



2006 SUGAR AND SPECIALTY CROP HIGHLIGHTS

◆ Sugar

Production for 2006 decreased 16 percent from the previous year to 213,000 tons of 96° raw sugar. The plantations were able to harvest 1.6 million tons of sugarcane from 20,400 acres, an average yield of 79.1 tons of sugarcane per acre. Sugar prices during 2006 increased 1 percent to \$351 per ton of 96° raw sugar, which generated in a raw sugar total value of \$74.8 million, 15 percent below 2005.

◆ Coffee

Total farm revenues of Hawaii's 2006-2007 coffee is estimated at \$37 million (parchment basis), down 1 percent from the 2005-2006 season. This decrease in revenue resulted as a 45 cent increase in the average farm price was more than offset by a 10 percent drop in production to 7.4 million pounds (parchment equivalent basis). Hawaii County accounted for \$25.6 million or 69 percent of the state's total farm revenue. The combined farm value of Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui Counties was \$11.4 million (parchment equivalent basis), up 82 percent from the 2005-2006 season.

Production decreased in Hawaii County, but increased in other areas. Hawaii County produced 4.0 million pounds (parchment equivalent basis) during the 2006-2007 season. This was 31 percent below last year's 5.8 million pounds. Production from the combined areas of Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui Counties increased to 3.4 million pounds (parchment equivalent basis). State yields declined to 1,200 pounds per acre compared to 1,300 pounds a year ago.

Total acreage harvested increased 3 percent from last season to 6,300 acres. Acreage harvested declined 9 percent in Hawaii County to 3,000, while other counties recorded an increase to 3,300 acres or 18 percent above the previous year.

The statewide farm price for coffee averaged a record high \$5.00 per pound (parchment equivalent basis) for the 2005-2007 season, up 10 percent for the 2005-2006 season previously record high farm price of \$4.55 per pound. Hawaii County growers received an average of \$6.40 per pound (parchment equivalent basis) during the 2006-2007 season. Growers on Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui Counties received an average of \$3.353 per pound (parchment equivalent basis) for coffee during the 2006-2007 season.

◆ Macadamia Nuts

Hawaii's 2006-2007 macadamia nut harvest is estimated at 58.0 million pounds net, wet-in-shell, up 4.0 million pounds from last season's harvest. While it was not the highest on record, output for the 2006-2007 season matched the previous high set back during the 1997-1998 crop year. For some macadamia nut orchards located in normally drier areas, rainfall was welcomed. However, macadamia nut orchards located in normally wet areas suffered lower output due to disease problems.

Total acreage for 2006-2007 decreased 1,300 acres to 17,000 acres while harvested area totaled 15,000 acres, a 3,000 acre decline from last season. The farm price for net, wet-in-shell macadamia nuts averaged 67.0 cents per pound, 14.0 cents less than the 2005-2006 average.

Early in the season, one large processor announced a limitation of nut purchases from independent growers. Many growers reported this to be a problem and with lower nut prices, the crop was not harvested by some growers as well as some operators moving to other commodities. Growers also related that feral pigs were a problem in some areas.