

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



July 24, 2008

Conditions Mostly Dry During May

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

**May
Review..... page 3**
Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

Conditions during the month of May was mostly dry. Moderate trades accompanied by windward showers dominated the weather during the first third of the month. The middle third of May produced light winds along with relatively dry stable conditions. Conditions changed on May 21 as the low level convergence of winds produced some heavy rainfall over many areas of the State. Begin on May 24, dry trade wind weather returned to the State. Rainfall totals for the month of May continued well below normal, with many areas of the State only receiving rainfall amounts below 50% of normal. Except for the Port Allen rain gage, all other stations on Kauai recorded below normal rainfall amounts. On Oahu, rainfall totals located near agricultural areas continued at below normal levels, except for areas around Waianae. Most Maui county locations recorded below normal rainfall totals for the month, especially in the Upcountry areas. 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 June 2008 when compared with acreage harvested in May was higher for 3 crops, lower for 6 crops, and unchanged for 2 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **cucumbers** (+4%), **dry onions** (+20%), and **green onions** (+25%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected for **Chinese cabbage** (-9%), **head cabbage** (-2%), **mustard cabbage** (-43%), **sweet corn** (-17%), **head lettuce** (-50%), and **romaine** (-50%), while the expected acreage for harvest

Acreage

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

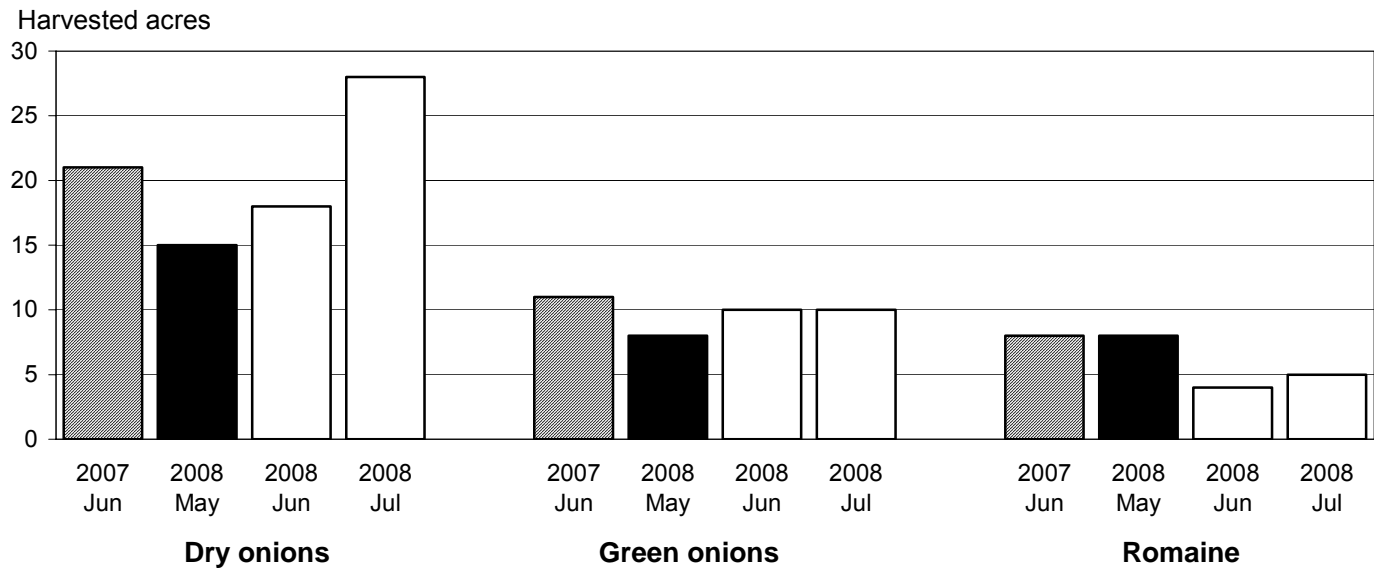
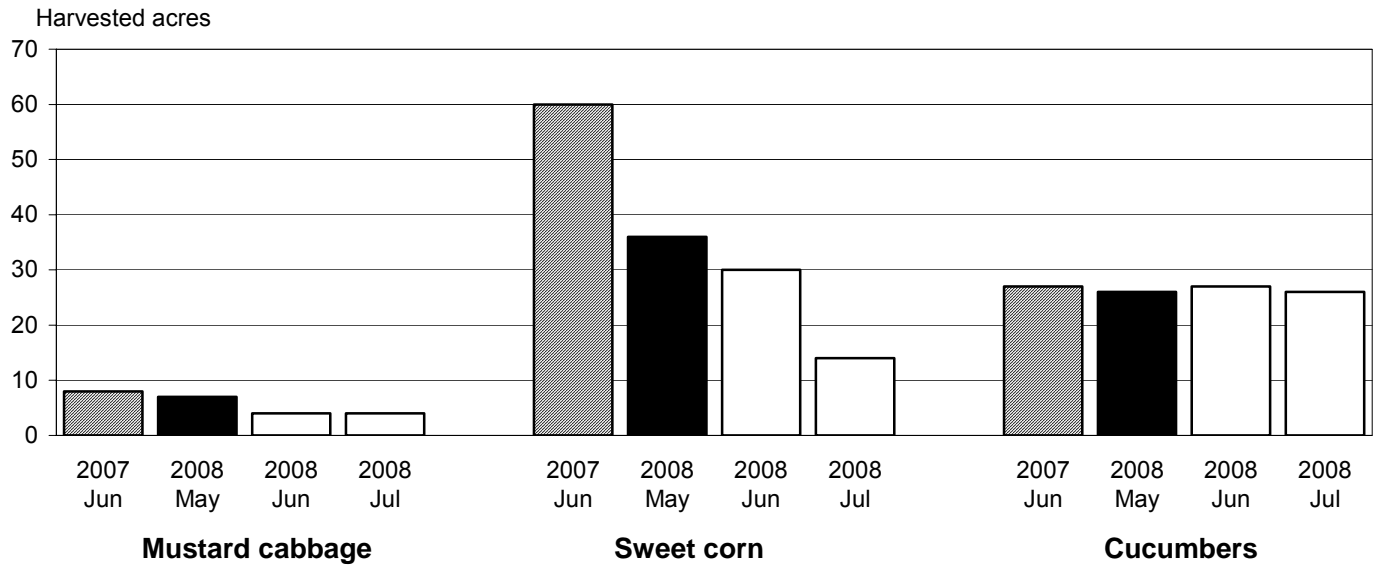
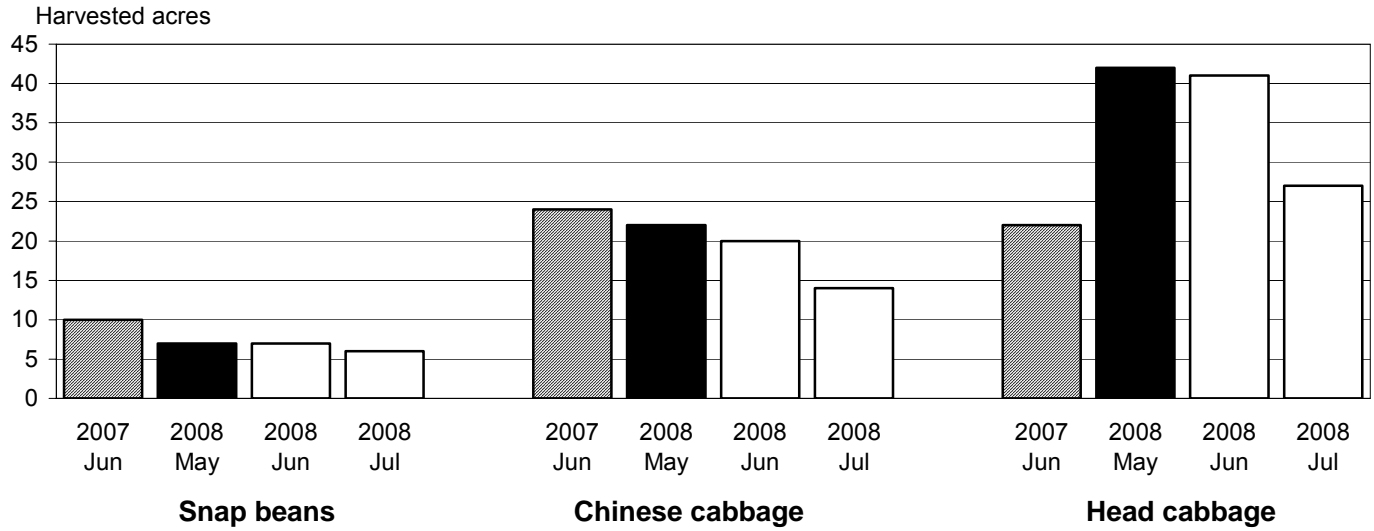
| Crop | Acres planted | | Acres harvested | | Acres for harvest | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| | Apr 2008 | May 2008 | Apr 2008 | May 2008 | Jun 2008 | Jul 2008 |
| Beans, snap | 6 | 6 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 6 |
| Cabbage, Chinese | 21 | 17 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 14 |
| Cabbage, head | 39 | 27 | 38 | 42 | 41 | 27 |
| Cabbage, mustard | 3 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 4 |
| Corn, sweet | 31 | 34 | 27 | 36 | 30 | 14 |
| Cucumbers | 25 | 26 | 27 | 26 | 27 | 26 |
| Lettuce, head | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Lettuce, semi-head | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Onions, dry | 25 | 2 | 56 | 15 | 18 | 28 |
| Onions, green | 10 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 10 |
| Romaine | 7 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 5 |

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Harvested acreage charts

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



May Review

Production Continue To Trail Year Ago Levels

Chinese cabbage growers produced an estimated 539,000 pounds during May 2008, an increase of 19 percent and 4 percent from April 2008 and May 2007, respectively. Improved yields accounted for much of this increase. Longer and warmer days along with heavy irrigation contributed to larger and heavier heads being harvested. Dry, sunny conditions had the crop making good progress. However, some insect and disease damage was evident on younger plantings.

Head cabbage production totaled an estimated 987,000 pounds in May, 2 percent more than a month earlier, but 3 percent less than a year earlier. An increase in acreage for harvest was not enough to completely offset the decline in yield as reflected by the decline in production from May a year ago. Sunny, dry conditions combined with heavy irrigation had the crop in fair to good condition. Insect infestation was light to moderate.

Sweet corn producers produced 293,000 pounds in May, an increase of 36 percent from April, but 15

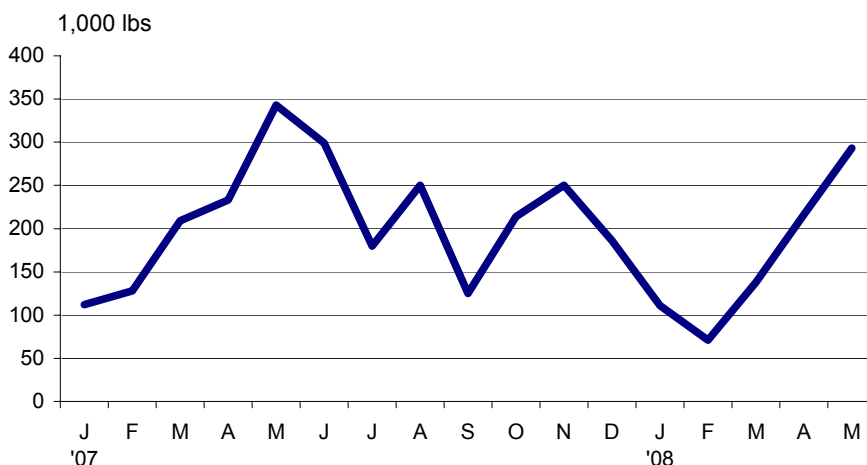
percent below May 2007. An increase in acreage for harvest along with better yields accounted for the increase in production from April 2008.

Green Onion growers harvested an estimated 141,000 pounds in May, 26 percent and 10 percent above April this year and May a year ago, respectively. Better yields accounted for the increase in

production. Regular spraying was necessary to keep the insect infestation under control.

Tomato production totaled 1.3 million pounds in May. This was a 6 percent and 7 percent lower than April 2008 and May 2007, respectively. The favorable weather condition throughout the month of May had the tomato crop in fair to good condition. ■

**Hawaii Sweet Corn
Monthly Production, 2007 – 2008**



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

| Crop | Total acres on Jun. 1 | May 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 | 13 | 7 | 10.7 | 75 | 116.5 | 320 | 280 | -13 |
| Cabbage, Chinese | 28 | 22 | 24.5 | 539 | 29.0 | 2,762 | 2,590 | -6 |
| Cabbage, head | 79 | 42 | 23.5 | 987 | 26.4 | 5,002 | 4,825 | -4 |
| Cabbage, mustard | 6 | 7 | 14.0 | 98 | 67.4 | 596 | 592 | -1 |
| Corn, sweet | 73 | 36 | 8.1 | 293 | 56.2 | 1,025 | 829 | -19 |
| Cucumbers | 48 | 26 | 17.2 | 446 | 50.1 | 2,039 | 2,059 | 1 |
| Lettuce, head | 1 | 2 | 26.5 | 53 | 60.5 | 256 | 258 | 1 |
| Lettuce, semi-head | 7 | 4 | 7.5 | 30 | 85.4 | 185 | 141 | -24 |
| Onions, dry | 73 | 15 | 15.0 | 225 | 130.2 | 711 | 585 | -18 |
| Onions, green | 21 | 8 | 17.6 | 141 | 113.5 | 636 | 620 | -3 |
| Peppers, green | ^{3/} | 21 | 11.4 | 240 | 69.6 | 1,203 | 1,187 | -1 |
| Romaine | 6 | 8 | 10.3 | 82 | 60.4 | 451 | 398 | -12 |
| Tomatoes | ^{3/} | 66 | 19.3 | 1,276 | 70.6 | 5,779 | 6,379 | 10 |

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

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