

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



June 22, 2009

Intermittent Heavy Showers With Periods Of Breezy Winds

**Harvested
acreage charts..... page 2**
Year-ago, month-ago,
and upcoming harvested acreage.

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Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

Weather during March 2009 was mixed. Two weather disturbances produced moderate to heavy rains for portions of the State during the first half of March. Drier conditions prevailed for the rest of the month. In general, rainfall totals for windward locations were near to above normal, while rainfall amounts along the leeward portions were below normal. Breezy trade winds enveloped the State at the beginning of the month and at the end of the month. Rainfall totals for the eastern portion of the Big Island were above normal, while rainfall amounts for the leeward side of the island and Kohala district were below normal. Precipitation was below normal for most locations around Maui County with the exception of the eastern portion of Maui Island, which received above normal rainfall amounts. On Oahu, rainfall amounts were above normal from the central windward locations to the east end of windward Oahu. Most other locations received below normal totals. Conditions on Kauai were mixed as above normal rainfall and below normal rainfall were intermixed throughout the island. On one of the periods of heavy rains the Hanalei River had briefly overflowed its banks. Crops were rated in fair to good condition.

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in April 2009, when compared with acreage harvested in March 2009, was higher for 8 crops, lower for one crop, and unchanged for 2 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **snap beans** (+50%), **Chinese cabbage** (+15%), **head cabbage** (+23%), **sweet corn** (+31%), **cucumbers** (+23%), **head lettuce** (+50%), **dry onions** (+167%), and **romaine** (+80%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is only expected from **green onions** (-27%), while the expected acreage for harvest was unchanged for **mustard cabbage**, and **semi-head lettuce**.

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

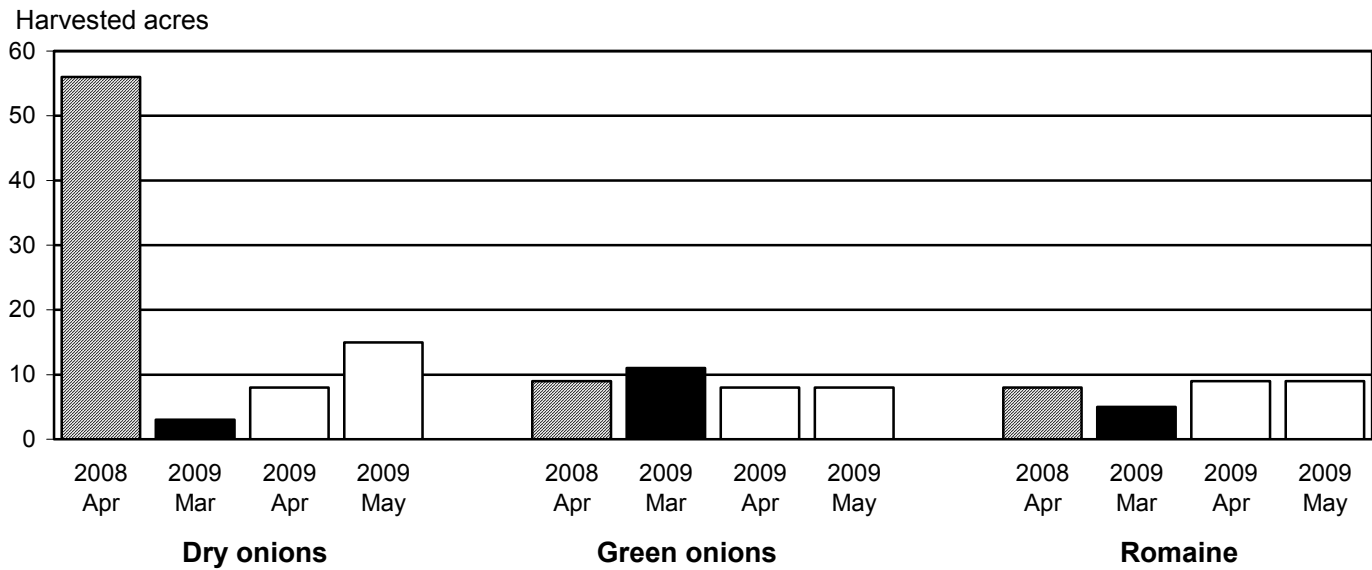
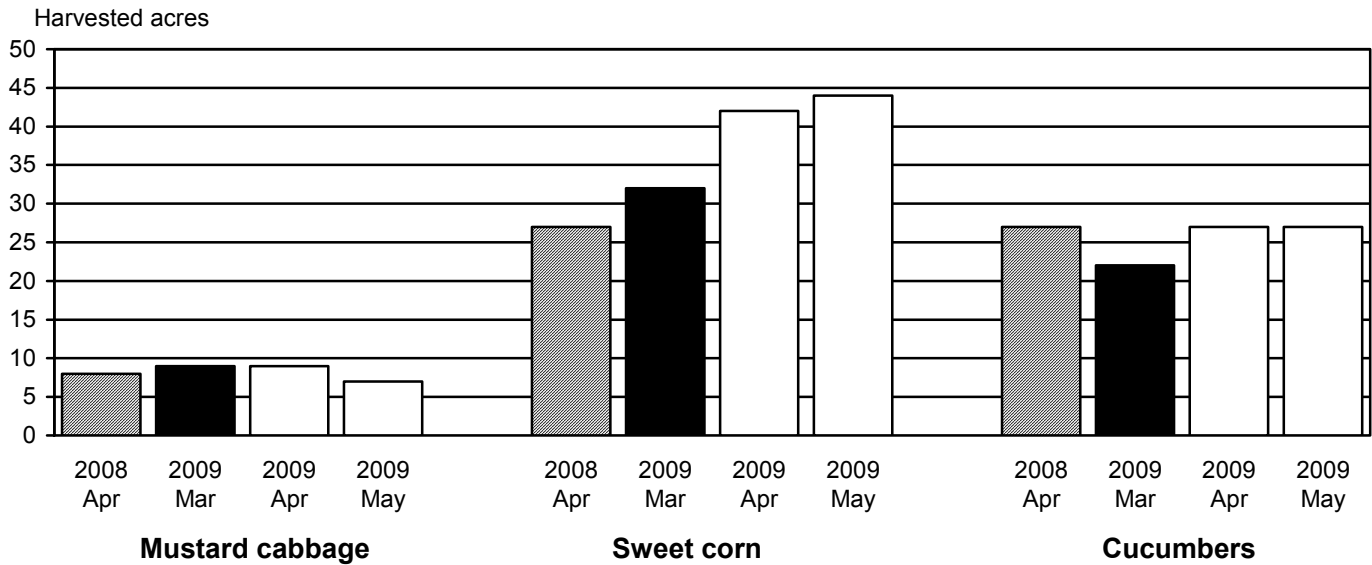
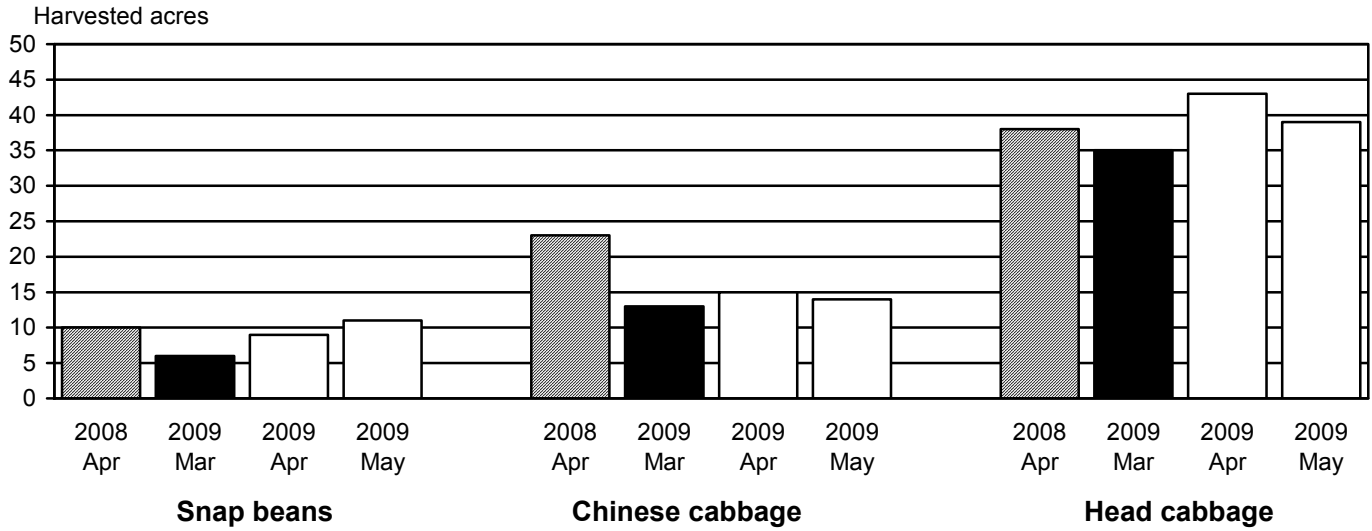
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009
Beans, snap	11	9	6	6	9	11
Cabbage, Chinese	16	16	13	13	15	14
Cabbage, head	37	40	39	35	43	39
Cabbage, mustard	8	8	7	9	9	7
Corn, sweet	34	49	44	32	42	44
Cucumbers	27	26	27	22	27	27
Lettuce, head	3	3	2	2	3	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	2	5	3	3	8	15
Onions, green	8	9	9	11	8	8
Romaine	8	9	8	5	9	9

Mark E. Hudson, Director
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Harvested acreage charts

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



March Review

Production For Most Crops Below Year Ago Levels

Chinese cabbage production for March 2009 is estimated at 426,000 pounds, an increase of 11 percent from February 2009, but a decrease of 29 percent from March 2008. An increase in yield contributed to the higher production from the previous month. However, fewer acres for harvest was the main factor for the drop in production from a year earlier. In general, the crop was in fair to good condition, with some heavier isolated diamond moth infestation.

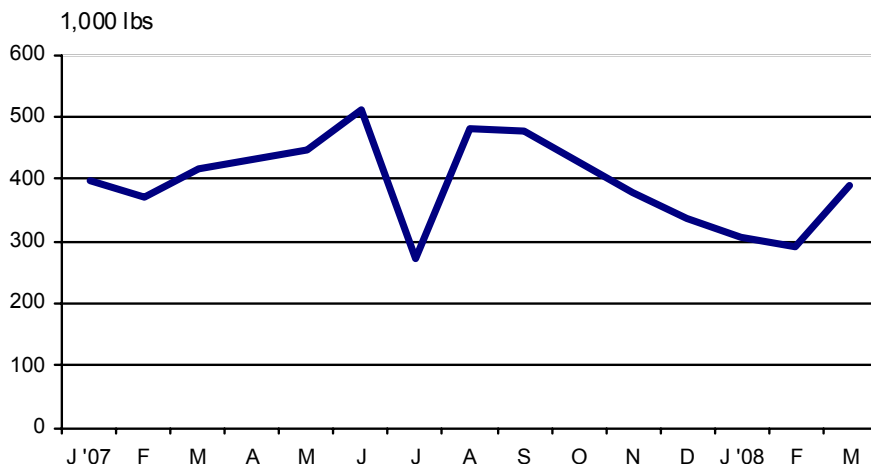
Head cabbage growers produced 1.2 million pounds of cabbage during March. This was a 47 percent increase from the previous month, but a 20 percent decline from a year earlier. An increase in yield more than offset the drop in acreage for harvest to account for the higher production from February 2009. However, a large decline in acreage for harvest more than offset the slight increase in yield to account for the drop in production from March a year ago. The intermittent breezy, wet and warmer conditions have resulted in an increase in insect infestation in some fields. Crop condition was rated fair to

good.

Cucumber production totaled 391,000 pounds in March 2009, an increase of 34 percent from February 2009, but a decrease of 6 percent from March 2008. Better yields overcame a decrease in acres for harvest to account for the increase in production from a month earlier. The drop in production from March 2009 was the result of less acreage for harvest.

Dry Onions production of 235,000 pounds during March was above both February of this year and March a year earlier. Improved yields account for the higher production. The condition of the crop was ranged from fair to good, with most fields in good condition.■

**Hawaii Cucumber
Monthly Production, 2008 – 2009**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, March 2009, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Apr. 1	March 2009				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2007 ^{2/}	2008	Change
			----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	20	6	8.5	51	119.2	151	123	-19
Cabbage, Chinese	24	13	32.8	426	34.1	1,597	1,174	-26
Cabbage, head	86	35	34.1	1,194	30.0	2,866	2,685	-6
Cabbage, mustard	13	9	10.1	91	64.2	391	276	-29
Corn, sweet	105	32	3.4	108	49.7	320	335	5
Cucumbers	51	22	17.8	391	76.3	1,182	988	-16
Lettuce, head	4	2	22.5	45	68.3	148	107	-28
Lettuce, semi-head	8	4	5.8	23	97.5	79	72	-9
Onions, dry	30	3	78.3	235	71.6	145	268	85
Onions, green	18	11	7.4	81	146.2	367	221	-40
Romaine	13	5	19.2	96	60.1	228	237	4

^{1/} Total sales divided by acres harvested. ^{2/} Revised.

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables: Area Harvested by Crop, State, and Total
Fall Season, 2007-2008 and Forecasted Area 2009**

Season and State	Usual Harvest Period	Area		
		Harvested		For Harvest 2009
		2007	2008	
		Acres	Acres	Acres
Snap Beans				
FL	Apr-Jun	12,200	11,200	10,700
GA	Apr-Jun	7,500	7,800	8,000
NJ	Jun-Aug	1,600	1,500	1,600
Total		21,300	20,500	20,300
Cabbage				
FL	Apr - Jun	2,280	2,990	2,700
GA	Apr - Jun	2,700	3,200	2,400
NJ	May - Aug	1,000	1,000	1,000
TX	Apr - Jun	500	600	500
Total		6,480	7,790	6,600
Sweet Corn				
CA	Apr - Jun	12,000	11,100	11,100
FL	Apr - Jun	25,200	27,300	26,000
Total		37,200	38,400	37,100
Cucumbers				
FL	Apr - Jun	8,100	8,300	7,700
SC	May - Aug	800	1,000	1,000
TX	Apr - Jun	400	400	500
Total		9,300	9,700	9,200

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Statistics Board, USDA, *Vegetables*, April 2009.