7	4	12	22
Onions, green	10	10	11	8	10	10
Romaine	19	10	10	16	20	5

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

Harvested acreage charts



Production Above Year-Ago Levels

Chinese cabbage production totaled 550,000 pounds in February, down 5 percent from both January and a year ago, respectively. An increase in insect infestation along with fewer harvest days combined for the lower production. Sunny days along with cool night time temperatures helped to maintain the crop in fair to good condition.

Head cabbage growers produced an estimated 995,000 pounds for February, 8 percent above January 2006. Cool temperatures helped to maintain the crop in generally good condition.

Cucumber production totaled 455,000 pounds in February, 20 percent and 69 percent above both January 2006 and February 2005, respectively. Plantings were in fair to good condition.

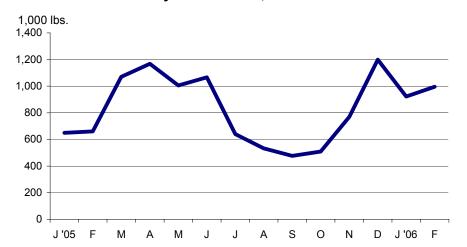
Green peppers production increased to 265,000 pounds, 14 percent and 15 percent above January and a year ago, respectively. Crop condition was in fair to good condition.

Romaine growers produced 139,000 pounds for February, a decrease of 2 percent from January, but a 9-percent increase from a year earlier. The condition of the crop was generally fair to good, with a few fields showing an increase in diseases.

Tomato growers produced 1.2 million pounds for February, a

decrease of 8 percent from January. Cooler temperatures slowed crop progress slightly, but tomato fields were in generally fair to good condition. ■

Hawaii Head Cabbage Monthly Production, 2005 – 2006



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

Crop	Total acres on Mar. 1	February 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	20	7	8.4	59	118.0	62	147	137
Cabbage, Chinese	39	24	22.9	550	26.7	1,087	1,130	4
Cabbage, head	107	46	21.6	995	24.1	1,310	1,917	46
Cabbage, mustard	11	9	14.2	128	53.8	199	270	36
Corn, sweet	50	20	3.9	78	60.6	118	163	38
Cucumbers	41	25	18.2	455	52.1	462	834	81
Lettuce, head	6	6	10.0	60	58.5	95	120	26
Lettuce, semi-head	9	5	8.4	42	92.1	42	94	124
Onions, dry	78	4	15.3	61	173.9	91	101	11
Onions, green	23	8	15.3	122	101.6	142	238	68
Peppers, green	3/	23	11.5	265	74.9	450	498	11
Romaine	22	16	8.7	139	61.3	266	281	6
Tomatoes	3/	77	15.3	1,177	77.1	1,583	2,457	55

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