



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Vegetables

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February 2003

Conditions remain relatively dry

Most vegetables made fair to good progress as relatively dry winter weather continued to prevail into January. According to the National Weather Service (NWS), January's dry weather was consistent with the continuing El Niño conditions across the Pacific. The NWS reported that in January a total of 7 cold fronts and shear lines reached the State. However, most of these systems moved too quickly across the State and lacked significant upper-level support to produce substantial rainfall. The most significant effect from these weather systems were the accompanying strong southwesterly winds that caused some leaf shredding and fruit bruising in areas where the winds were enhanced by mountains and valleys.

Harvested acreage will increase or remain stable for most vegetables in February as declines will be limited to **romaine** (-37%) and **dry onions** (-11%). Of the nine other vegetables, harvested acreage is anticipated to remain unchanged for **head cabbage**, **mustard cabbage**, and **semi-head lettuce**. Double-digit percentage increases in harvested acreage are expected for **Chinese cabbage** (+18%), **sweet corn** (+25%), **cucumbers** (+13%), **head lettuce** (+33%), and **green onions** (+17%).

For March, the opposite will be true as most vegetables will show a decline in harvested acreage. A notable exception will be a 158-percent increase in **dry onion** harvested acreage. ■

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Latest forecast of acreage for
harvest for selected U.S.
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Acreage

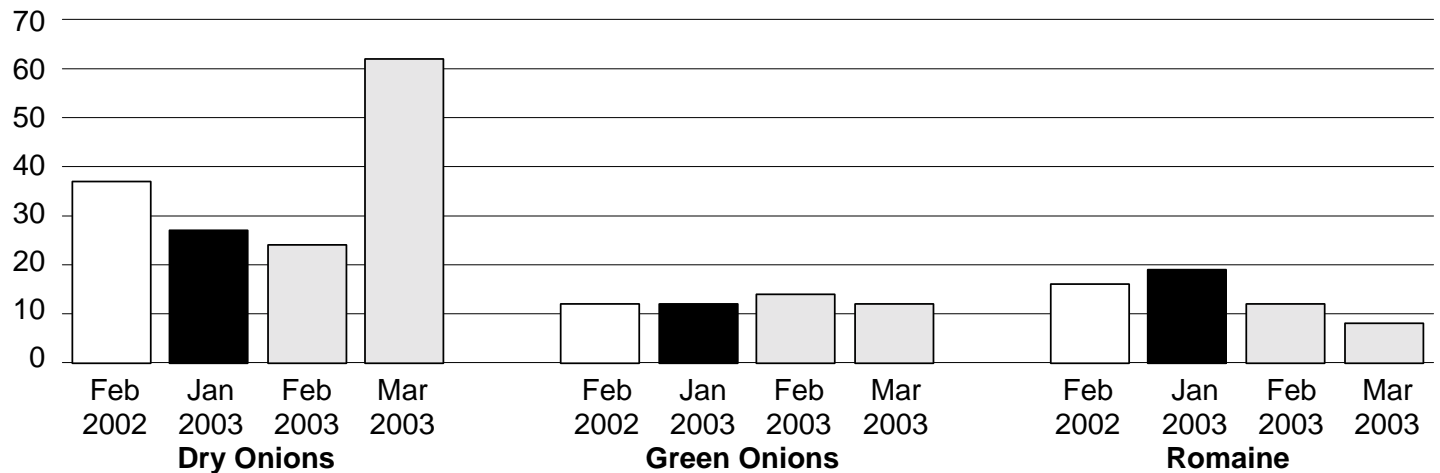
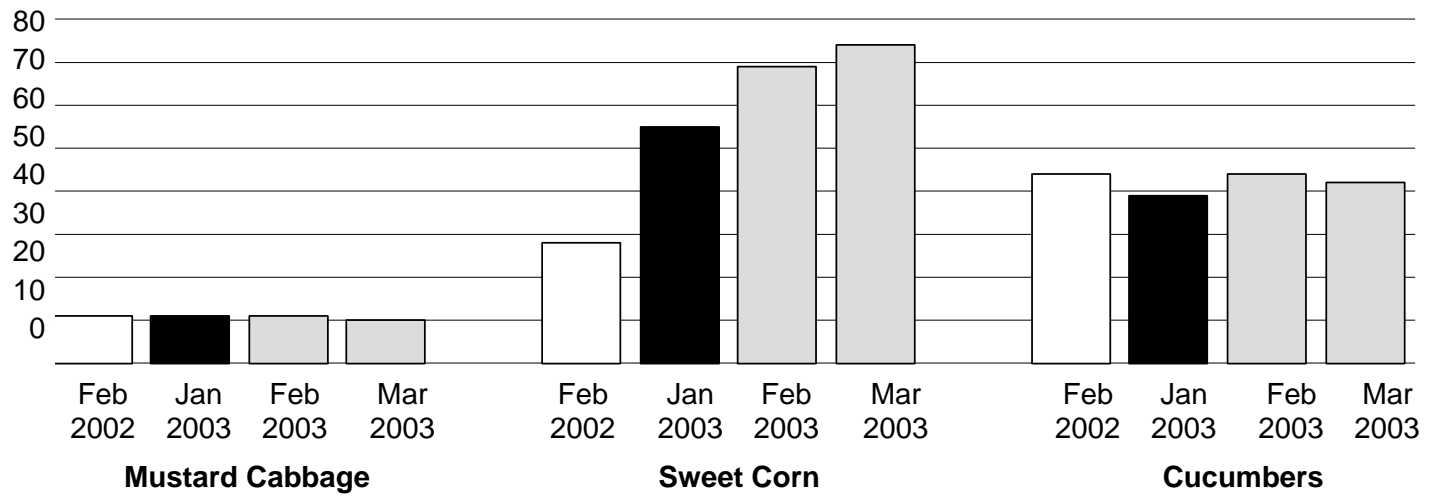
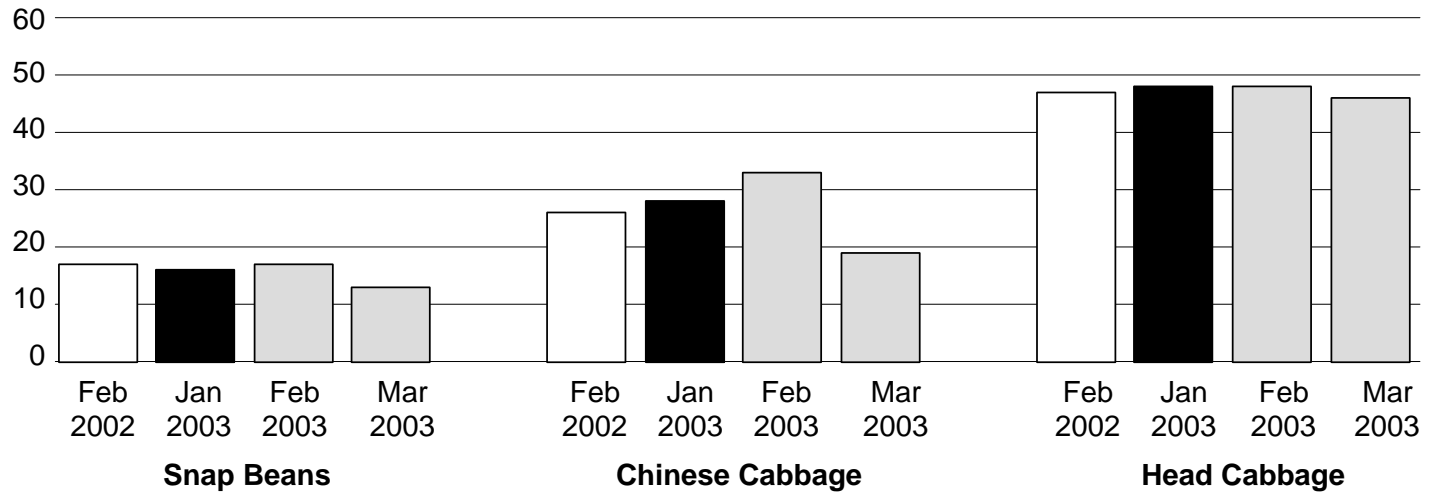
Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Dec 2002	Jan 2003	Dec 2002	Jan 2003	Feb 2003	Mar 2003
Beans, snap	16	14	17	16	17	13
Cabbage, Chinese	28	29	27	28	33	19
Cabbage, head	46	50	40	48	48	46
Cabbage, mustard	10	12	11	11	11	10
Corn, sweet	66	72	73	55	69	74
Cucumbers	37	48	41	39	44	42
Lettuce, head	6	7	7	6	8	3
Lettuce, semi-head	3	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	42	46	10	27	24	62
Onions, green	12	13	12	12	14	12
Romaine	19	14	19	19	12	8

Harvested acreage charts

Acres harvested a year ago
 Acres harvested last month
 Acres intended for harvest

Acres



January review

Output Declined for Most Vegetables

SNAP BEAN production is estimated at 60,000 pounds, down 19 percent from December. Gusty winds during the second half of January were mainly responsible for the lower output.

CHINESE CABBAGE production is estimated at 640,000 pounds for January, down 2 percent from December. Crop conditions were fair to good.

HEAD CABBAGE production totaled 1.3 million pounds in January, up 12 percent from December. Weather conditions have benefitted head development.

SWEET CORN production is estimated at 155,000 pounds for January, down 51 percent from last month. A 25-percent reduction in harvested acreage, cool temperatures, and cloudy skies all factored into January's lower output.

CUCUMBER production totaled 399,000 pounds in January, down 20 percent from December. In addition to the cloudy skies and cool temperatures, gusty winds also

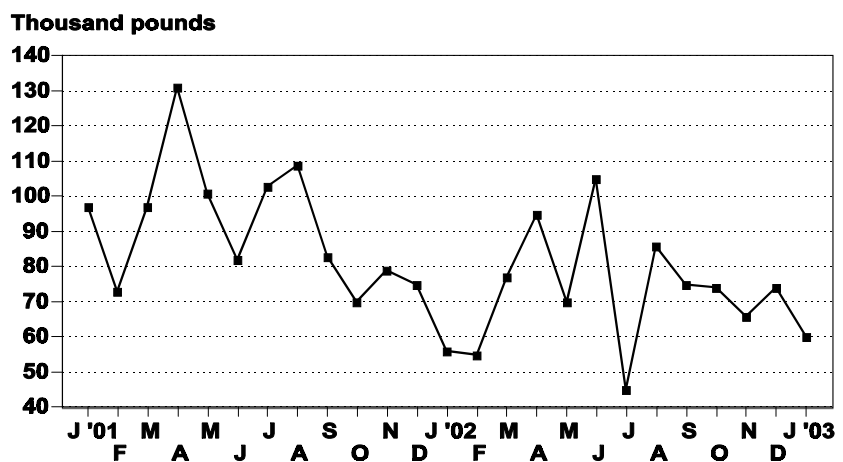
adversely affected harvestable yields in January.

DRY ONION production totaled 180,000 pounds in January, down 16 percent from December. Although harvested acreage more than doubled to 27 acres in January, yields were lowered by passing cold fronts that

produced just enough rain to damage mature bulbs.

TOMATO production totaled 1.5 million pounds in January, down 3 percent from December but 6 percent higher than a year ago. Crop conditions were reportedly good. O

**Hawaii Snap Beans:
Monthly production, 2001 - 2003**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, January 2003, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Feb 1 st	January 2003				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2002 ^{2/}	2003	Change
				----- 1,000 lbs. -----	Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs -----		Percent
Beans, snap	30	16	3.8	60	97.5	56	60	7
Cabbage, Chinese	49	28	22.9	640	21.7	615	640	4
Cabbage, head	100	48	27.0	1,294	21.4	1,031	1,294	26
Cabbage, mustard	16	11	10.3	113	46.8	148	113	-24
Corn, sweet	162	55	2.8	155	59.0	133	155	17
Cucumbers	72	39	10.2	399	49.5	344	399	16
Lettuce, head	12	6	10.8	65	48.8	60	65	8
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	6.0	24	81.7	31	24	-23
Onions, dry	165	27	6.7	180	95.2	50	180	260
Onions, green	31	12	9.6	115	85.4	110	115	5
Peppers, green	3/	18	13.6	245	60.8	254	245	-4
Romaine	20	19	10.1	191	39.8	150	191	27
Tomatoes	3/	63	23.0	1,450	66.2	1,365	1,450	6

^{1/} Total sales divided by acres harvested. ^{2/} Revised. ^{3/} Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

U. S. Spring Onion Acreage Intentions

Growers intend to plant 34.4 thousand acres of spring onions for 2003, down 12 percent from both 2002 and 2001. Arizona weather had been dry, but has not impacted the onion crop due to irrigation. In California, planting began in early November under adequate conditions. Onion fields have shown good growth in many areas in response to recent rains and good growing conditions. In Georgia, temperatures during the fall and early winter have been near normal. Above-normal rainfall has delayed transplanting in some areas. Weather conditions in Texas have been ideal, which would lead to an excellent crop with good yields.

Spring Onions ¹

Area planted and harvested by state and total, 2001-2002 and forecasted area 2003

State	Planted Area			Harvested Area		
	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Arizona ²	3,100	1,600	1,700	3,000	1,500	
California ²	6,400	6,400	6,200	6,200	6,200	
Georgia	14,500	14,700	14,000	13,500	11,500	13,500
Texas	15,200	16,200	12,500	14,200	15,000	12,000
Total ²	39,200	38,900	34,400	36,900	34,200	

¹ Primarily fresh market.

² 2003 harvested acreage published April 4, 2003.

Source: *Vegetables*, January 9, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Agricultural Statistics Board, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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