



2007 Farm Revenues Down Slightly from Previous Year

Farm level revenues for 2007 totaled \$579.1 million compared to the revised 2006 level of \$579.6 million. Compared to the previous year, 7 of the 20 ranked commodities for 2007 were higher including seed crops, coffee, papayas, potted palms, potted dracaena, watermelons, and potted oncidinae.

The value of diversified agriculture, by the current definition, cannot be published to protect the individual confidentiality of large pineapple companies. Record high levels were set for seed crops which increased 42 percent from 2006. World demand for ethanol production has increased the need for foundation corn seed. Papaya revenues were up 19 percent for 2007 due to increased production of 16 percent and overall price rising 2 percent. Potted dracaena revenues increased 7 percent and potted palms rose 5 percent. Coffee revenues were up slightly compared to 2006.

Revenue declines include macadamia nuts as weather conditions for 2007 were mixed. Some macadamia nut growers reported wet conditions caused increased spoilage while others reported dry conditions during the critical phase of maturation which also lowered output. Many growers reported that the lack of an outlet to sell

their nuts was a problem and with lower nut prices, the crop was not harvested by some growers. Growers related that feral pigs were a problem in some areas. Milk production declined 38 percent in 2007 as two commercial dairies stopped operations during the year. The value of egg production fell by 9 percent in 2007 as fewer operations remain in business due to high operation costs, including fuel and feed.

The equivalent farm value of sugarcane (this does not include the processed value of raw sugar) was set at \$47.6 million, down 5 percent from 2006. Sugar value has dropped eight of the last ten years.

Farm level values shown in this publication are an important measure of production agriculture, but they do not truly reflect the total contribution of agriculture to the State and county economies. For the better understanding of the overall picture, refer to "Agriculture's Contribution to Hawaii's Economy 2005" - (CTAHR Economic Issue EI 13, Jan 2008) a publication prepared jointly by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa, and the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture.