

2005 FRUIT HIGHLIGHTS



Hawaii fruit growers harvested 488.9 million pounds of fruit for fresh and processed utilization in 2005, a 3 percent decline from the previous year. Total value fell 2 percent to \$105.0 million, with pineapple, papaya, and guava recording declines in value of sales. Fruit acreage totaled 20,196 acres, a 6 percent increase over 2004. Harvested area increased 14 percent to 4,350 acres.

- **BANANA**

The State's banana growers saw a 16 percent decline in total acreage in 2005. Harvested acreage declined 2 percent to 980 acres. In spite of acreage declines, improved yields, which topped 21,000 pounds per acre, along with generally favorable weather conditions contributed to a 27 percent increase in utilized production over 2004.

- **GUAVA**

A 10 percent increase in total guava acreage and 20 percent increase in harvested acreage helped offset lower yields to maintain output at the previous years' level of 8.1 million pounds. Hawaii's guavas, which are mainly for the processed market, recorded a 3 percent drop in price and a corresponding drop in value of sales to \$1.1 million.

- **PAPAYA**

Area devoted to papaya production totaled 2,395 acres, an increase of 14 percent from the previous year. Harvested area totaled 1,480 acres, 20 percent more than 2004. However, irregular rainfall and disease problems contributed to lower yields and a smaller harvest. Papaya output declined 8 percent to 32.9 million pounds. Papaya value of sales dropped 9 percent to \$11.2 million.

- **PINEAPPLE**

Pineapple represented 69 percent of total fruit acreage and 75 percent of the total fruit value. However, early in 2005, one major company announced the beginning of their phase-out of pineapple production which should take them into 2008 due to pineapples three-year crop cycle.

- **TROPICAL SPECIALTY FRUIT**

Area devoted to tropical specialty fruit totaled 1,230 acres in 2005, 1 percent more than 2004. Area harvested totaled 730 acres, 14 percent higher than 2004. Hawaii's growers of tropical specialty fruit produced and sold an estimated 1.5 million pounds of fruit in 2005. This was 41 percent higher than the 2004 output of 1.0 million pounds and the highest on record for tropical specialty fruit since data were published for this group. Higher yields from maturing orchards and the rise in harvested area contributed to the increased production. Compared with 2004, higher output was registered for atemoya, longan, lychee, mango, persimmon, and rambutan. Value of sales hit an all-time high of \$2.7 million in 2005, 40 percent more than 2004. Higher farm prices were recorded for lychee, mango, and persimmon.