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Hawaii Herbs

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Production and farm value at record high levels

Hawaii fresh herb production is estimated at a record high 5.7 million pounds for 2006, up 30 percent from 2005. Farm value of all fresh herb sales also set a new record high in 2006 at \$9.1 million, a 5-percent increase from 2005.

Except for the wet 40-day period during February – March 2006, rainfall for the year was slightly below normal. Weather was generally dry for the last two months of the year. Most of the State's herbs are grown on Oahu.

Sweet (Italian) basil production is estimated at 2.0 million pounds in 2006, up 18 percent from 2005. Farm prices declined 55 cents from a year earlier to an average of \$1.90 per pound in 2006, generating revenues of \$3.8 million. **Asian basil** production is pegged at 1.6 million pounds for 2006, up 23 percent from 2005 and a new record high. Farm prices declined 14 percent to an average of 95 cents a pound in 2006. The increase in production offset the decline in farm price for Asian basil to record a farm value of \$1.5 million in 2006.

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Hawaii Fresh Herbs

Production, farm price, and farm value, by types, State of Hawaii, 2002 – 2006.

Year	Basil			Parsley	Chinese Parsley (Cilantro)	Other Herbs ¹	All Herbs
	Sweet (Italian)	Asian	Total				
Production – 1,000 pounds							
2002	2,000	1,000	3,000	300	300	550	4,150
2003	2,000	1,200	3,200	310	250	440	4,200
2004	1,800	1,000	2,800	280	240	580	3,900
2005	1,700	1,300	3,000	250	200	950	4,400
2006	2,000	1,600	3,600	250	200	1,650	5,700
Farm price - \$ per pound							
2002	1.95	0.85		1.70	1.50	2.30	
2003	2.00	0.80		2.20	2.10	2.45	
2004	2.05	0.95		2.00	2.20	2.15	
2005	2.45	1.10		1.85	2.60	2.15	
2006	1.90	0.95		1.85	2.40	1.70	
Farm value - \$1,000							
2002	3,900	850	4,750	510	450	1,265	6,975
2003	4,000	960	4,960	682	525	1,078	7,245
2004	3,690	950	4,640	560	528	1,247	6,975
2005	4,165	1,430	5,595	463	520	2,043	8,621
2006	3,800	1,520	5,320	462	480	2,805	9,067

¹ Includes galangal (Thai ginger), rosemary, lemon grass, mint, chives, and other herbs; some of which cannot be published separately to avoid disclosure. Also includes a small amount of basil and parsley for which an individual total could not be obtained.

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Parsley production totaled 250,000 pounds for 2006, unchanged from 2005. Parsley growers received an average farm price of \$1.85 per pound in 2006, also unchanged from 2005. Farm value for parsley totaled \$462,000 in 2006, the lowest total in 6 years. **Chinese parsley (Cilantro)** production was also unchanged in 2006 from 2005 at 200,000 pounds. The average farm price during 2006 is estimated at \$2.40 per pound, down 8 percent from 2005. Total farm value for Chinese parsley is estimated at \$480,000 in 2006, down 8 percent from 2005.

Production of **all other herbs** totaled a record high 1.7 million pounds in 2006, up 74 percent from 2005. Farm revenues totaled \$2.8 million for 2006, up 37 percent from 2005. Major herbs in this combined category were galangal (Thai ginger), rosemary, lemon grass, mint, chives, and various ethnic herbs.

Medicinal crop production is estimated at 2.3 million pounds in 2006, unchanged from 2005. Farm value is pegged at \$750,000 for 2006, up 12 percent from 2005.

Hawaii Medicinal Crops¹

Harvested acreage, production, and farm value
State of Hawaii, 2003-2006

Year	Harvested acreage	Production (Fresh wt.)	Farm value
		<i>1,000 pounds</i>	<i>\$1,000</i>
2003	270	2,200	770
2004	300	3,700	1,236
2005	150	2,300	670
2006	170	2,300	750

¹ Main medicinal crops are noni (Indian mulberry) and Kava ('awa).