

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



January 11, 2006

2005 ends on a dry note

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

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Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

Vegetable and melon crops made variable progress during an unusually dry December. The National Weather Service reported that Kauai was the driest spot in the State with all hydronet rainfall gages reporting below normal totals and most at less than 10 percent of normal. Over half of the rain gages on Oahu also reported totals that were less than 10 percent of normal. All gages in Maui County also reported below normal rainfall totals with Lahainaluna setting a new December record low of 0.01 inches. Hawaii island received slightly more rainfall than other areas of the State, but most gages there were still less than 50 percent of normal. The Big Island did receive most of the limited amount of rain that fell during the first week of the month. Overall, regular irrigation was able to combat the dryness and as a result those crops were in generally good to fair condition. Insect pressure was higher in some areas due to the dry weather.

Changes in harvested acreage for vegetables will be mixed in January. Double-digit percentage declines in harvested acreage are expected for **sweet corn** (-39%), **head lettuce** (-56%), **semi-head (Manoa) lettuce** (-20%), and **romaine** (-33%). Increases in harvested acreage are expected for: **snap beans** (+36%), **dry onions** (+44%), and **head cabbage** (+2%). **Mustard cabbages, cucumbers, and green onions** will record no changes in harvested acreage. ■

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

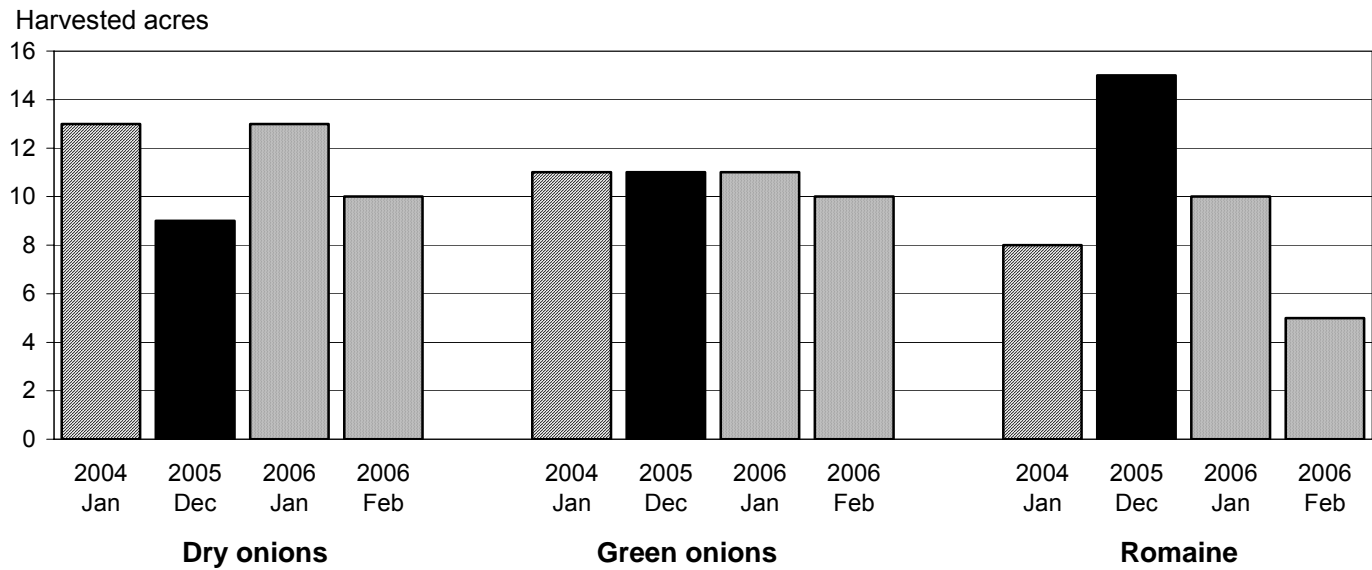
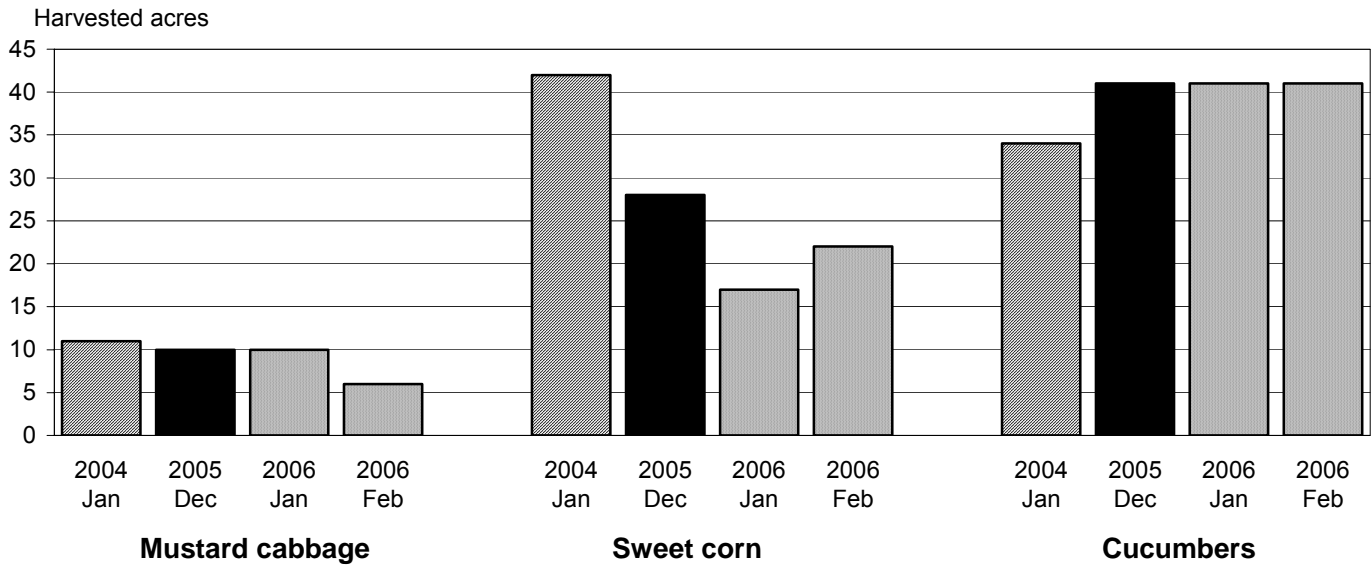
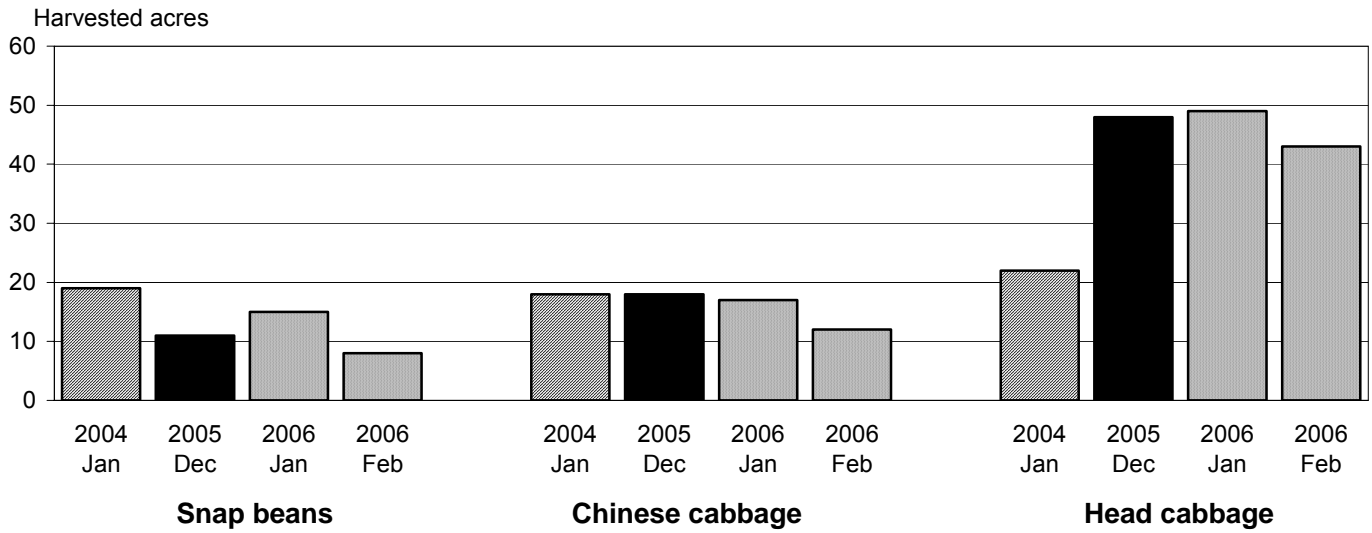
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Nov 2005	Dec 2005	Nov 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006	Feb 2006
Beans, snap	13	9	12	11	15	8
Cabbage, Chinese	20	21	18	18	17	12
Cabbage, head	48	51	46	48	49	43
Cabbage, mustard	9	12	9	10	10	6
Corn, sweet	11	31	38	28	17	22
Cucumbers	39	42	41	41	41	41
Lettuce, head	8	6	7	9	4	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	5	5	5	4	5
Onions, dry	12	16	23	9	13	10
Onions, green	10	10	9	11	11	10
Romaine	14	14	7	15	10	8

Mark E. Hudson, Director
Steve Gunn, Deputy Director

Ron Nakamura, Research Statistician
Sandy Nakasone, Statistical Assistant

Harvested acreage charts

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



December Review

Green Onion Production Hits 2005 High In December

Chinese cabbage production totaled 550,000 pounds in December, up 15 percent from the previous month and the highest monthly total in seven months. Crop conditions were generally good to fair. Disease and insect damage varied. Irrigation was heavy in most areas.

Head cabbage farmers harvested 1.2 million pounds in December, up 56 percent from November and 37 percent more than a year ago. Insect pressure was elevated in some areas, although spraying has limited some of the damage. Overall, the crop was in fair to good condition.

Sweet corn production is estimated at 116,000 pounds for December, down 1 percent from November. Sunny skies and dry conditions were generally favorable for the crop.

Cucumber growers picked 344,000 pounds in December, down 37 percent from November. Greenhouse plantings were in generally good condition. Open field plantings were in fair condition and still recovering from previously

adverse weather.

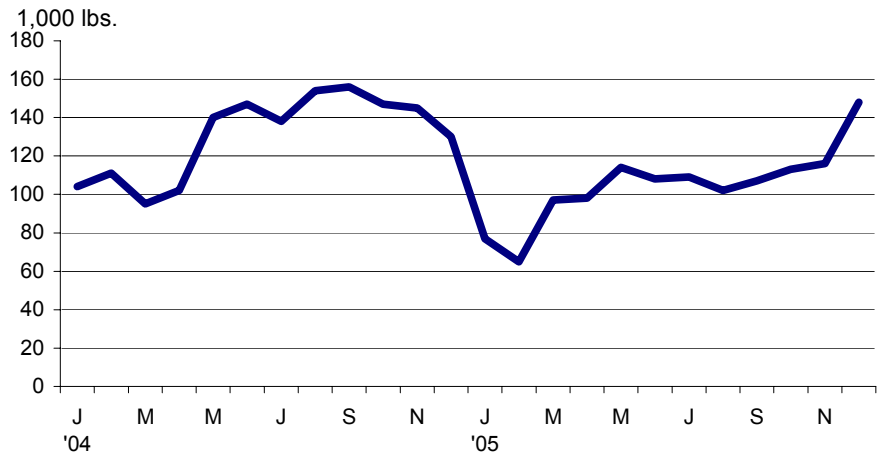
Dry onion production totaled 70,000 pounds in December, down 46 percent from November and 60 percent less than a year ago. Crop conditions were fair.

Green onion production totaled 148,000 pounds, up 28 percent from last month and the highest monthly total in 2005. Pressure from insect

infestations and damage was lighter due to cool night and early morning temperatures.

Tomato production is estimated at 1.4 million pounds for December, up 26 percent from November and 12 percent more than a year ago. Open field plantings were in generally fair to good condition. ■

**Hawaii Green Onion
Monthly Production, 2004 – 2005**



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

Crop	Total acres on Jan. 1	December 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	22	11	3.6	40	103.1	900	638	-29
Cabbage, Chinese	34	18	30.6	550	29.2	5,300	5,666	7
Cabbage, head	111	48	25.0	1,200	29.2	9,000	9,748	8
Cabbage, mustard	15	10	13.2	132	57.7	1,400	1,403	0
Corn, sweet	51	28	4.1	116	60.6	1,800	1,603	-11
Cucumbers	73	41	8.4	344	47.5	5,900	5,473	-7
Lettuce, head	7	9	6.1	55	58.5	800	702	-12
Lettuce, semi-head	8	5	5.6	28	82.8	500	330	-34
Onions, dry	52	9	7.8	70	174.5	1,600	2,289	43
Onions, green	25	11	13.5	148	98.6	1,600	1,254	-22
Peppers, green	^{3/}	23	13.0	298	70.3	3,200	3,012	-6
Romaine	19	15	9.9	148	67.1	1,500	1,638	9
Tomatoes	^{3/}	77	18.6	1,432	70.9	16,800	14,058	-16

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