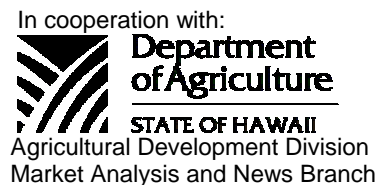




HAWAII PAPAYAS



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Frequency: Monthly

Release: May 13, 2009

MARCH FRESH PAPAYA INCREASES

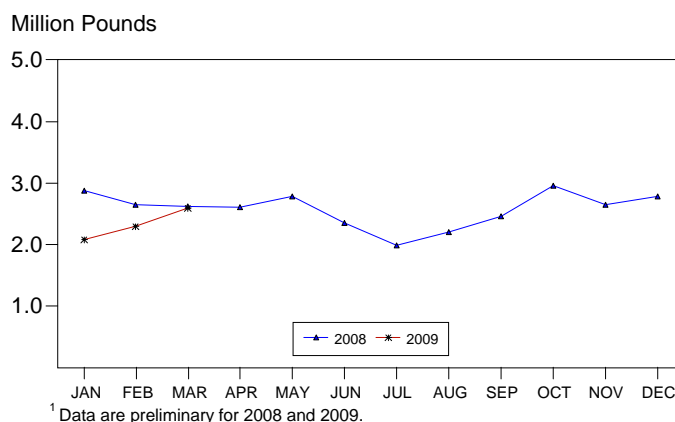
Hawaii fresh papaya utilization is estimated at 2.6 million pounds for March 2009, up 13 percent from February 2009, but down 1 percent from March 2008. Fresh utilization for the first quarter of 2009 totaled 7.0 million pounds down 14 percent from the same period last year.

Total in crop acreage for March is estimated at 2,330, a 14 percent increase from the same month last year. Harvested area totaled 1,470 acres, 3 percent more than March 2008.

In March, orchards experienced sunny periods, trade winds, and showers, constant and heavy at times. The wet conditions interrupted orchard maintenance programs. Growers waited for drier periods to continue with their spraying efforts. The high soil moisture was conducive to root rot, and an increase in fungal leaf spot incidence was reported. Despite the wet weather conditions, orchards appeared to be in fair to good condition. The newly planted seedlings also benefited from the added moisture.

Papaya growers are expected to receive an estimated 48.0 cents per pound for fresh fruit in March, 4 percent (2.0 cents) less than last month and March a year ago.

PAPAYA: Fresh Utilization, State of Hawaii, 2008-2009¹



FRESH PAPAYA UTILIZATION, STATE OF HAWAII, 2009 WITH COMPARISONS¹

Month	Sales				Year ago	Year-to-date	
	Local ²	Intrastate	Out-of-State	Total fresh		2008	2009
	<i>1,000 pounds</i>						
February	247	1,103	950	2,300	2,645	5,525	4,380
March	249	1,166	1,185	2,600	2,620	8,145	6,980

¹ Data are preliminary for 2008 and 2009.

² On island of production.

PAPAYA ACREAGE, STATE OF HAWAII, 2009 WITH COMPARISONS ¹

County	Total acreage in crop							
	March		June		September		December	
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009	2008	2009
Hawaii.....	1,820	2,150	1,840		2,020		2,220	
Honolulu/Kauai/Maui ²	220	180	200		185		190	
State.....	2,040	2,330	2,040		2,205		2,410	
Total harvested acres ³								
Hawaii.....	1,275	1,350	1,200		1,150		1,335	
Honolulu/Kauai/Maui ²	155	120	130		130		130	
State.....	1,430	1,470	1,330		1,280		1,465	

¹ Data are preliminary for 2008 and 2009.

² Kauai and Maui combined with Honolulu to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

³ Bearing acres where papayas were harvested.

FRESH PAPAYA FARM PRICE, STATE OF HAWAII, 2008-2009 ¹

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Average
	<i>Cents per pound</i>												
2008	41.0	43.0	50.0	51.0	53.0	51.0	52.0	50.0	47.0	43.0	39.0	38.0	
2009	46.0	50.0	48.0										

¹ Data are preliminary for 2008 and 2009.

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