



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics Service  
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

# Hawaii Vegetables

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## Rainy weather continues into March

Crop progress and fieldwork continued to be slowed by rainy weather during March. The month started with 4 days of heavy rains associated with a Kona low that originally developed in late February. Flooding was common with the most severe cases occurring on the Big Island and Oahu. Additional shear lines brought more showers during March 13-14 and March 20-23. Between the rainy periods, weather conditions were most favorable for crop growth. Oahu, Maui, and the Big Island got a final round of heavy showers on March 26-27 from an upper level trough to the southwest of the State. According to the National Weather Service, March's rainy weather helped make the current wet season the most significant since the 1996-97 edition.

Harvested acreage is expected to increase in April for most of the vegetables listed below. The largest increase is expected for **dry onions** with 56 acres expected for harvest this month, more than 6 times the amount harvested in March. However, the maturing crop is being evaluated to determine whether quality will ultimately warrant harvest. Other vegetables expected to show double-digit percentage gains in harvested acreage during April are **snap beans** (+46%), **Chinese cabbage** (+20%), **head cabbage** (+13%), **head lettuce** (+20%), and **green onions** (+13%).

Harvested acreage is expected to show a decrease among a majority of the vegetables next month. **Dry onions** (-84%), **head lettuce** (-67%), **mustard cabbage** (-71%), **romaine** (-67%), and **Chinese cabbage** (-58%) will record the larger decreases.

### Harvested acreage charts ..... page 2

Year-ago, month-ago, current,  
and upcoming harvested  
acreage.

### March review ..... page 3

Production statistics and  
comments on selected crops.

### California's spring vegetable forecast ..... page 4

Acreage planted for selected  
vegetable for spring harvest.



### Acreage

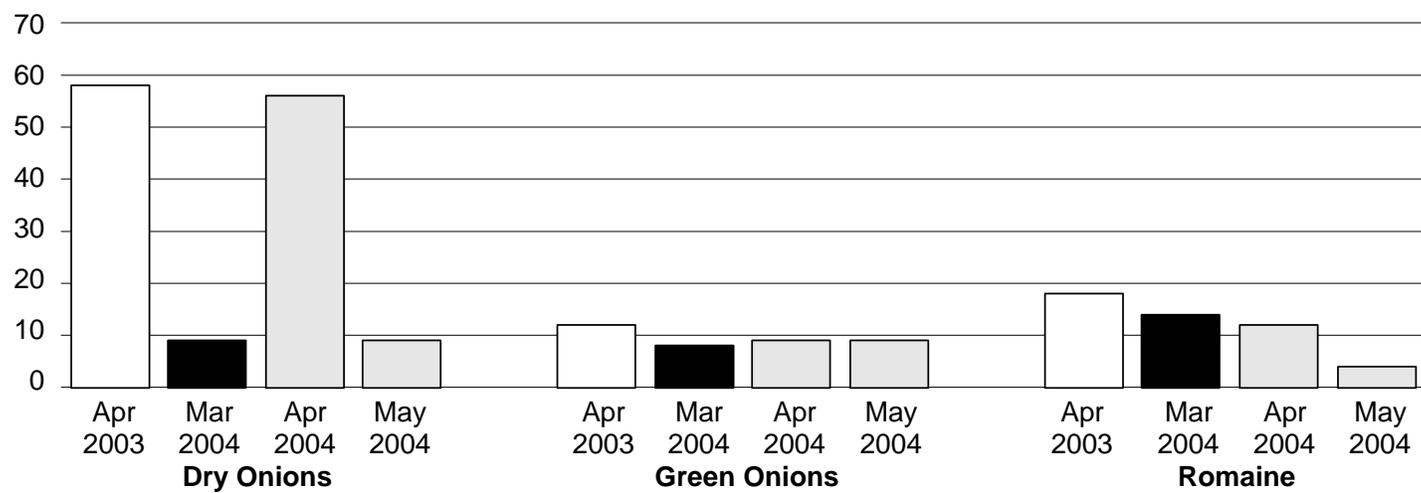
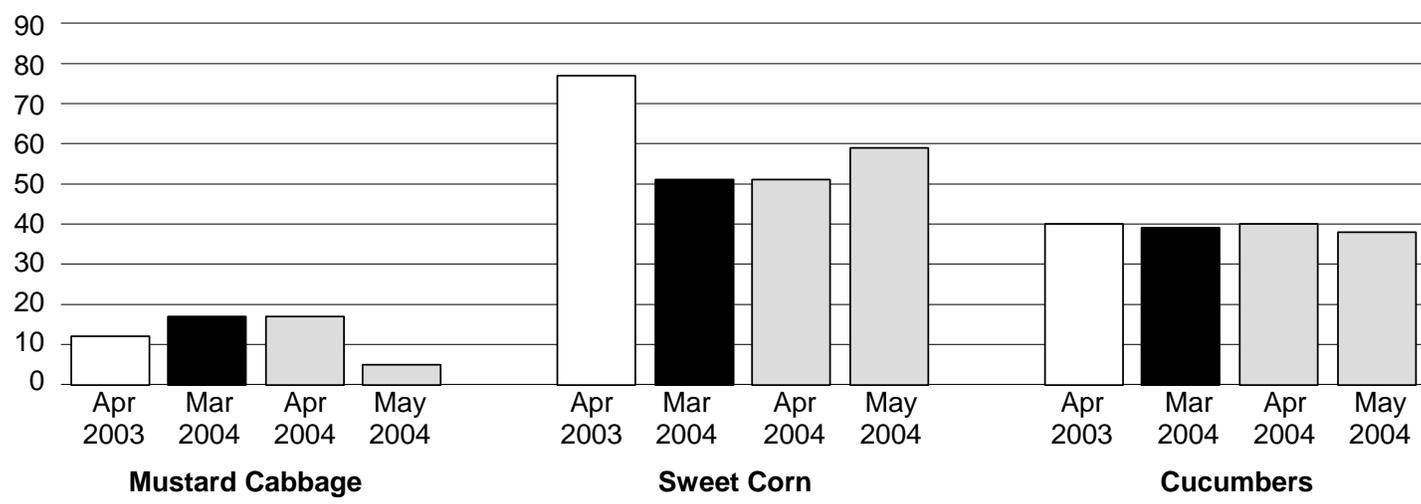
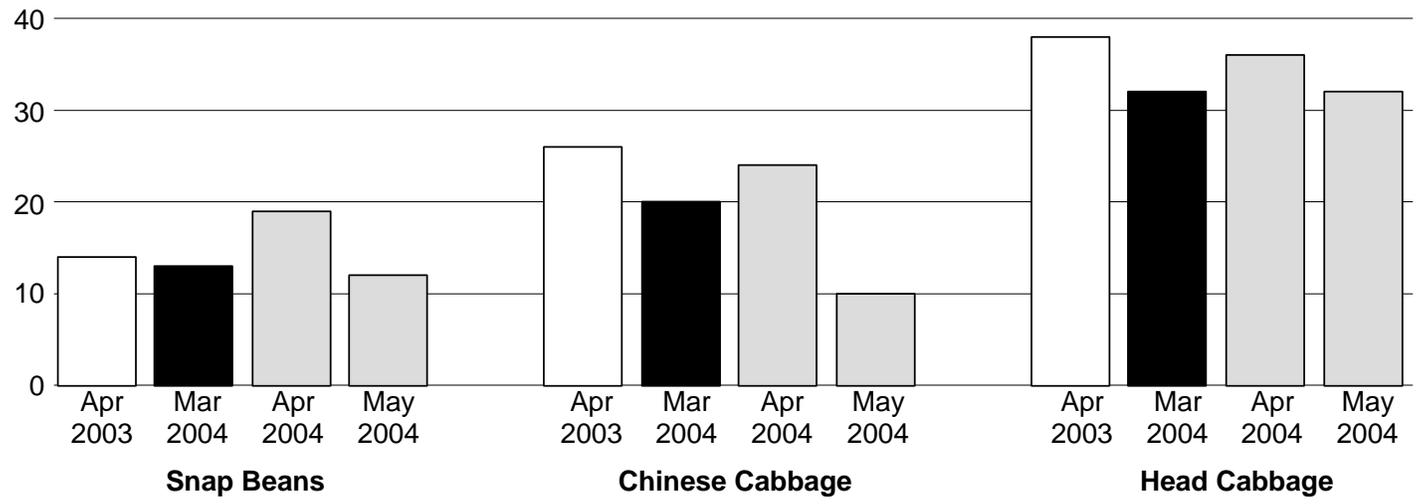
Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected  
vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Feb 2004	Mar 2004	Apr 2004	May 2004
Beans, snap	19	13	18	13	19	12
Cabbage, Chinese	21	22	24	20	24	10
Cabbage, head	39	34	23	32	36	32
Cabbage, mustard	20	11	14	17	17	5
Corn, sweet	72	53	42	51	51	59
Cucumbers	39	39	40	39	40	38
Lettuce, head	8	6	9	5	6	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	1	4	2	2	1
Onions, dry	22	5	42	9	56	9
Onions, green	10	9	11	8	9	9
Romaine	16	9	17	14	12	4

# Harvested acreage charts

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

Acres





## California's Spring Season Vegetable Forecast

**Broccoli:** California planting was on schedule, but cool weather in February delayed development. No major pest or disease problems are reported at this time.

**Cantaloupe:** The crop is progressing well with no major problems reported.

**Carrots:** The crop quality is good with close to ideal growing conditions. Consumer demand for baby carrots continues to be strong.

**Cauliflower:** Weather has been favorable and development is normal. Cool temperatures during February have not delayed progress of the crop.

**Celery:** The spring crop is on schedule with harvest expected to begin in early June. No pest or disease problems are evident at this time.

**Sweet corn:** The crop is doing very well despite the grocery worker strike in the Los Angeles area which delayed planting in the Imperial Valley.

**Lettuce, head:** Planting of Salinas Valley lettuce is on schedule and normal harvest is expected.

The Huron district is expected to begin harvesting by the end of March. Recent warm weather in the Central Valley has accelerated crop maturity in the area.

**Watermelon:** The crop is progressing well with no major problems reported.

California Spring (April-June) Fresh Market Vegetable Acreage

Crop	Area harvest		For harvest 2004	2004/2003 Percent change
	2002	2003		
----- Acres -----				
Broccoli <sup>1/</sup>	33,500	35,000	36,000	103
Cantaloupe	10,900	10,900	11,500	106
Carrots	19,500	19,000	19,500	103
Cauliflower <sup>1/</sup>	9,000	9,500	10,000	105
Celery <sup>1/</sup>	5,200	5,200	5,200	100
Corn, sweet	11,300	12,300	11,700	95
Honeydew	4,000	4,000	4,000	100
Lettuce, head	35,500	37,000	37,000	100
Tomatoes	7,200	6,600	7,500	114
Watermelon	2,800	3,100	3,100	100

<sup>1/</sup> Includes fresh market and processing.

Source: California Vegetable Review, April 2004, California Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.