

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



November 14, 2008

Generally Drier Than Normal Conditions During August

Trade wind weather conditions continued throughout the month of August. Although many locations received nearly daily precipitation, rainfall amounts during the month continued drier than normal and were mostly at below July rainfall levels. As a result, water use conservation measures, notices, and restrictions continued in place. Former hurricane Genevieve contributed the most rainfall amongst the three tropical disturbances which passed the State in August. For the month of August the island of Kauai recorded rainfall totals nearest normal in the State, with many of the rain gage stations on Kauai recording near-normal rainfall. On Oahu, rainfall totals were generally below normal. Rainfall amounts around Maui County varied the greatest ranging from well below normal to well above normal. The island of Hawaii recorded the most zero rainfall days, as a result nearly all of the rain gages on the island recorded rainfall amounts at below 50 percent of normal. Crops were rated in poor to good condition.

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

**August
Review..... page 3**
Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in September 2008, when compared with acreage harvested in August, was higher for 3 crops, lower for 6 crops, and unchanged for 2 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **mustard cabbage** (+13%), **head lettuce** (+33%), and romaine (+40%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected for **snap beans** (-10%), **Chinese cabbage** (-8%), **head cabbage** (-5%), **sweet corn** (-24%), **dry onions** (-40%), and **green onions** (-10%), while the expected acreage for harvest was unchanged for **cucumbers** and **semi-head lettuce**.

Acreage

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

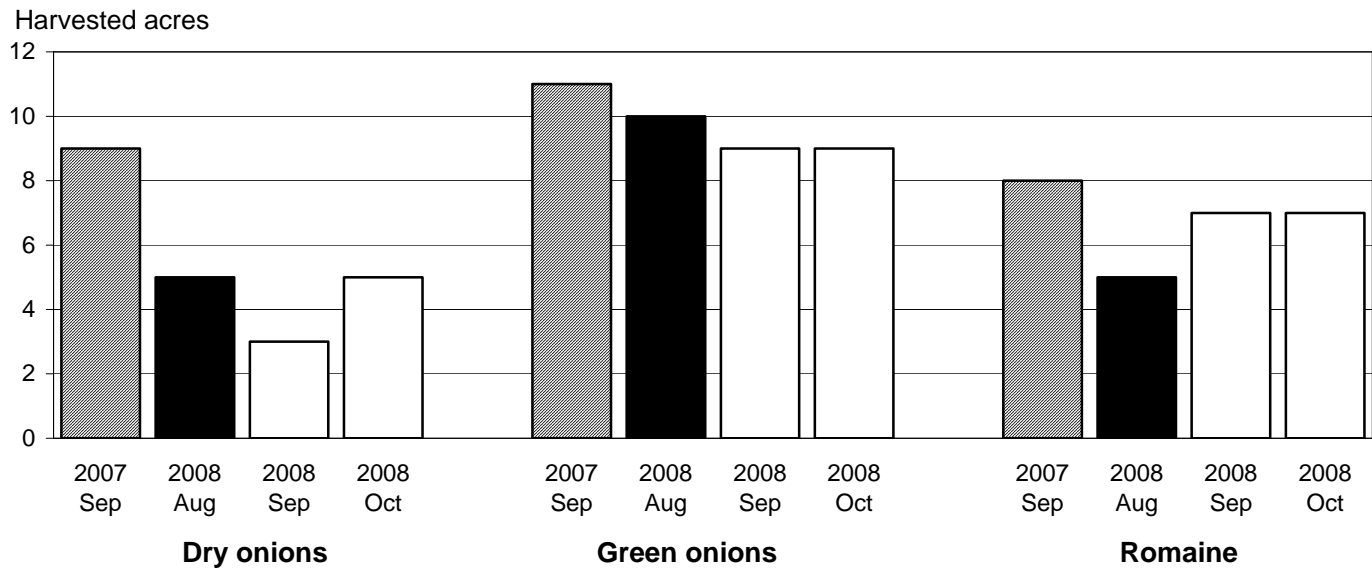
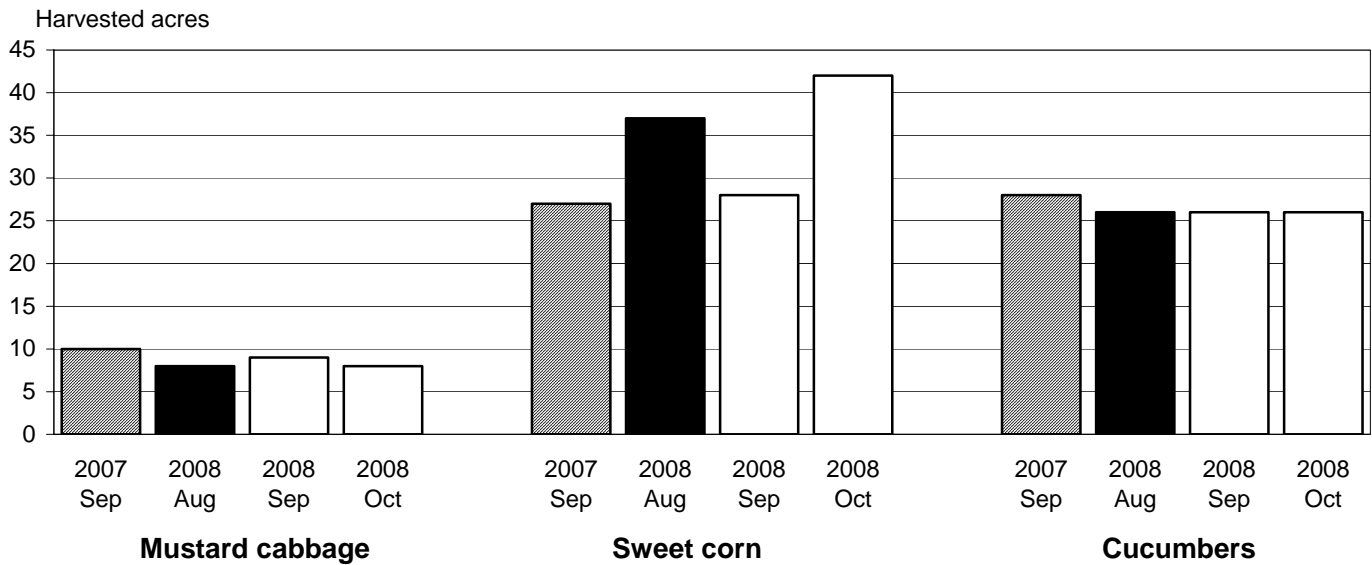
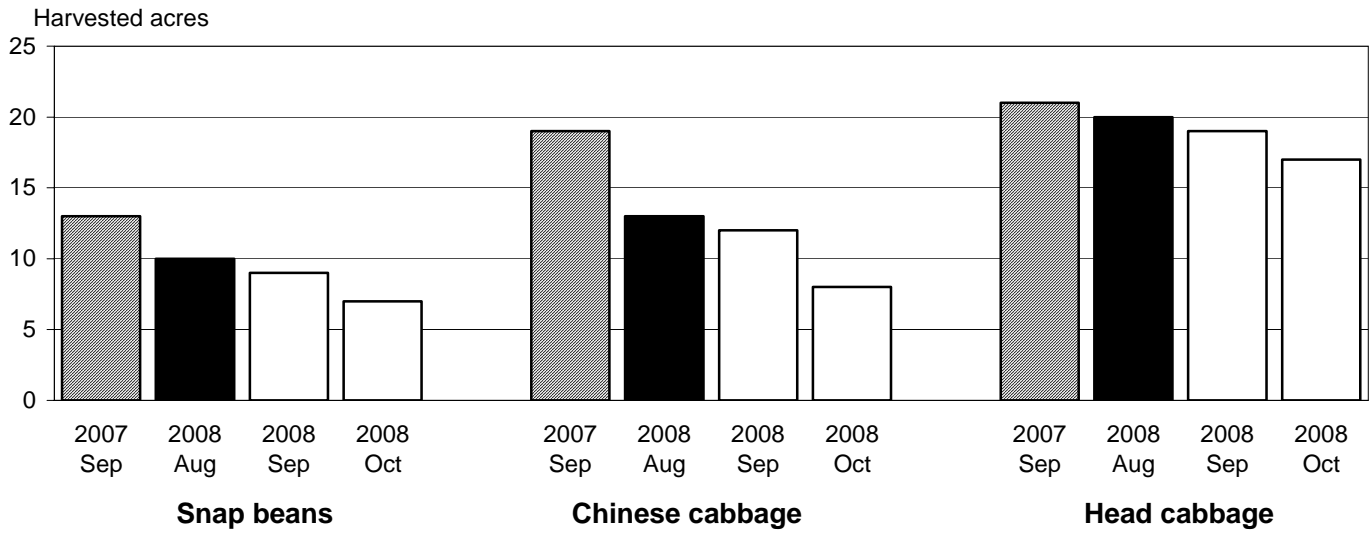
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008
Beans, snap	9	9	7	10	9	7
Cabbage, Chinese	16	6	13	13	12	8
Cabbage, head	24	17	33	20	19	17
Cabbage, mustard	7	8	6	8	9	8
Corn, sweet	32	37	35	37	28	42
Cucumbers	25	34	26	26	26	26
Lettuce, head	4	3	4	3	4	4
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	12	13	8	5	3	5
Onions, green	9	9	9	10	9	9
Romaine	7	6	6	5	7	7

Mark E. Hudson, Director
King Whetstone, Deputy Director

Nils Morita, Research Statistician

Harvested acreage charts

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



August Review

Green Onion Production Slightly Lower

Chinese cabbage production totaled an estimated 403,000 pounds during August 2008, an increase of 8 percent from July 2008, but a decrease of 7 percent from August 2007. Improved yields accounted for the increase in production from July, while the decrease in acreage for harvest was the reason for the decline in production from August a year ago. Although under control the continued warm, dry conditions are contributing to the insect, disease, and rot damages. The crop was reported to be in fair condition.

Head cabbage growers produced 512,000 pounds in August, a 29 percent decline from both a month earlier and year ago, respectively. Fewer acres available for harvest was the main reason for the lower production. Also contributing to the decline was smaller average head sizes, the result of warmer growing conditions. Heavy irrigation when possible has helped, but non-irrigated fields were negatively affected. Crops were reported in fair to good condition.

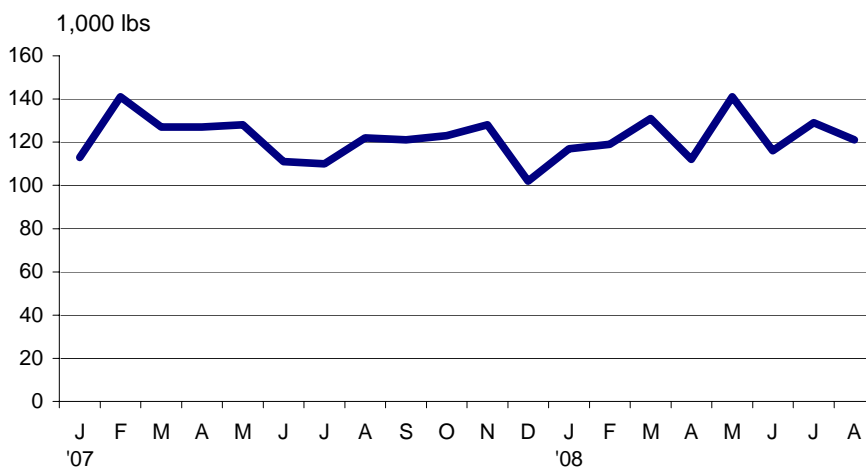
Sweet corn production totaled 225,000 pounds in August, 2 percent and 10 percent lower than July 2008 and August a year earlier, respectively. Yields in some fields were adversely affected by corn ear worm infestation. Plantings were lower in areas affected by water use restrictions.

Cucumber producers harvested 481,000 pounds during August 2008. This was 78 percent and 5 percent

above July this year and August a year ago, respectively. Improved yields accounted for much of this increase.

Green Onion growers produced an estimated 121,000 pounds in August, 6 percent and 1 percent less than July 2008 and August 2007, respectively. Although the effects from insect infestation were declining, the warm dry weather continued to affect yields, as the decrease in yields accounted for the

**Hawaii Green Onion
Monthly Production, 2007 – 2008**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, August 2008, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Sep. 1	August 2008				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2007 ^{2/}	2008	Change
		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	15	10	6.6	66	113.0	494	462	-6
Cabbage, Chinese	16	13	31.0	403	49.4	4,292	3,842	-10
Cabbage, head	36	20	25.6	512	31.3	7,725	6,802	-12
Cabbage, mustard	12	8	11.6	93	76.2	919	857	-7
Corn, sweet	74	37	6.1	225	56.8	1,754	1,502	-14
Cucumbers	47	26	18.5	481	54.0	3,441	3,322	-3
Lettuce, head	5	3	15.0	45	60.5	429	403	-6
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	8.3	33	104.3	262	247	-6
Onions, dry	27	5	14.2	71	85.5	1,106	953	-14
Onions, green	20	10	12.1	121	127.4	979	986	1
Romaine	11	5	16.2	81	52.9	771	636	-18

^{1/} Total sales divided by acres harvested. ^{2/} Revised.

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