

HAWAII FRUITS

Annual summary

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RECORD LOW PINEAPPLE OUTPUT REDUCES THE 1997 PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Hawaii fruit growers harvested **721.7** million pounds of fruit for fresh and processed utilization in 1997, down 6 percent from 1996, according to the Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service (HASS). Unfavorable growing conditions, disease, and limited markets were some of the factors affecting fruit production during the year. The 7 percent drop in pineapple from a year ago caused most of the decline in overall production. Pineapples continued to generate 90 percent of the State's 1997 fruit output, accounting for 79 percent of the fresh utilization and 96 percent of the processed utilization. Papayas and guavas also had lower output than the previous year. Bananas, other fruits, and avocados produced at higher levels in 1997 than 1996.

The farm value of all fruits totaled **\$121.3** million in 1997, 1 percent lower than 1996, the first decline following three consecutive years of increase. Compared with last year, farm values were lower for pineapples and guavas, but higher for papayas, bananas, other fruits, and avocados. Oahu remained the top county in the State, generating more than half of the fruit value at \$68.2 million, with pineapples contributing the largest share.

| In this Issue: | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1997 Fruit summary | 1 |
| Fruit value by islands | 2 |
| Processed fruit comments | 3 |
| Fresh fruit comments | 3 |
| Fresh fruit market supply | 4 |

FRUITS: Acreage, utilization, and value, State of Hawaii, 1996-97¹

| Fruit | Acreage | | | | Utilization | | | | | | Farm value | |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Total | | Harvested ² | | Fresh | | Processed | | Total | | 1996 | 1997 |
| | 1996 | 1997 | 1996 | 1997 | 1996 | 1997 | 1996 | 1997 | 1996 | 1997 | | |
| | ----- Acres ----- | | | | ----- 1,000 pounds ----- | | | | | | --- 1,000 dollars --- | |
| Avocados | 330 | 340 | 180 | 220 | 400 | 500 | -- | -- | 400 | 500 | 214 | 265 |
| Bananas | 1,240 | 1,590 | 1,040 | 1,020 | 13,000 | 13,700 | -- | -- | 13,000 | 13,700 | 5,200 | 5,206 |
| Guavas | 920 | 880 | 710 | 670 | -- | -- | 16,300 | 15,900 | 16,300 | 15,900 | 2,249 | 1,940 |
| Papayas | 3,610 | 4,055 | 1,835 | 1,985 | 37,800 | 35,700 | 4,000 | 3,100 | 41,800 | 38,800 | 17,054 | 18,978 |
| Pineapples | 20,000 | 19,900 | * | * | 230,000 | 206,000 | 464,000 | 442,000 | 694,000 | 648,000 | 95,914 | 91,721 |
| Others ³ | 999 | 1,156 | 603 | 591 | 2,424 | 4,683 | 335 | 166 | 2,759 | 4,849 | 1,804 | 3,175 |
| Total | 27,099 | 27,921 | 4,368 | 4,486 | 283,624 | 260,583 | 484,635 | 461,166 | 768,259 | 721,749 | 122,435 | 121,285 |

-- = Not Applicable.

* = Not Available.

¹ Data for current year are preliminary.

² Average during the year.

³ Some of the fruits included in this category are orange (since 1987), lime, grape, grapefruit, lychee, mango, atemoya, passion fruit, persimmon, poha, rambutan, specialty pineapple, starfruit, strawberry, tangerine, tangelo, and others.

FRUIT VALUE BY ISLANDS

● HAWAII

Hawaii island generated farm sales of \$21.0 million, 2 percent higher than a year ago mainly due to record high papaya prices. Papaya sales made up 69 percent of the island's total fruit production with farm receipts of \$14.5 million. Banana output continued to be ranked second with a value of \$3.4 million, 12 percent more than 1996. Guavas, citrus, tropical specialty fruits, strawberries, avocados, and grapes made up the remaining 15 percent of Hawaii island's fruit value.

FRUITS: Value of sales, by islands, 1993-97¹

| Year | Pineapples | Other | Total |
|------|------------|-------|-------|
|------|------------|-------|-------|

1,000 dollars (Fresh weight basis)

State

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1993 | 79,850 | 22,173 | 102,023 |
| 1994 | 78,890 | 23,611 | 102,501 |
| 1995 | 87,360 | 28,218 | 115,578 |
| 1996 | 95,914 | 26,521 | 122,435 |
| 1997 | 91,721 | 29,564 | 121,285 |

Hawaii

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1993 | ² | 18,226 | 18,226 |
| 1994 | ² | 18,271 | 18,271 |
| 1995 | ³ | 22,255 | 22,255 |
| 1996 | ³ | 20,646 | 20,646 |
| 1997 | ³ | 21,018 | 21,018 |

Kauai

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1993 | ² | 1,392 | 1,392 |
| 1994 | ² | 2,542 | 2,542 |
| 1995 | ³ | 2,579 | 2,579 |
| 1996 | ³ | 2,377 | 2,377 |
| 1997 | ³ | 2,596 | 2,596 |

Maui/Molokai/Lanai

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1993 | 24,890 | 779 | 25,669 |
| 1994 | 25,150 | 984 | 26,134 |
| 1995 | 24,775 | 1,031 | 25,806 |
| 1996 | 27,144 | 858 | 28,002 |
| 1997 | 28,295 | 1,136 | 29,431 |

Oahu

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1993 | 54,923 | 1,776 | 56,699 |
| 1994 | 53,690 | 1,814 | 55,504 |
| 1995 | 62,585 | 2,353 | 64,938 |
| 1996 | 68,770 | 2,640 | 71,410 |
| 1997 | 63,426 | 4,814 | 68,240 |

● KAUAI

Kauai's fruit sales for 1997 increased 9 percent from the previous year to \$2.6 million, with guava and papayas accounting for most of the value. Tropical specialty fruits, bananas, avocados, and citrus contributed the remainder.

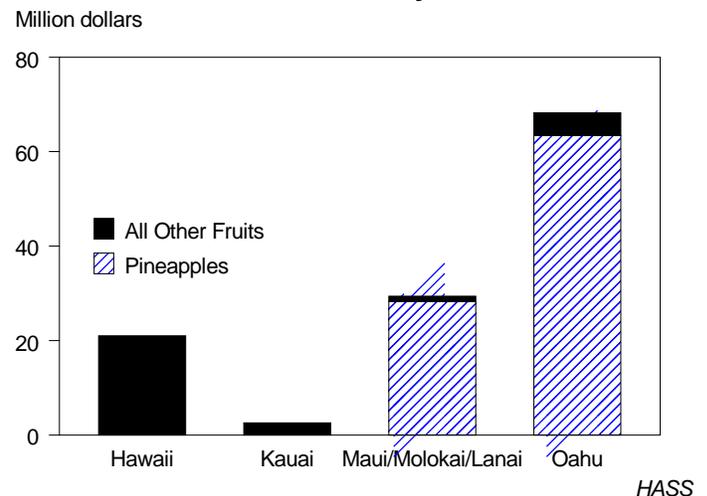
● MAUI/MOLOKAI/LANAI

The value of fruit sales from Maui County was up 5 percent to 29.4 million dollars. Most of the increase was due to the higher pineapple value which was up 4 percent from 1996. Pineapples accounted for 96 percent of Maui counties' value. Bananas, papayas, and other fruits made up the remaining value.

● OAHU

Fruits grown on Oahu generated sales of \$68.2 million in 1997 compared to \$71.4 million during the previous year. Oahu fruit sales continued to rank first among the counties with 56 percent of the State fruit value. Pineapple farm value accounted for 93 percent of the county total. Revenue from other fruits were up for the fourth consecutive year and 82 percent more than the 1996 total. Papayas, bananas, tropical specialty fruits, guavas, citrus, and avocados contributed toward the rest of the value.

FRUITS: Farm value, by islands, 1997



¹ Sum of Island estimates may not add to State total. ² Less than 50,000 dollars. ³ Combined with "others" to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

PROCESSED FRUITS

● GUAVAS

Hawaii guava production in 1997 totaled 15.9 million pounds, down 2 percent from the amount produced for processing in 1996 and declining for the third consecutive year. Weather was favorable for production, but demand was lower. Total acreage totaled 880, down 40 acres from 1996. The value for guavas was pegged at \$1.9 million, 14 percent below 1996. Growers received an average farm price of 12.2 cents per pound compared with 13.8 cents the previous year.

● PAPAYAS

Processed papaya utilization decreased 23 percent in 1997 to 3.1 million pounds. Processed papayas accounted for 8 percent of the papaya utilization compared to 10 percent last year. Farm price for processed papayas averaged 3.0 cents per pound, unchanged from last year.

● PINEAPPLES

Processed pineapple utilization totaled 442 million pounds in 1997, down 5 percent from 1996. About 68 percent of the State's pineapple crop was processed during the year. Pineapples for processing averaged \$127 per ton, \$10 more than the previous year.

● OTHER PROCESSED FRUITS

About 166 thousand pounds of the other fruits were utilized for processing in 1997. Wine grape, starfruit, and passion fruit are some of the other processed fruits.

FRESH FRUITS

● AVOCADOS

Avocado production totaled 500 thousand pounds, up 25 percent from a year ago. Improved weather conditions and a 22 percent increase in harvested acreage helped to increase production during 1997. Sharwil is the State's major variety and was developed specifically for the mainland market. After being approved for the mainland shipments in 1996, exports have yet to take off. A shipment of treated Sharwil was successfully shipped to the mainland last fall and there are hopes to send more fruit this season. Until the mainland market becomes firmly established, Hawaii growers are confined to local markets, Alaska, and other winter markets outside the continental U.S. The value of avocado sales was \$265 thousand, up 24 percent from 1996. Avocado growers received an average price of 53.0 cents per pound during the year, .5 cent lower than the previous year.

● BANANAS

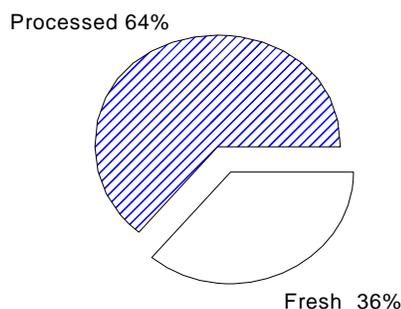
Banana growers harvested 13.7 million pounds in 1997, up 5 percent from a year ago. Improved yields and production from younger Cavendish orchards increased output and tying the 1994 record. Total in-crop acreage February 1,

1998 reached an all-time high 1,590 acres, 350 acres more than last year. Harvested acreage decreased 20 areas to 1,020. About 300 acres are expected to be planted in 1998 with most projected for Oahu and Hawaii island. Larger production of Cavendish bananas are expected for 1998 as more acreage begin to bear fruit. Farm prices for all varieties averaged 38.0 cents per pound in 1997, down 2.0 cents per pound from a year ago. The farm-gate value of locally produced bananas was slightly above the 1996 record of \$5.2 million.

● PAPAYAS

Fresh papaya utilization totaled 35.7 million pounds in 1997, down 6 percent from last year, accounting for 92 percent of the total papaya utilization. About 62 percent of the fresh sales went to out-of-state destinations. Both in-crop and harvested acreage increased above a year ago. Papaya ringspot virus still remained the top concern of the industry. Growers have planted in previously unaffected areas or used control strategies to reduce the spread of the virus.

Fruit Utilization, State of Hawaii, 1997



HASS

Transgenic papaya seed developed by the University of Hawaii and Cornell University is expected to help offset the downturn in output caused by the virus. Farm prices for fresh sales averaged a record 52.9 cents per pound in 1997, increasing for the fourth year.

● PINEAPPLES

Fruit harvested for fresh sales totaled 206 million pounds in 1997, down 10 percent from the 1996 total. Fresh sales accounted for 32 percent of the total pineapple production. Fresh pineapples averaged a record high \$618 per ton, \$20 more than the previous year's price and highest on record.

● OTHER PROCESSED FRUITS

Other fresh fruits totaled 4.7 million pounds in 1997, up 93 percent from 1996. About 97 percent of these other fruits were utilized for fresh consumption. Some of the more important fruits in this category were atemoya, grapefruit, lime, lychee, mango, orange, persimmon, specialty pineapple, rambutan, starfruit, strawberry, tangelo, and tangerine.

The market supply table was not published at the time of printing due to insufficient inshipment data. Figures will be available in the *1997 Statistics of Hawaiian Agriculture* publication to be printed on a later date.