

Hawaii Vegetables

Mark E. Hudson, Director

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Weather turns dry

Vegetable crops, supplemented by adequate levels of irrigation, made mostly favorable progress under generally sunny skies and light trade winds in May. Rainfall was below normal levels in most crop growing areas of the State with the exception being the higher elevations of windward areas. Particularly dry is the eastern half of the Big Island where the National Weather Service reports that most rainfall sites were in the range of 50 to 80 percent of normal.

The relatively dry weather has resulted in increased reports of insect damage and foraging by wild animals.

Harvested acreage is expected to remain the same, or increase, for a majority of the vegetable crops. Increases in harvested acreage during June are anticipated for **sweet corn** (+34%) and **romaine** (10%). Harvested acreage will remain steady for **snap beans**, **mustard cabbages**, **cucumbers**, and **semi-head (Manoa) lettuce**. Decreases in harvested acreage during June are expected for cool-weather crops such as **Chinese cabbage** (-47%), **head cabbage** (-22%), and **head lettuce** (-20%). **Dry onions** (-20%) and **green onions** (-7%) are also expected to experience a decline in harvested acreage during June. ■

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

**May
review** page 3
Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.



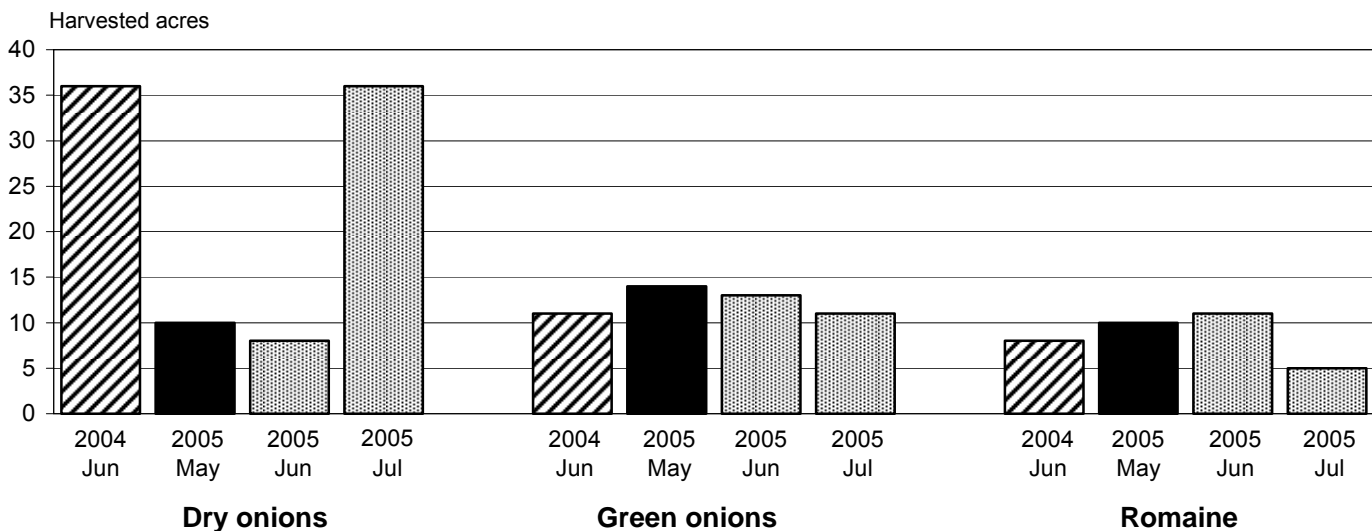
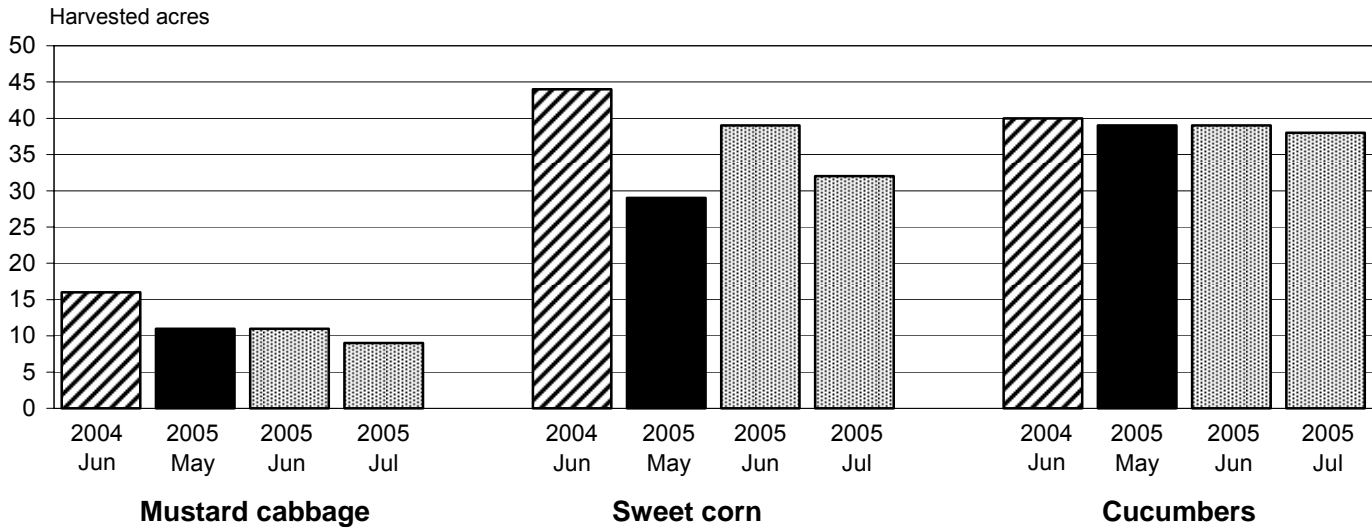
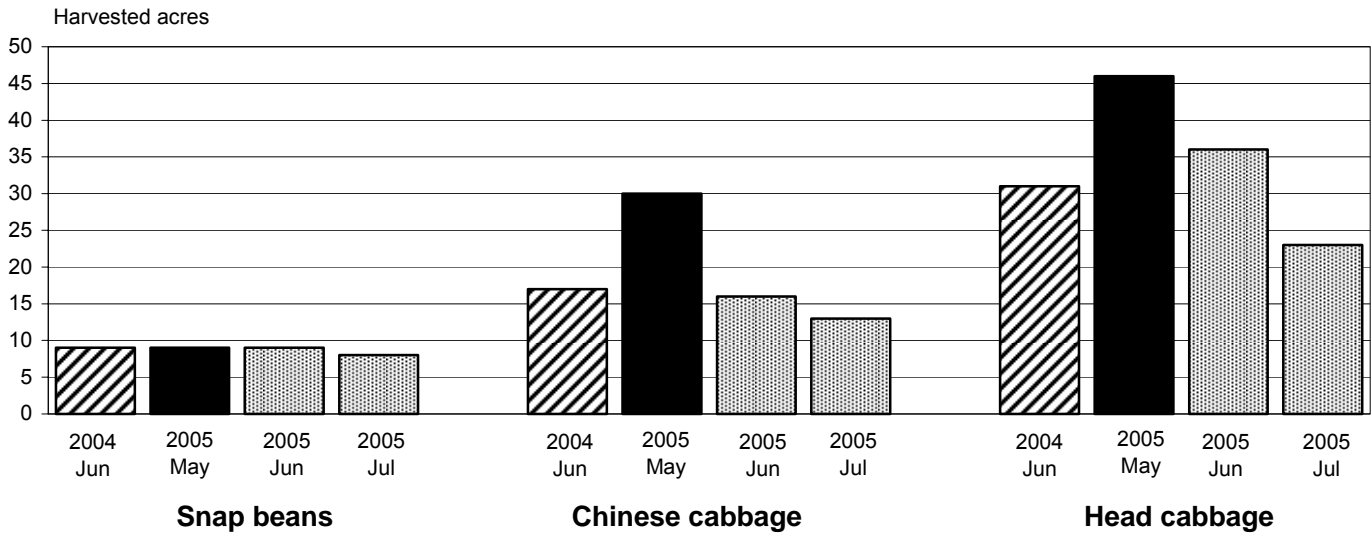
Acreage

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

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Apr 2005	May 2005	Apr 2005	May 2005	Jun 2005	Jul 2005
Beans, snap	8	9	7	9	9	8
Cabbage, Chinese	25	21	25	30	16	13
Cabbage, head	36	28	49	46	36	23
Cabbage, mustard	12	12	12	11	11	9
Corn, sweet	37	32	31	29	39	32
Cucumbers	37	38	40	39	39	38
Lettuce, head	5	5	7	5	4	2
Lettuce, semi-head	5	5	5	5	5	5
Onions, dry	20	20	26	10	8	36
Onions, green	14	12	13	14	13	11
Romaine	11	10	13	10	11	5

Harvested acreage charts

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



May Review

Production mixed as seasons change

SNAP BEANS production totaled 67,000 pounds in May, up 29 percent from April and the fifth consecutive month of increased production this year. Field conditions varied from good to poor depending on location. Some fields showed signs of heavy whitefly infestations.

CHINESE CABBAGE production is estimated 590,000 pounds in May, up 4 percent from April. May's increase in production was due to a 25 percent increase in harvested acreage. Irrigation was heavy in most fields to combat the dryness. Weed growth and insect populations have increased in some areas.

HEAD CABBAGE production is estimated at 1.0 million pounds, down 14 percent from April but 17 percent higher than a year ago. Head cabbage fields were in good to fair condition. Insect damage has increased, and farmers were stepping up spray programs.

SWEET CORN production is estimated at 132,000 pounds for May, up 21 percent from April and the highest monthly total this year.

Most plantings made good progress in May under sunny skies, longer daylight hours, and light rains.

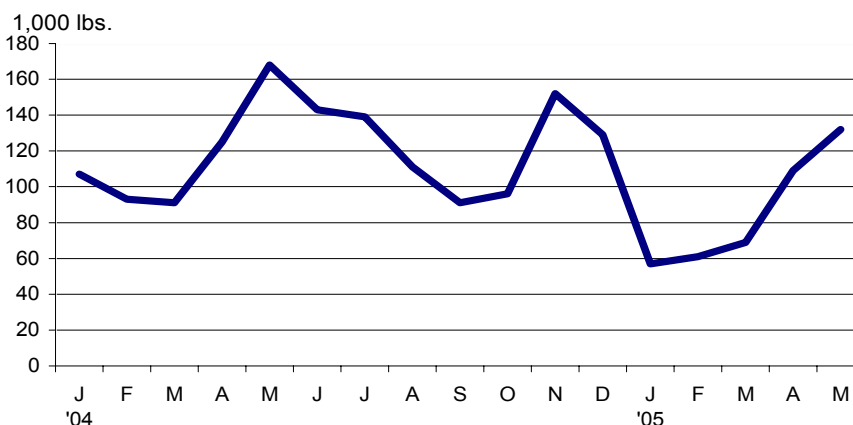
CUCUMBER production is estimated at 606,000 pounds for May, up 45 percent from April. Dry conditions and light winds were beneficial for vine development and flowering. Overall crop conditions varied from good to fair.

DRY ONION production totaled 185,000 pounds, down 55 percent

from April. The recent dry weather has aided crop growth. Crop conditions were mostly good.

TOMATO production is pegged at 1.5 million pounds for May, up 1 percent from April but down 4 percent from a year ago. Field and greenhouse tomato plantings were in good to fair condition. ■

**Hawaii Fresh Sweet Corn
Monthly Production, 2004 – 2005**



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

Crop	Total acres on Jun 1 st	May 2005				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2004 ^{2/}	2005	Change
			----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs -----		Percent
Beans, snap	17	7	9.6	67	116.1	302	231	- 24
Cabbage, Chinese	37	25	23.6	590	24.9	2,140	2,749	28
Cabbage, head	74	49	20.5	1,005	25.1	3,348	4,553	36
Cabbage, mustard	15	12	11.6	139	56.8	585	610	4
Corn, sweet	78	31	4.3	132	58.6	584	428	- 27
Cucumbers	70	40	15.2	606	40.7	1,707	1,831	7
Lettuce, head	7	7	9.3	65	58.5	306	295	- 4
Lettuce, semi-head	9	5	6.4	32	87.7	111	148	33
Onions, dry	67	26	7.1	185	157.5	412	755	83
Onions, green	31	13	8.8	114	104.1	422	451	7
Peppers, green	^{3/}	23	13.5	311	59.2	1,246	1,351	8
Romaine	17	13	12.3	160	60.9	578	746	29
Tomatoes	^{3/}	65	22.8	1,481	63.6	5,875	5,668	- 4

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