



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Vegetables

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Harvested acreage up for most crops

Most of March's weather was a mixture of widespread showers, cool temperatures, and light winds. Under these conditions, most crops made fair to good progress. A couple of cold fronts pushed through the island chain during the first three weeks of the month that generated light to occasionally heavy showers. Minor flooding was reported on Oahu and Molokai, but no serious damage was sustained by crops. Persistent trade winds returned to the State during the final week of the month along with a shear line that brought daily showers to many parts of the State. The Big Island and Maui experienced the wettest conditions with 1-4 inches of rain falling daily from March 26 through March 30. Most of the showers during the final week fell in windward areas of the islands with leeward areas remaining relatively dry. Crop conditions varied by location and type of crop. There were reports of increased insect damage.

A majority of the vegetable crops are expected to experience an increase in harvested acreage in April. Double-digit percentage increases in harvested acreage are anticipated for **head cabbage** (+16%), **mustard cabbages** (+20%), **sweet corn** (+22%), and **head lettuce** (+75%). Vegetables expected to show a smaller increase are **green onions** (+9%), and **romaine** (+8%). Decreases in harvested acreage are anticipated for **snap beans** (-13%), **Chinese cabbage** (-7%), **cucumbers** (-3%), and **dry onions** (-12%).■

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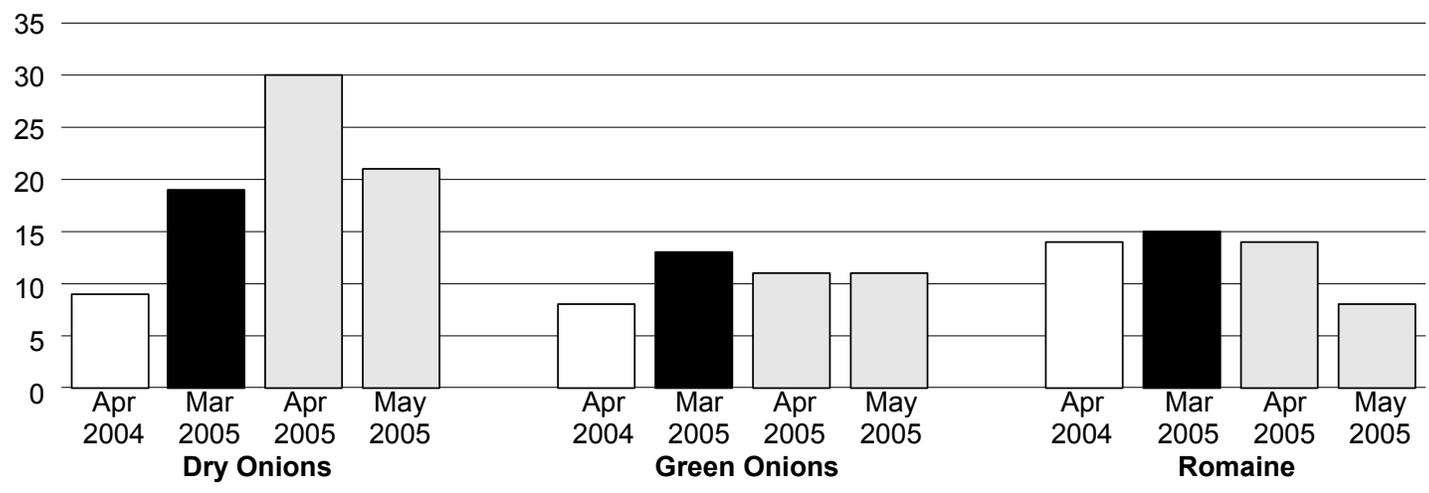
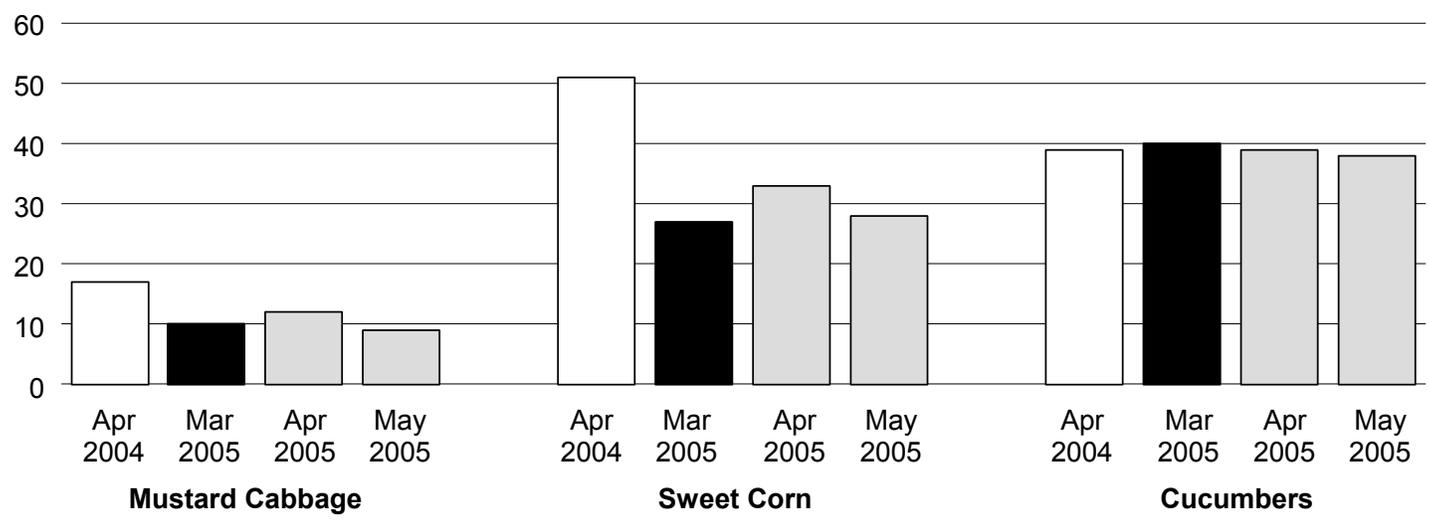
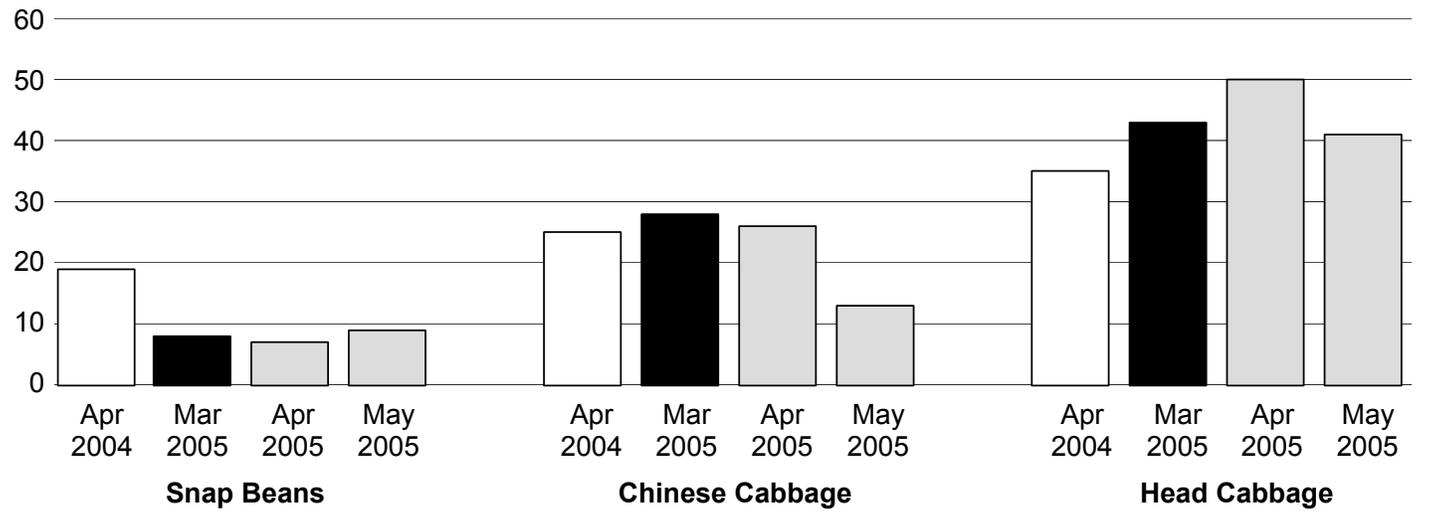
Acreage Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Feb 2005	Mar 2005	Apr 2005	May 2005
Beans, snap	7	9	6	8	7	9
Cabbage, Chinese	29	23	29	28	26	13
Cabbage, head	49	45	41	43	50	41
Cabbage, mustard	10	12	12	10	12	9
Corn, sweet	35	34	19	27	33	28
Cucumbers	42	40	34	40	39	38
Lettuce, head	6	6	7	4	7	2
Lettuce, semi-head	5	5	4	5	5	4
Onions, dry	11	28	17	26	23	15
Onions, green	11	12	13	11	12	12
Romaine	13	14	15	12	13	9

Harvested acreage charts

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

Acres



March review

Production increases for most vegetables

SNAP BEANS production totaled 50,000 pounds in March, up 43 percent from February. Weather conditions, particularly the light winds, were generally beneficial for crop growth.

HEAD CABBAGE production is estimated at 1.1 million pounds, up 62 percent from February. March is typically a high demand month because of St. Patrick's day. Weather conditions were fair for crop growth during March, but some growers reported an increase in insect infestations.

SWEET CORN production is estimated at 69,000 pounds for March, up 13 percent from February. Fields in windward areas made fair progress due to wet conditions while leeward area fields made generally good progress under drier conditions.

CUCUMBER production is estimated at 345,000 pounds for March, up 28 percent from February. Field plantings were in fair condition although crop progress was slowed

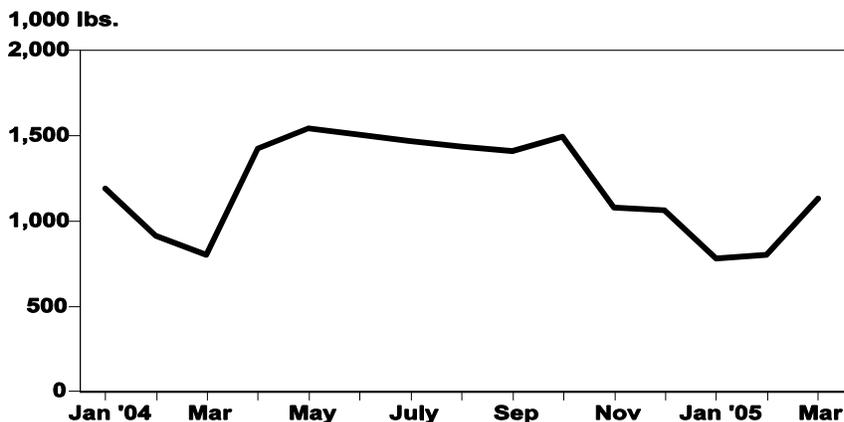
by heavy rain in some areas.

DRY ONION production totaled 69,000 pounds, up 73 percent from March. Intermittent showers and cloudy skies hampered crop development throughout March. Overall, the dry onion crop was in fair conditions at the end of March.

percent from February. The bulk of March's harvest occurred on Oahu where fields were in fair to good condition. Greenhouse tomato plantings on the Big Island made good progress for most of March until cloudy skies in the final week slowed growth. ■

TOMATO production is pegged at 1.1 million pounds for March, up 41

**Hawaii Tomatoes:
Monthly Production, 2004 - 2005**



Acres, average yield, sales, and average farm price, March 2005, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Apr 1 st	March 2005				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2004 ^{2/}	2005	Change
				----- 1,000 lbs. -----	Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs -----		Percent
Beans, snap	16	8	6.3	50	125.8	163	112	-31
Cabbage, Chinese	38	28	17.9	502	33.2	1,285	1,589	24
Cabbage, head	88	43	24.9	1,070	26.3	1,642	2,380	45
Cabbage, mustard	15	10	13.3	133	61.3	302	332	10
Corn, sweet	76	27	2.6	69	54.7	291	187	-36
Cucumbers	70	40	8.6	345	51.9	830	807	-3
Lettuce, head	8	4	15.0	60	58.5	181	155	-14
Lettuce, semi-head	9	5	8.2	41	83.5	49	83	69
Onions, dry	69	26	2.7	69	163.4	122	160	31
Onions, green	27	11	8.8	97	129.2	215	239	11
Peppers, green	^{3/}	24	11.5	275	72.6	741	725	-2
Romaine	19	12	12.5	150	48.2	337	416	23
Tomatoes	^{3/}	71	16.0	1,134	68.1	2,906	2,717	-7

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

California Spring Season Fresh Market Vegetable Acreage

Broccoli: Wet, cool weather in February interrupted planting and slowed development, but warmer weather in March stimulated growth. No major pest or disease problems are reported for the spring season.

Cantaloupe: The California crop is currently expected to be about two weeks late due to cooler than average temperatures, wet conditions, and cloudy skies.

Carrots: The weather has been favorable and development is normal. Baby carrots continue to be popular.

Cauliflower: Wet, cool weather in February delayed planting and slowed growth and development. Conditions warmed in March, allowing continued growth. No major pest or disease problems are reported this season.

Celery: Excessive rainfall in the central and southern coast areas of the State since last fall has reduced spring production. The crop has been behind for the past few months, but more recently has begun to show improvement.

Corn, sweet: The crop is in good to excellent condition with no pest or disease problems reported.

Honeydew melons: The crop development was hindered by cool temperatures and cloudy skies. The crop could be two week late.

Lettuce, head: The planting in Salinas Valley is on schedule despite continued rainfall. The Huron District is expected to begin harvesting by the end of March.

Tomatoes: Continued rainfall and wet soil conditions

slowed field activity throughout March leading to a decrease in harvested acreage. No pest or disease problems have been reported thus far.

California Spring Fresh Market Vegetable Acreage
Usual Harvesting Period: April-June

Crop	Area Harvested		For Harvest 2005	Percent Change
	2003	2004		
Broccoli ^{1/}	33,500	34,500	32,600	94
Cantaloupe	10,900	11,500	11,500	100
Carrots	19,000	18,500	20,000	108
Cauliflower ^{1/}	8,500	9,500	9,200	97
Celery ^{1/}	5,200	5,200	5,100	98
Corn, sweet	12,300	11,700	12,600	108
Honeydew	3,500	3,400	3,400	100
Lettuce, head	36,000	45,000	34,000	76
Tomatoes	6,800	7,500	7,000	93
Watermelon	3,000	35,000	3,300	94

^{1/} Includes fresh market and processing.

SOURCE: *California Vegetable Review*, April 6, 2005, California Agricultural Statistics Service