

Hawaii Ginger Root

In cooperation with:



Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Production drops 36 percent

Hawaii's ginger root farmers harvested 1.8 million pounds during the 2007/08 season, down 36 percent from the 2006/07 season and the smallest crop since the 1979/80 harvest. The average farm price is estimated at 160.0 cents per pound during the 2007/2008 season, up 88 percent from the previous season's farm price of 85.0 cents per pound. Total farm value of the 2007/08 harvest is estimated at \$2.9 million, up 21 percent from the 2006/07 season.

Weather, disease, and imports hamper production

Ginger root growers harvested 60 acres during the 2007/08 season, down 25 percent from the previous season and the lowest total in 28 years. Weather conditions were less than ideal for ginger root during the 2007/08 season. Ginger root needs abundant rainfall during its growth phase and the major producing areas of the island of Hawaii experienced a dry 2007/08 season. The dry conditions hampered crop growth. Rainfall was above normal levels for a few months, but it occurred during the late fall and winter months when drier conditions are desirable for harvesting. Disease problems affected production. Finally, the increase imports of cheaper ginger root from China (see page 2) impacted Hawaii growers.

Hawaii ginger root growers received an average of 160 cents per pound during the 2007/08 season. This average farm price includes the sale of higher-priced organic ginger root. Total farm value is estimated at \$2.9 million, up 21 percent from 2006/07.

2008/09 season outlook

Hawaii ginger root growers are expected to plant 50 acres for harvest during the 2008/09 season, down 17 percent from the 2007/08 season. Based on the most recent 3-year average yield of 37,100 pounds per acre, the 2008/09 crop would result in a harvest of 1.9 million pounds. The eventual harvest, however, will depend on weather and economic conditions in the ensuing months. ■

Hawaii Fresh Ginger Root Statistics

Acres harvested, yield per harvested acre, production, average farm price, and farm value
 State of Hawaii, 2004 to 2008

Year ^{1/}	Acres harvested	Yield per Harvested acre	Production	Average farm price	Farm value
			1,000 pounds	Cents per pound	\$1,000
2004	150	40.0	6,000	90.0	5,400
2005	120	42.5	5,100	80.0	4,080
2006	100	43.0	4,300	70.0	3,010
2007	80	35.0	2,800	85.0	2,380
2008	60	30.0	1,800	160.0	2,880

^{1/} Harvesting normally begins in December and continues into the year shown.

U.S. Imports of Ginger Root by Country, 2007

Country	Type of Ginger Root				Total
	Ground	Not Ground	Preserved	Sweet	
<i>Pounds</i>					
2007					
Australia	0	0	1,010,306	124,158	1,134,464
Brazil	24,105	6,564,041	0	0	6,588,146
Canada	0	0	26,786	0	26,786
China	2,577,378	59,304,840	2,048,970	8,278,697	72,209,885
Costa Rica	19,260	2,472,279	0	0	2,491,539
Denmark	0	0	0	3,704	3,704
Dominican Rep	0	37,999	0	1,034	39,033
Ecuador	0	28,642	0	0	28,642
Federal Republic of Germany	3,924	110,154	0	0	114,078
Fiji	1,543	38,444	227,385	0	267,372
Ghana	0	36,235	0	0	36,235
Honduras	0	803,706	0	0	803,706
Hong Kong	2,553	0	9,674	158,583	170,810
India	457,018	292,809	0	18,673	768,500
Indonesia	49,827	44,051	0	0	93,878
Israel	1,433	979	0	0	2,412
Japan	27,022	39,150	0	81,990	148,162
Korea	0	0	6,085	0	6,085
Morocco	0	35,300	0	0	35,300
Nicaragua	0	20,066	0	0	20,066
Nigeria	0	1,153,298	0	0	1,153,298
Panama	0	11,023	0	0	11,023
Peru	0	428,757	0	0	428,757
Switzerland	0	0	3,285	0	3,285
Taiwan	0	1,980	0	2,771	4,751
Thailand	23,146	3,514,922	1,215,294	735,636	5,488,998
Turkey	0	52,404	0	0	52,404
United Kingdom	16,806	0	0	56,035	72,841
Vietnam	1,867	91,761	20,333	7,077	121,038
Totals	3,205,882	75,082,840	4,568,118	9,468,358	92,325,198
2006	3,028,894	68,738,566	4,268,037	8,033,995	84,068,492
2005	3,742,305	66,864,079	3,471,637	7,577,771	81,655,791
2004	4,603,479	59,335,956	2,954,988	5,789,877	72,684,300
2003	2,746,190	57,548,221	3,138,816	4,828,115	68,261,342
2002	2,243,737	44,310,018	3,012,978	3,314,718	52,881,452

^{1/} Source: U.S. Department of Commerce.