



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service  
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

# Hawaii Vegetables

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September 2002

## Acreage up for snap beans

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The Economic Research  
Service/USDA provides a general  
overview of the industry.

Most vegetables were in fair to good condition as summer passed the midway point. Disease and insect damages were normal for this time of the year. August was generally a beneficial mixture of sunshine and showers. There were instances of heavy localized showers on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> of August, but vegetable growers did not suffer any significant losses.

During August, Tropical Storm Arika and Hurricane Ele passed to the south and the remnants of Hurricane Fausto passed safely to the north of the State. August marks the halfway point in Hawaii's hurricane season which extends from June 1 to November 30.

Total harvested acreage for 11 selected vegetables is anticipated to be 6 percent higher in September. **Snap bean** farmers are expected to show the largest increase with 23 acres for harvest in September, up 53 percent from August. Other vegetables that are forecast to show an increase in harvested acreage are **Chinese cabbage** (+35%), **mustard cabbage** (+20%), **cucumber** (+5%), and **sweet corn** (+2%).

Declines in harvested acreage are anticipated for **head cabbage** (-2%), **head lettuce** (-25%), **dry onions** (-25%), **green onions** (-7%), and **romaine** (-10%).

All vegetables, with the exception of dry onions (+89%), are expected to show a decline in harvested acreage in October. ■



### Acreage

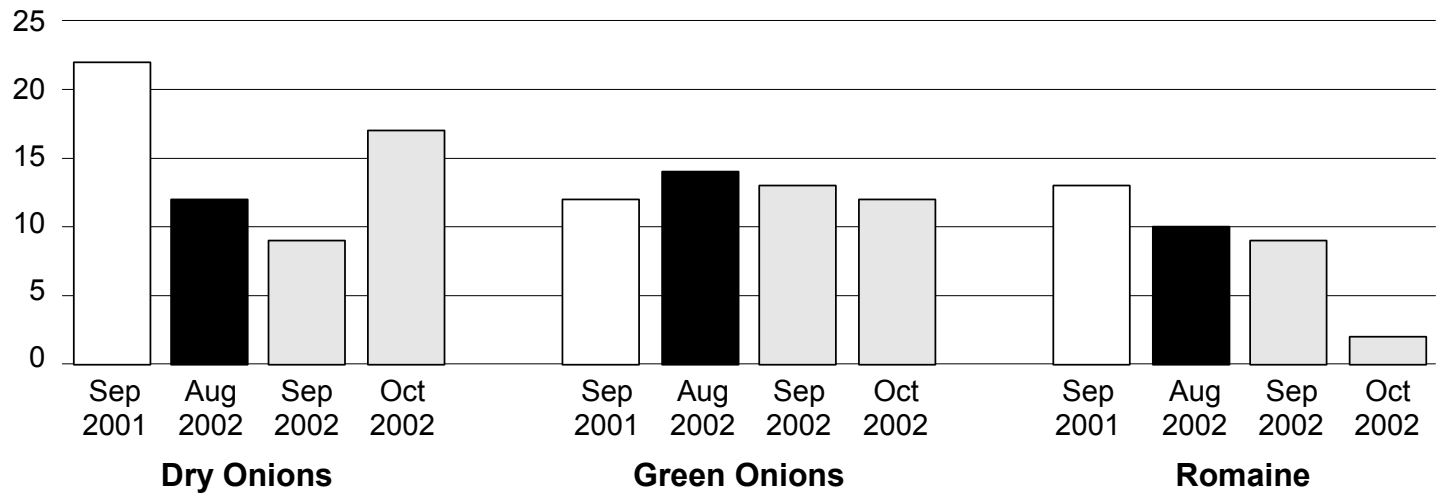
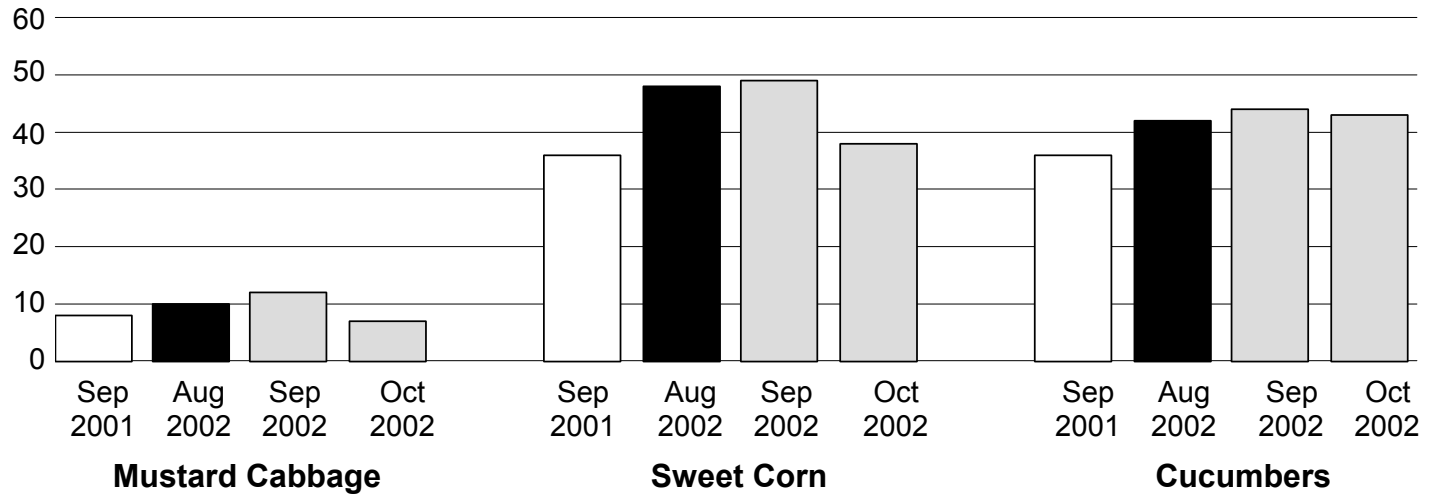
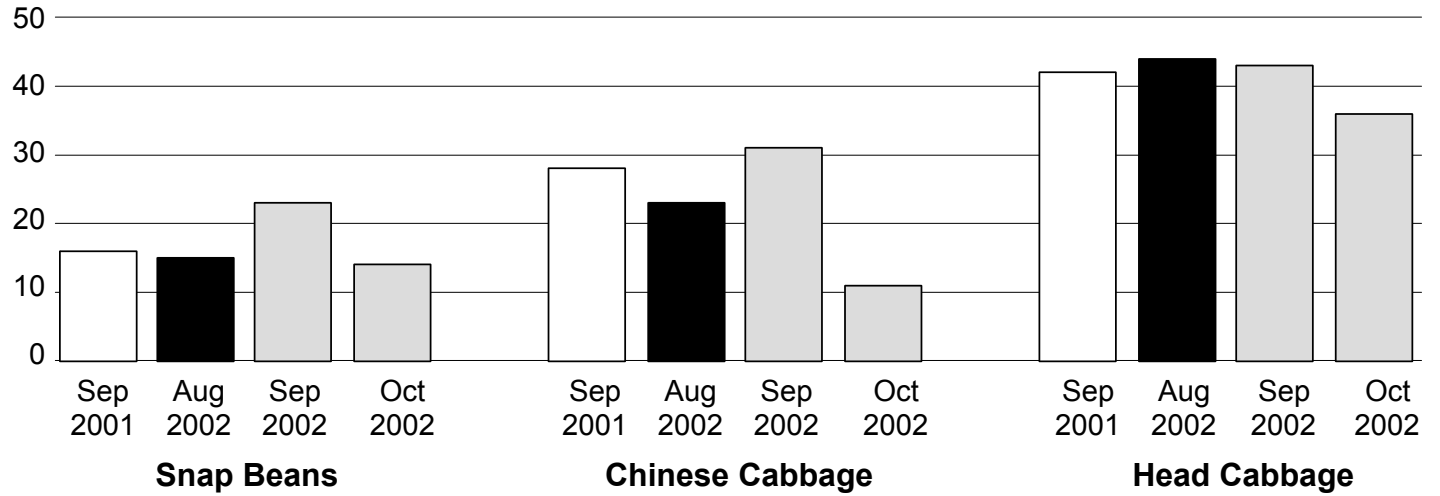
Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected  
vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Jul 2002	Aug 2002	Jul 2002	Aug 2002	Sep 2002	Oct 2002
Beans, snap	19	16	11	15	23	14
Cabbage, Chinese	26	25	31	23	31	11
Cabbage, head	42	43	48	44	43	36
Cabbage, mustard	12	11	9	10	12	7
Corn, sweet	47	44	49	48	49	38
Cucumbers	38	42	42	42	44	43
Lettuce, head	6	6	7	8	6	1
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	24	13	13	12	9	17
Onions, green	12	13	13	14	13	12
Romaine	8	8	9	10	9	2

# Harvested acreage charts

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

Acres



# August review

## Most vegetables show an increase in production

**SNAP BEAN** production totaled 86,000 pounds in August, up 91 percent from July when production was hampered by a water supply problem. Fields were in fair to good condition. The rodent problem on Maui has improved since farmers started using baits to control the population.

**CHINESE CABBAGE** production is estimated at 565,000 pounds for August, up 3 percent from July and 33 percent more than a year ago. Crop conditions on Maui and Hawaii islands were mostly good. Some soft rot and insect damage was noticed.

**HEAD CABBAGE** production totaled 1.2 million pounds in August, up 8 percent from July. Weather conditions were generally beneficial for crop growth. Yields averaged 26,900 pounds per harvested acre in August, up 17 percent from July's average of 23,000 pounds per acre.

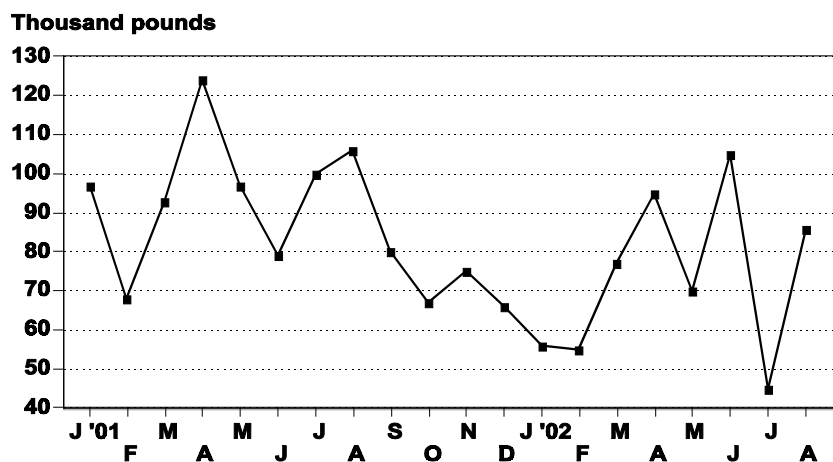
**SWEET CORN** production is estimated at 215,000 pounds for August, up 2 percent from July, but down 10 percent from a year ago.

**CUCUMBER** production totaled 503,000 pounds in August, up 2 percent from July. Crop conditions were mostly good.

**DRY ONION** production totaled 149,000 pounds in August, down 25 percent from July and down 47 percent from a year ago.

**TOMATO** production totaled 1.5 million pounds in August, down 1 percent from July, but 2 percent more than a year ago. Plantings on Oahu and Hawaii islands were in good condition. ■

**Hawaii Snap Beans:  
Monthly production, 2001 and 2002**



### Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, August 2002, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Sep 1 <sup>st</sup>	August 2002				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield <sup>1/</sup>	Total sales	Average farm price	2001 <sup>2/</sup>	2002	Change
				----- 1,000 lbs. -----	Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	31	15	5.7	86	93.3	764	589	-23
Cabbage, Chinese	43	23	24.6	565	26.3	4,662	4,608	-1
Cabbage, head	83	44	26.9	1,185	16.5	8,759	8,658	-1
Cabbage, mustard	18	10	11.3	113	55.9	958	911	-5
Corn, sweet	99	48	4.5	215	57.3	1,293	1,636	27
Cucumbers	66	42	12.0	503	43.9	3,789	3,577	-6
Lettuce, head	8	8	9.4	75	49.1	626	563	-10
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	7.3	29	70.7	221	254	15
Onions, dry	52	12	12.4	149	100.1	4,647	1,097	-76
Onions, green	30	14	9.6	135	85.3	984	905	-8
Peppers, green	<sup>3/</sup>	19	14.4	273	53.4	2,092	2,112	1
Romaine	11	10	11.1	111	43.6	1,435	1,241	-14
Tomatoes	<sup>3/</sup>	60	25.6	1,534	48.8	11,842	11,798	0

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

## U.S. Fresh-Market Cabbage

Cabbage belongs to the *Cruciferae* (mustard) family which includes Brussels sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower, and kale. The United States accounts for 4 percent of world cabbage production, ranking sixth behind China (38 percent of world output), India, Russia, South Korea, and Japan. U.S. cabbage production is largely centered in the east and upper Midwest, but commercial production can be found in each of the 50 States, with 82,000 acres and 4,289 farms shipping into the fresh and processing markets. New York is the top producer with 22 percent of national output, followed by California and Texas. The annual U.S. fresh-market cabbage crop had an average farm value of \$311 million during 1999-2001. There is little overlap between U.S. fresh cabbage and sauerkraut markets with most cabbage for kraut grown under contract.

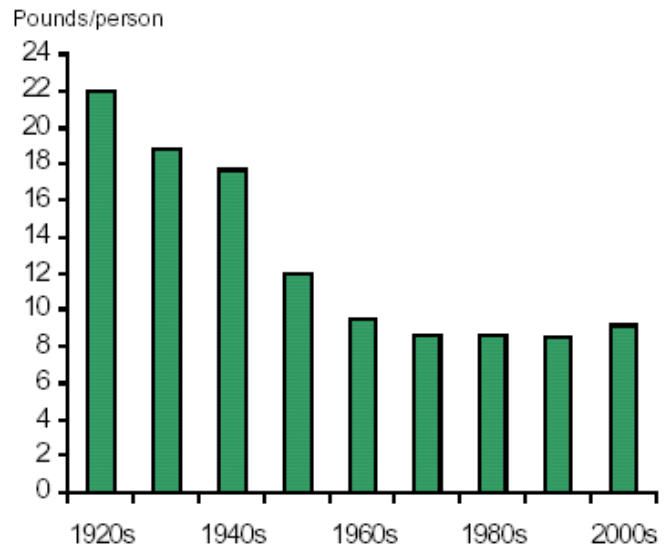
After languishing for decades, fresh-market cabbage consumption rose 8 percent between 1990-92 and 2000-02. Fresh-market cabbage consumption had averaged a fairly steady 8.5 pounds during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s. Over the past several years, renewed support for cabbage has come from the marketing of various fresh-cut products (fresh slaw products and the use of red cabbage in fresh-cut salad mixes), continued growth in away-from home eating (important for cole slaw use), and growing body of nutritional research favoring cruciferous vegetables like cabbage. Although fresh-market cabbage consumption rose to 9.1 pounds in the early 2000s, it is still 59 percent below the 1920s when use averaged 22 pounds per person.

Fresh-market cabbage shipments peak in March, spurred by the traditional St. Patrick's Day fare of

corned beef and cabbage. About 14 percent of the domestic crop is marketed in March, compared with 10 percent for the next highest months of February and December. The majority of these winter shipments come from Texas, Florida, and New York. Volume is lowest in July at 4 percent of annual shipments.

Although trade plays a minor role in the industry, the U.S. is a net exporter of cabbage. In 2001, exports of fresh-market cabbage totaled \$18 million while imports were valued at \$14 million.

U.S. fresh cabbage: Per capita use



Source: Economic Research Service, USDA.

Excerpt from: *Vegetable and Melons Outlook*, Economic Research Service/USDA, VGS-292 August 22, 2002.