

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



June 23, 2008

Dry Summer-like Conditions Prevailed Throughout Much of April

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

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Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

Relatively dry, stable trade wind weather prevailed throughout the first three weeks of the month. Then for the next few days, unstable weather conditions persisted before dry trade wind weather returned for the remainder of the month. Rainfall totals for the month of April were well below normal as many locations received rainfall amounts below 50% of normal. Nearly all of the rain gage stations on Kauai recorded below normal rainfall amounts, except for the Port Allen gage. Rainfall totals for the island of Oahu continued at below normal levels. Almost all of the rainfall stations located near agricultural areas recorded rainfall totals below 50% of normal. Except for the rainfall stations at Kula and Ulupalakua, all other stations recorded below normal rainfall totals. Over half of the rainfall received at those two locations, fell during the afternoons of April 9 and 26. The island of Hawaii recorded below normal rainfall, especially along the northeastern portion of the island, which received rainfall totals below 50% of normal. Crops were rated to be in fair to good condition.

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in May 2008 when compared with acreage harvested in April was higher for 3 crops, lower for 3 crops, and unchanged for 5 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **snap beans** (+10%), **head cabbage** (+11%), and **sweet corn** (+12%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected for Chinese **cabbage** (-4%), cucumbers (-4%), and **dry onions** (-71%), while the expected acreage for harvest was unchanged for **mustard cabbage**, **head lettuce**, **semi-head lettuce**, **green onions**, and **romaine**.

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

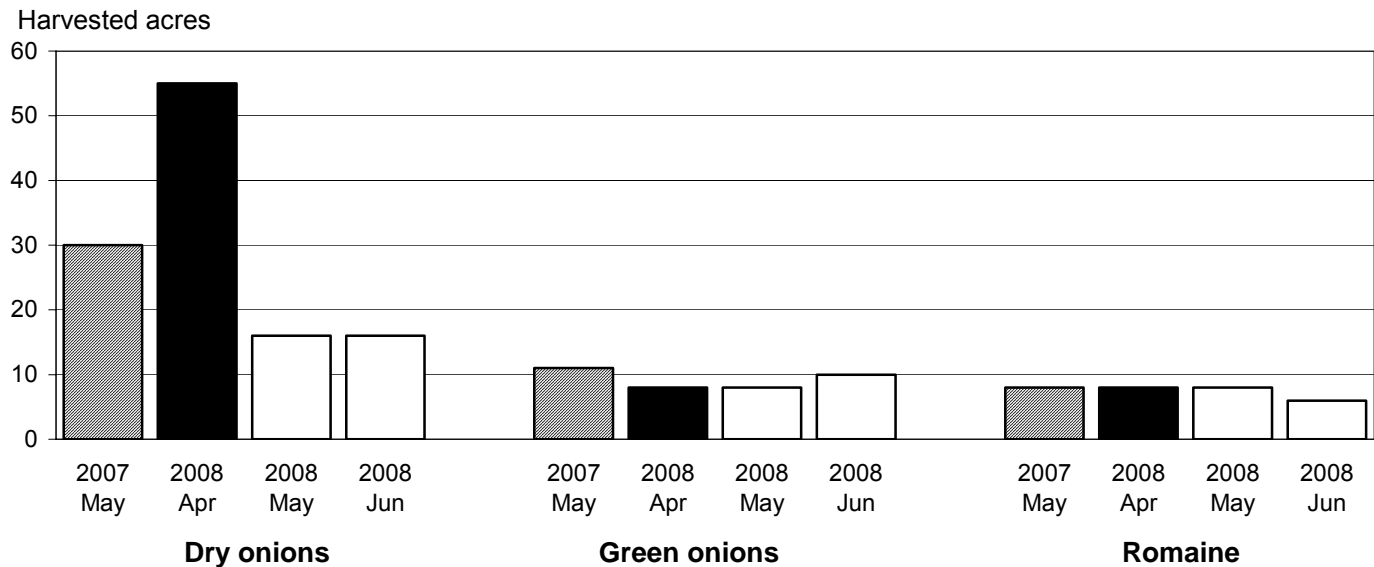
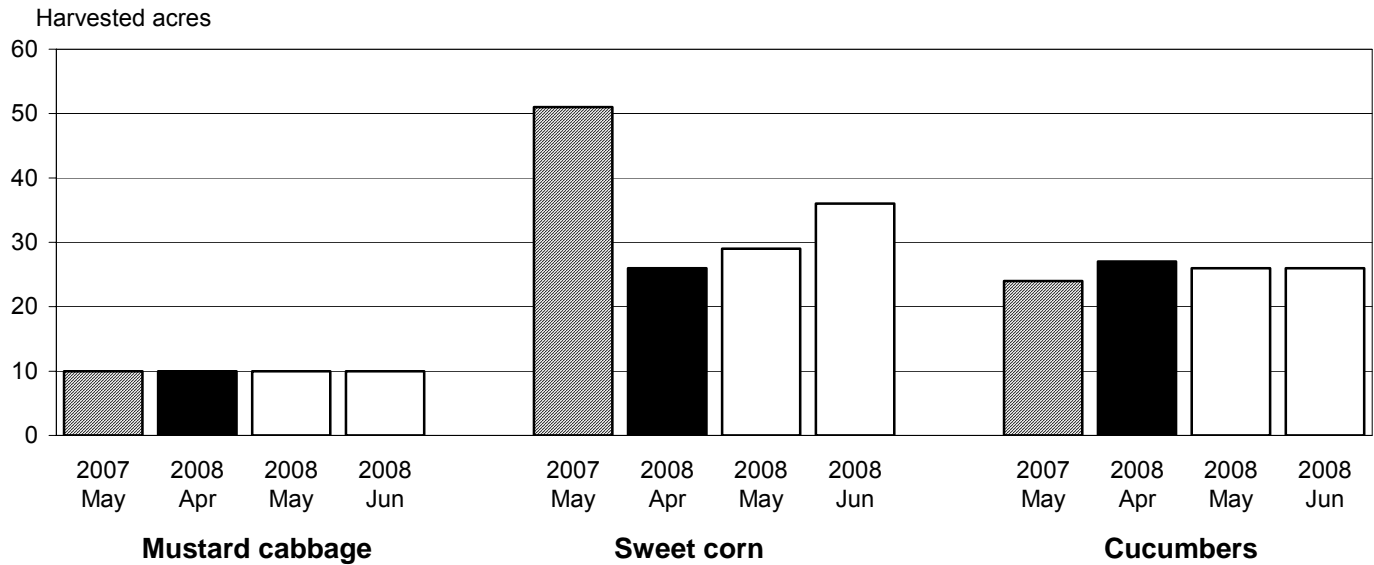
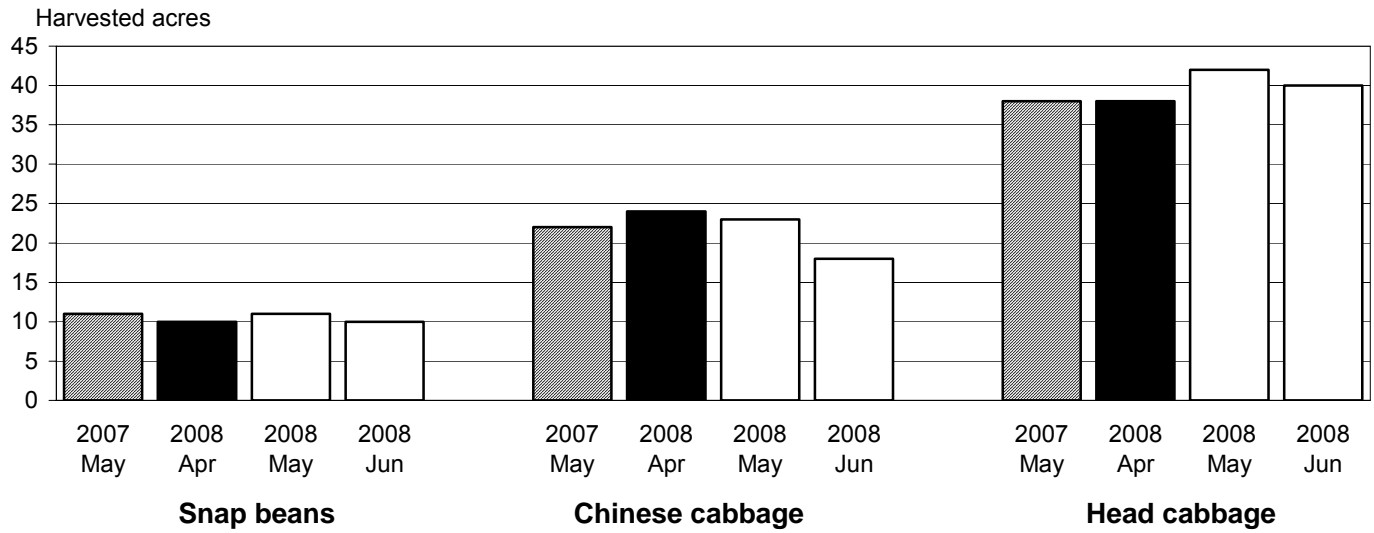
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008
Beans, snap	11	10	11	10	11	10
Cabbage, Chinese	23	21	19	24	23	18
Cabbage, head	41	39	44	38	42	40
Cabbage, mustard	11	8	11	10	10	10
Corn, sweet	35	36	30	26	29	36
Cucumbers	25	25	24	27	26	26
Lettuce, head	1	3	5	2	2	3
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	31	25	16	55	16	16
Onions, green	8	10	9	8	8	10
Romaine	7	7	6	8	8	6

Mark E. Hudson, Director
King Whetstone, Deputy Director

Nils Morita, Research Statistician

Harvested acreage charts

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



April Review

Production Generally Trailing Year Ago Levels

Chinese cabbage production totaled 454,000 pounds during April 2008, a decline of 24 percent and 13 percent from March 2008 and April 2007, respectively. An increase in acreage for harvest from March could not offset the decline in yields, while the combination of less acreage for harvest along with lower yields accounted for the drop in production from a year earlier. The lower yields could be partially attributed to the warmer temperatures, which lead to an increase in insect infestation and heat related diseases. The dry, sunny conditions had the crop making good progress, but the warmer temperatures has the overall condition of the crop only fair to good.

Head cabbage production totaled an estimated 972,000 pounds in April, 35 percent less than a month earlier, but 1 percent more than a year earlier. A decrease in acreage for harvest along with a decline in yields has resulted in the lower production from March 2008. The slight increase in production from April a

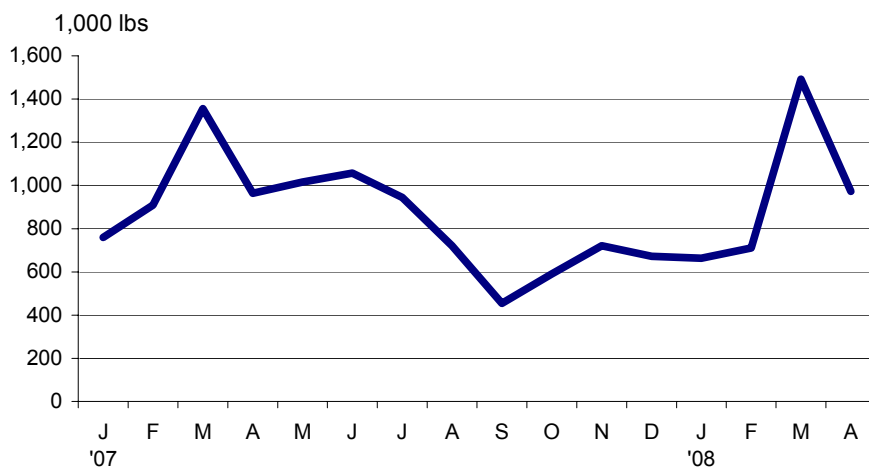
year ago could be attributed to better yields, which had offset the drop in acreage for harvest. Sunny, dry conditions combined with heavy irrigation had the crop in fair to good condition.

Dry Onion growers harvested an estimated 215,000 pounds in April 2008. This was 115 percent and 54 percent above March this year and April a year ago, respectively. An

increase in acreage for harvest was able to offset the lower yields to produce the increase in production. Favorable weather had the crop in good condition.

Tomato production totaled 1.4 million pounds in April. This was a 6 percent and 2 percent drop in production from March 2008 and April 2007, respectively. The favorable weather condition throughout the month of April had the tomato crop in good condition. ■

**Hawaii Head Cabbage
Monthly Production, 2007 – 2008**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, April 2008, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on May. 1	April 2008				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	21	10	5.4	54	119.5	212	205	-3
Cabbage, Chinese	33	24	18.9	454	25.7	2,242	2,051	-9
Cabbage, head	93	38	25.6	972	27.4	3,987	3,838	-4
Cabbage, mustard	14	10	10.3	103	57.9	482	494	2
Corn, sweet	77	26	8.3	216	58.3	682	536	-21
Cucumbers	48	27	16.0	431	54.1	1,590	1,613	1
Lettuce, head	3	2	28.5	57	62.4	196	205	5
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	8.0	32	85.9	150	111	-26
Onions, dry	85	55	3.9	215	108.7	375	360	-4
Onions, green	20	8	14.0	112	113.6	508	479	-6
Peppers, green	^{3/}	20	10.0	200	69.9	944	947	0
Romaine	12	8	11.0	88	62.2	354	316	-11
Tomatoes	^{3/}	61	22.4	1,364	67.1	4,411	5,103	16

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