



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service  
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

# Hawaii Ginger Root

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## Production and farm prices decline

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Acres harvested, yield, production, average farm prices, and total farm value from 1952.

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Acres expected to be harvested during the 2002/2003 season.

### U.S. imports of ginger root during 2001 ..... page 4

Annual imports of ginger root by product type and country of origin.

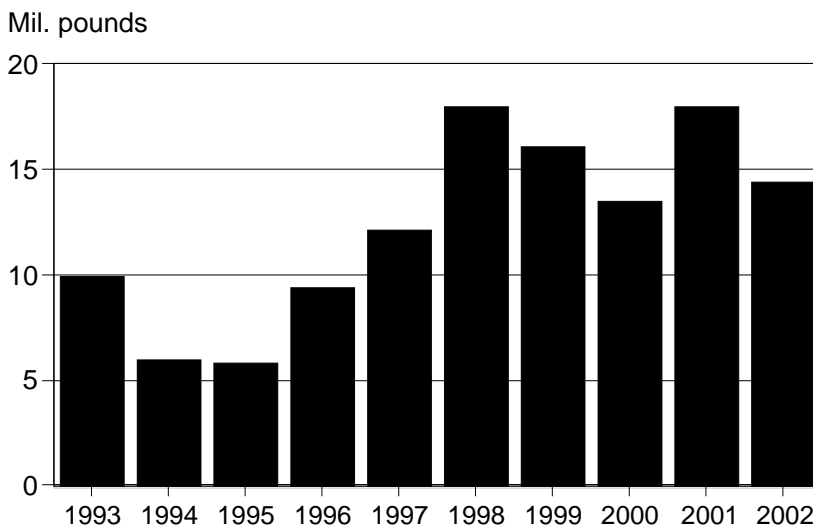
Hawaii's ginger root farmers harvested 14.4 million pounds during the 2001/02 season, down 20 percent from the previous season's revised estimate of 18.0 million pounds. Farm prices declined 33 percent to an average of 30.0 cents per pound during the 2001/2002 season, and total farm revenues were pegged at \$4.3 million, down 47 percent from the 2000/2001 season.

### Hawaii farmers beleaguered by weather, disease, and world production

Untimely rains in the major growing areas along the eastern side of Hawaii island was a major reason for the decline in production during the 2001/02 season. The 5-month period from October 2001 to February 2002 was marked by wetter-than-normal weather. Particularly damaging were intense rainstorms during November 26 to 28 and again on January 29. The wet weather occurred at a time when most plants were in the mature stage, and drier conditions would have been ideal. The end result was a reduction in yields for many farmers due to flood damage and diseases.

Growers also indicated that an influx of foreign ginger into the U.S. market (see world report on pages 3 and 4) led to a drop in local farm prices to a level that a few farmers said it was uneconomical to harvest. Farm prices were reported as low as 20 cents per pound. The overall average of 30 cents per pound for the entire 2001/02 crop was the lowest since the 1970/71 season. ■

**Production of Fresh Hawaii Ginger Root**  
State of Hawaii, 1993-2002



## Hawaii Fresh Ginger Root Statistics

Acres harvested, yield per harvested acre, production, average farm price, and farm value  
State of Hawaii, 1952 to 2002

Year <sup>1/</sup>	Acres harvested	Yield per harvested acre	Production	Average farm price	Farm value
		----- 1,000 pounds -----		Cents per pound	\$1,000
1952	14	30.4	425	39.3	167
1953	13	43.5	565	28.8	163
1954	20	40.2	805	21.5	173
1955	20	39.2	785	19.5	150
1956	22	34.5	760	22.1	168
1957	17	33.5	570	25.3	144
1958	15	32.7	490	39.2	192
1959	25	29.2	730	24.4	178
1960	32	28.3	905	19.7	178
1961	27	25.2	680	23.8	162
1962	21	17.1	360	40.0	144
1963	17	22.6	385	30.6	118
1964	25	26.2	655	18.5	121
1965	15	35.0	525	23.4	123
1966	14	35.0	490	28.4	139
1967	19	37.9	720	28.3	204
1968	19	37.1	705	26.0	183
1969	21	40.0	840	28.9	243
1970	21	39.3	820	29.4	241
1971	23	40.2	925	27.5	254
1972	17	29.4	500	41.8	209
1973	13	39.6	515	68.7	354
1974	11	32.0	352	61.9	218
1975	22	36.0	793	60.7	481
1976	18	36.1	650	61.8	402
1977	39	28.5	1,110	65.4	726
1978	55	24.4	1,340	61.1	819
1979	75	24.8	1,860	61.2	1,138
1980	40	40.8	1,610	61.7	1,090
1981	64	44.7	2,860	76.2	2,179
1982	100	36.3	3,630	92.3	3,350
1983	160	32.1	5,140	54.6	2,806
1984	135	37.4	5,050	45.1	2,280
1985	125	43.4	5,425	82.3	4,465
1986	145	40.7	5,900	81.0	4,779
1987	215	46.7	10,050	45.0	4,523
1988	165	49.1	8,100	62.0	5,022
1989	180	50.0	9,000	71.5	6,435
1990	190	50.0	9,500	71.5	6,792
1991	250	48.0	12,000	63.0	7,560
1992	290	40.0	11,600	55.0	6,380
1993	360	27.5	9,900	53.0	5,247
1994	150	40.0	6,000	87.0	5,220
1995	135	43.0	5,800	87.0	5,046
1996	200	47.0	9,400	75.0	7,050
1997	275	44.0	12,100	67.0	8,107
1998	360	50.0	18,000	40.0	7,200
1999	350	46.0	16,100	50.0	8,050
2000	270	50.0	13,500	66.0	8,910
2001	360	50.0	18,000	45.0	8,100
<b>2002</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>4,320</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Harvesting normally begins in December and continues into the year shown.

# Outlook for Hawaii's 2002/2003 Season

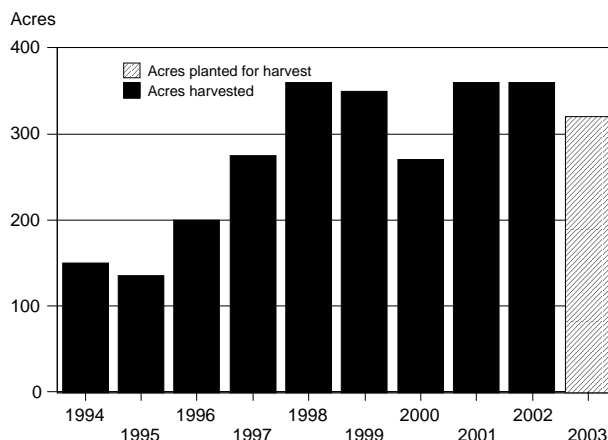
Hawaii ginger root growers are expected to plant 260 acres for harvest during the 2002/03 season, down 19 percent from the 320 acres harvested during the 2001/02 season.

Based on the most recent 3-year average yield of 48,300 pounds per harvested acre, the 2002/2003 crop would result in 15.5 million pounds, up 8 percent from the 2001/2002 harvest. The eventual harvest, however, will be depend on weather conditions in the ensuing months.

Latest reports indicate that the fields planted for harvest during the 2002/03 season were making fair to good progress, and disease incidence has been light.

The Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service publishes weekly updates on the progress of the 2002/2003 ginger root crop in the *Hawaii Crop Weather* report.

**Expected Ginger Root for Harvest with Acres Harvested in Previous Seasons**  
State of Hawaii, 1994-2003



## U.S. Ginger Root Imports

### Imports down slightly in 2001

Imports of ginger root into the United States totaled 46.7 million pounds in 2001, down fractionally from the record high 46.9 million pounds imported during 2000.

Imports of ginger in ground form more than doubled in 2001 to 2.3 million pounds. However, this increase was more than offset by a decrease in not ground ginger which accounted for 85 percent of all ginger imported into the U.S. during 2001.

For the first five months of 2002, imports of ginger root totaled 19.9 million pounds, 8 percent higher than the comparable period in 2001.

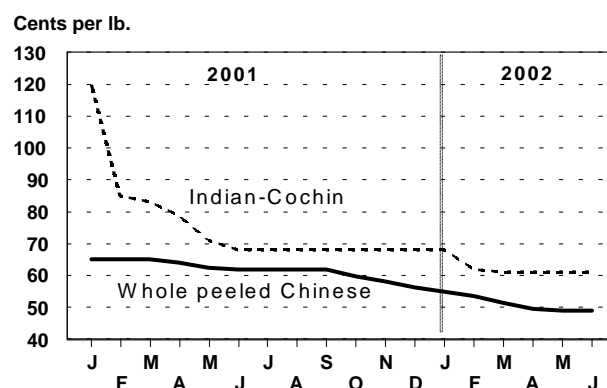
### China is major supplier

China remained the leading source of ginger imported into the U.S. with 50 percent of the imports, Brazil was a distant second with 18 percent, Thailand third with 10 percent, Costa Rica fourth with 7 percent, and rounding out the top five was Australia with 2 percent.

### Ginger prices dropping

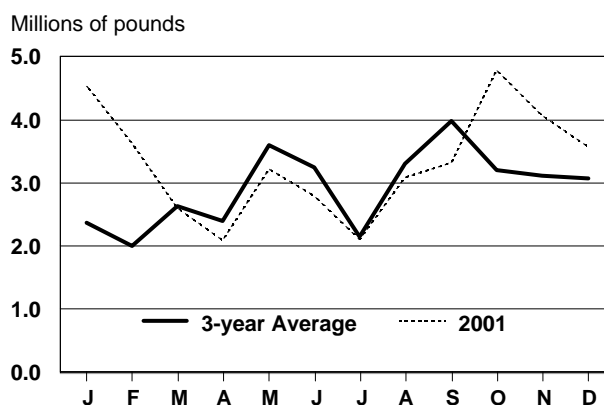
The large quantities of Chinese ginger that have been reaching the market has depressed ginger prices. The average New York Spot price for whole peeled Chinese ginger dropped to 49 cents per pound this May, the lowest spot price since July 1982 - nearly 20 years ago New York spot market prices for Indian-Cochin ginger, considered a top quality ginger, has suffered a steeper decline with prices dropping from \$1.20 in January 2001 to \$0.61 per pound in June 2002, a 49-percent drop in 18 months.

**Average Monthly New York Ginger Spot Prices**  
By type of ginger, 2001 and 2002



### Monthly U.S. Imports of 'Not Ground' Ginger Root

Three-year average (1998-2000) and 2001



## U.S. Imports of Ginger Root

Year	Type of Ginger Root				Total
	Ground	Not Ground	Preserved	Sweet	
<b>2001 by Country</b>					
	<i>pounds</i>				
Australia	474,639	0	609,281	0	1,083,920
Belgium	0	42,533	0	0	42,533
Brazil	327,908	8,056,911	0	0	8,384,819
Burma	0	58,918	0	0	58,918
Canada	0	0	0	630,725	630,725
China	913,833	20,923,160	421,460	1,085,049	23,346,502
Costa Rica	76,231	2,988,827	0	0	3,065,058
Dominican Republic	0	37,747	0	0	37,747
Ecuador	0	480,662	0	0	480,662
Fiji	0	64,238	60,571	122,567	247,376
Honduras	0	118,184	0	0	118,184
Hong Kong	0	315,798	54,469	63,836	434,103
India	198,257	777,765	0	17,322	993,344
Indonesia	0	38,618	355,104	0	393,722
Jamaica	0	798	0	58,728	59,526
Japan	90,904	64,923	0	6,296	162,124
Nicaragua	0	828,561	0	0	828,561
Nigeria	0	790,307	0	0	790,307
Singapore	0	0	27,940	10,331	40,071
South Africa	139,732	252,316	0	0	392,048
Thailand	33,830	3,688,955	605,939	540,211	4,868,934
United Kingdom	0	84,571	0	86,220	170,790
All others	0	64,899	14,389	28,058	107,346
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,255,334</b>	<b>39,681,693</b>	<b>2,150,953</b>	<b>2,649,343</b>	<b>46,737,324</b>
2000	824,896	41,140,065	2,079,714	2,845,011	46,889,686
1999	668,529	33,679,098	1,999,925	2,058,839	38,406,391
1998	562,744	30,374,619	1,512,118	1,815,909	34,265,390
1997	853,615	29,649,346	1,267,228	2,045,717	33,815,906

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce