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# Hawaii Farm Facts

November 2010



## Farm Value Higher For Selected Vegetables And Melons

In cooperation with



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Cumulative information for vegetables and melons were again modified for the 2009 year because of confidentiality concerns. The following comments and data comparison will be for only the 14 selected crops published on the following page.

The farm gate value for 14 of Hawaii’s selected vegetables and melons is estimated at \$20.2 million in 2009, up 6 percent from the 2008 level for the same 14 crops. Cumulative production for these 14 selected vegetables and melons was 32.8 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2008.

Prevailing dry conditions during most of the year, especially on the Leeward slope of all islands. These dry circumstances required irrigation, sometimes at heavy levels, to maintain crop growth and development. Also, during dry weather and warm conditions elevated insect infestation and resulting damage. Hurricane Felicia in August fizzled before arriving but brought much needed rains to most areas.

The top volume-producing published crop during 2009 was head cabbage whose estimated production was 8.7 million pounds down 700 thousand pounds or 7 percent below the previous year. Sweet potato was the second largest published vegetable volume crop estimated at 8.3 million pounds up 3 percent or 228 thousand pounds from the 2008 crop year. Chinese cabbage was the third largest volume published vegetable at 5.5 million pounds down 2 percent or 100 thousand pounds.

The leading farm gate value of the published vegetables was estimated for sweet potatoes at \$5.4 million up 13 percent or \$633 thousand from previous year. Head cabbage ranked second in farm gate value at \$3.0 million up \$156 thousand or 6 percent compared to the 2008 crop. Chinese cabbage’s farm gate ranked third among published vegetables at \$1.9 million down 2 percent or \$35 thousand compared to previous year’s crop.

Due to confidentiality and disclosure reasons, we are not able to publish information concerning other vegetable and melons. ■

## Vegetables & Melons:

### VEGETABLES AND MELONS: Acreage, Production, and Farm Value, State of Hawaii, 2008 and 2009 <sup>1</sup>

Name of Commodity	Harvested Acreage <sup>2</sup>		Production		Farm Value	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
	————— Acres —————		————— 1,000 pounds —————		————— \$1,000 —————	
Bittermelon	20	<b>20</b>	140	<b>360</b>	126	<b>358</b>
Broccoli	80	<b>115</b>	360	<b>298</b>	349	<b>240</b>
Cabbage, Chinese	220	<b>210</b>	5,600	<b>5,500</b>	1,960	<b>1,925</b>
Cabbage, head	410	<b>420</b>	9,400	<b>8,700</b>	2,820	<b>2,976</b>
Cabbage, mustard	95	<b>95</b>	1,300	<b>1,300</b>	910	<b>952</b>
Eggplant	50	<b>70</b>	900	<b>1,300</b>	909	<b>1,235</b>
Lettuce <sup>3</sup>	90	<b>90</b>	1,000	<b>950</b>	750	<b>748</b>
Onions, dry	160	<b>150</b>	1,400	<b>1,500</b>	1,610	<b>1,740</b>
Onions, green	125	<b>120</b>	1,600	<b>1,400</b>	1,984	<b>1,810</b>
Potatoes, sweet	470	<b>600</b>	8,100	<b>8,328</b>	4,780	<b>5,413</b>
Romaine	90	<b>100</b>	1,000	<b>800</b>	590	<b>463</b>
Squash, Italian	170	<b>170</b>	1,480	<b>1,170</b>	888	<b>731</b>
Squash, oriental	40	<b>40</b>	350	<b>340</b>	217	<b>185</b>
Watercress	35	<b>35</b>	750	<b>820</b>	1,125	<b>1,394</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,055</b>	<b>2,235</b>	<b>33,380</b>	<b>32,766</b>	<b>19,018</b>	<b>20,170</b>

<sup>1</sup> Only selected crops are shown separately. Non-published vegetables and melons not shown separately to avoid disclosure of individual operations. <sup>2</sup> Vegetables and melons: Acreage harvested; e.g. 1 acre planted and harvested 3 times during the year equals 3 harvested acres. <sup>3</sup> Includes head and semi-head (Manoa) lettuce.



## Fruits: Highlights

Hawaii fruit growers harvested 53.1 million pounds of fruit, excluding pineapples, for fresh and processed utilization in 2009. This was a 4 percent decrease in contrast to comparable levels in 2008. Tropical specialty fruit information was not collected for 2009 due to the loss of state employees from the reduction-in-force action. Overall value, excluding pineapple, rose 7 percent to \$25.4 million due to higher banana production and price levels. In 2009, fruit acreage, excluding pineapple, totaled 3,940 acres, 3 percent less than the previous year's total. Harvested area, excluding pineapple, was down 1 percent to 2,930 acres or a decrease of 40 acres when compared to 2008. The major contributor to this acreage decline was papaya.

### Avocado

In 2009, the in crop acreage for avocado increased 10 percent and harvested acreage increased 12 percent when compared to the preceding year with acreage increases of 40 acres for each category. Production increased by 4 percent compared to 2008 levels. Average avocado price received by producers during 2009 fell 4.0 cents or 5 percent below the previous year. Value of sales for 2009 totaled \$718 thousand which was \$12 thousand or 2 percent below the 2008 crop.

### Banana

Both banana in crop and harvested acreage levels for 2009 were unchanged from the previous year. Utilized production was estimated at 18.5 million pounds, up 6 percent or 1.1 million pounds from the 2008 crop. Value of sales for 2009 totaled \$10.2 million, up 27 percent or \$2.2 million compared to the preceding year's crop. This notable rise not only attributed increased production, but also a 20 percent or 9.0 cents increase in the average price per pound received by producers.

### Guava

Processed guava production was estimated at 2.1 million pounds which was 1.4 million pounds or 40 percent below 2008's crop. Total acreage for 2009 was estimated at 175 acres, down 5 acres. Harvested acres totaled 135, down 25 acres or 16 percent compared to the previous year. The 2009 value of sales was estimated at \$294 thousand which fell \$259 thousand or 47 percent lower compared to 2008 levels.

### Papaya

The State's papaya growers devoted 2,025 acres toward papaya production, an 8 percent decline from the previous year. Harvested area totaled 1,325 acres, down 4 percent from 2008. Papaya output was also down 6 percent at 31.5 million pounds and the value of sales totaled \$14.2 million, 1 percent below 2008. ■



## U.S. Sugarcane:



Production of sugarcane for sugar and seed is forecast at 29.4 million tons, down 3 percent from the October 1 forecast and last year. Producers intend to harvest 876,200 acres for sugar and seed in 2010, unchanged from last month but up 2,300 acres from last year. In Texas, area harvested for sugar and seed is expected to total 52,000 acres. If realized, this will be a record high for the State. Conversely, producers in Hawaii are expected to harvest 17,200 acres for sugar and seed and if realized, will be a record low for the State. Expected yield is forecast at 33.5 tons per acre, down 1.0 ton from the October 1 forecast and down 1.3 tons from 2009. The November yield forecast is down from last month in Louisiana but remained unchanged in Florida, Hawaii, and Texas.

By mid-month, sugarcane harvest was active in the Florida Everglades. Dry weather in Louisiana promoted a rapid harvest pace, ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. ■

### SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production, by State and United States, 2009 and Forecasted November 1, 2010

State	Area harvested		Yield <sup>1</sup>			Production <sup>1</sup>	
	2009	2010	2009	2010		2009	2010
				Oct 1	Nov 1		
	———— 1,000 acres ————		————— Tons —————			———— 1,000 tons ————	
Florida	387.0	<b>392.0</b>	36.0	<b>36.7</b>	<b>36.7</b>	13,939	<b>14,386</b>
Hawaii	22.2	<b>17.2</b>	62.3	<b>72.2</b>	<b>72.2</b>	1,382	<b>1,242</b>
Louisiana	425.0	<b>415.0</b>	32.2	<b>31.0</b>	<b>29.0</b>	13,685	<b>12,035</b>
Texas	39.7	<b>52.0</b>	35.9	<b>33.0</b>	<b>33.0</b>	1,426	<b>1,716</b>
U.S.	873.9	<b>876.2</b>	34.8	<b>34.5</b>	<b>33.5</b>	30,432	<b>29,379</b>

<sup>1</sup> Net tons.



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## U.S. Sugarbeets:



Production of sugarbeets for the 2010 crop year is forecast at 31.9 million tons, down 4 percent from the October 1 forecast but 8 percent above 2009. Producers expect to harvest 1.15 million acres, up 29,000 acres from October and up 4,900 acres from 2009. Yield is forecast at 27.7 tons per acre, a decrease of 1.9 tons from the previous forecast but 2.0 tons above last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield for the United States. Record high yields are also expected in Colorado, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wyoming.

Sugarbeet producers in the four major producing States dug 62 percent of this year's crop from October 3 to October 31. In Minnesota and North Dakota, ideal fieldwork conditions allowed harvest to advance ahead of both last year and the average pace throughout the month. In Michigan, producers spent the first half of the month digging just enough beets to keep the factories running but harvest gained speed toward month's end. By October 31, ninety-two percent of the Nation's sugarbeet crop had been harvested, the quickest pace since 2003. ■

**SUGARBEETS: Area Harvested, Yield, and Production, by State and United States, 2009 and Forecasted November 1, 2010<sup>1</sup>**

State	Area Harvested		Yield			Production	
	2009	2010	2009	2010		2009	2010
				Oct 1	Nov 1		
	———— 1,000 acres ————		———— Tons ————			———— 1,000 tons ————	
California	25.3	<b>25.0</b>	35.0	<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	886	<b>1,000</b>
Colorado	35.0	<b>27.5</b>	27.5	<b>28.0</b>	<b>29.5</b>	963	<b>820</b>
Idaho	163.0	<b>170.0</b>	34.3	<b>32.2</b>	<b>30.3</b>	5,591	<b>5,151</b>
Michigan	136.0	<b>147.0</b>	24.4	<b>29.0</b>	<b>26.5</b>	3,318	<b>3,896</b>
Minnesota	449.0	<b>442.0</b>	23.7	<b>29.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>	10,641	<b>11,934</b>
Montana	33.6	<b>42.6</b>	29.8	<b>30.9</b>	<b>29.5</b>	1,001	<b>1,257</b>
Nebraska	52.6	<b>47.5</b>	24.6	<b>22.0</b>	<b>22.6</b>	1,294	<b>1,074</b>
North Dakota	218.0	<b>211.0</b>	22.0	<b>29.5</b>	<b>26.5</b>	4,796	<b>5,592</b>
Oregon	10.5	<b>10.3</b>	37.6	<b>35.1</b>	<b>35.1</b>	395	<b>362</b>
Wyoming	25.6	<b>30.3</b>	26.5	<b>27.0</b>	<b>28.0</b>	678	<b>848</b>
U.S.	1,148.6	<b>1,153.5</b>	25.7	<b>29.6</b>	<b>27.7</b>	29,563	<b>31,934</b>

<sup>1</sup> Relates to year of intended harvest in all States except California. In California, relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.