

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



July 20, 2009

Pseudo-Winter; Light Variable Winds With Mostly Dry Conditions

May 2009 was mostly dry. Low pressure systems anchored far to the north of the State, for much of May, helped to produce winter-like weather patterns, such as light, variable winds. However, unlike during the winter, rainfall totals were generally below normal for most areas of the State. There were, however, a couple of events during the month which generated some heavy rainfall, resulting in a few locations recording above normal rainfall. The anomaly about this was that locations receiving above normal rainfall totals were some of the traditionally drier areas in the State. The expected wetter areas received precipitation at well below normal levels for the month. Rainfall totals for the Big Island were generally well below normal for all areas, except for portions of Ka`u which received above normal rainfall amounts, in fact rainfall totals for these areas were the highest for the island. Most areas of Maui County received below normal rainfall, especially the traditionally wetter spots in the county. Precipitation on Oahu was mixed. Most locations received below normal rainfall amounts, but Waimanalo was able to get above normal amounts of precipitation. Similar conditions prevailed on Kauai with mostly below normal rainfall, with portions on the northeast side of the island getting above normal rainfall. Crops were rated in fair to good condition.

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

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

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in June 2009, when compared with acreage harvested in May 2009, was higher for 3 crops, lower for 5 crops, and unchanged for 3 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **head cabbage** (+11%), **mustard cabbage** (+33%), and **green onions** (+11%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected from **snap beans** (-18%), **Chinese cabbage** (-17%), **sweet corn** (-16%), **dry onions** (-27%), and **romaine** (-11%), while the expected acreage for harvest was

Acreage ^{h d f} Acres planted, ^{h b d l t t} harvested, and for harvest for ^{d i h d l t t} 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

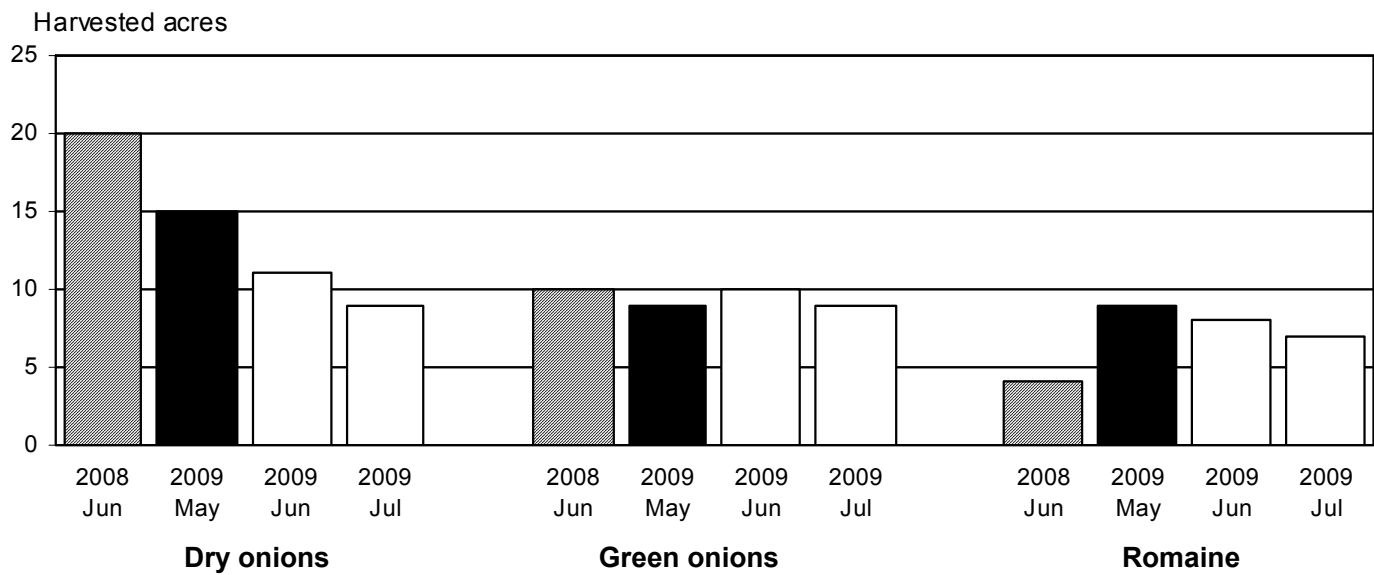
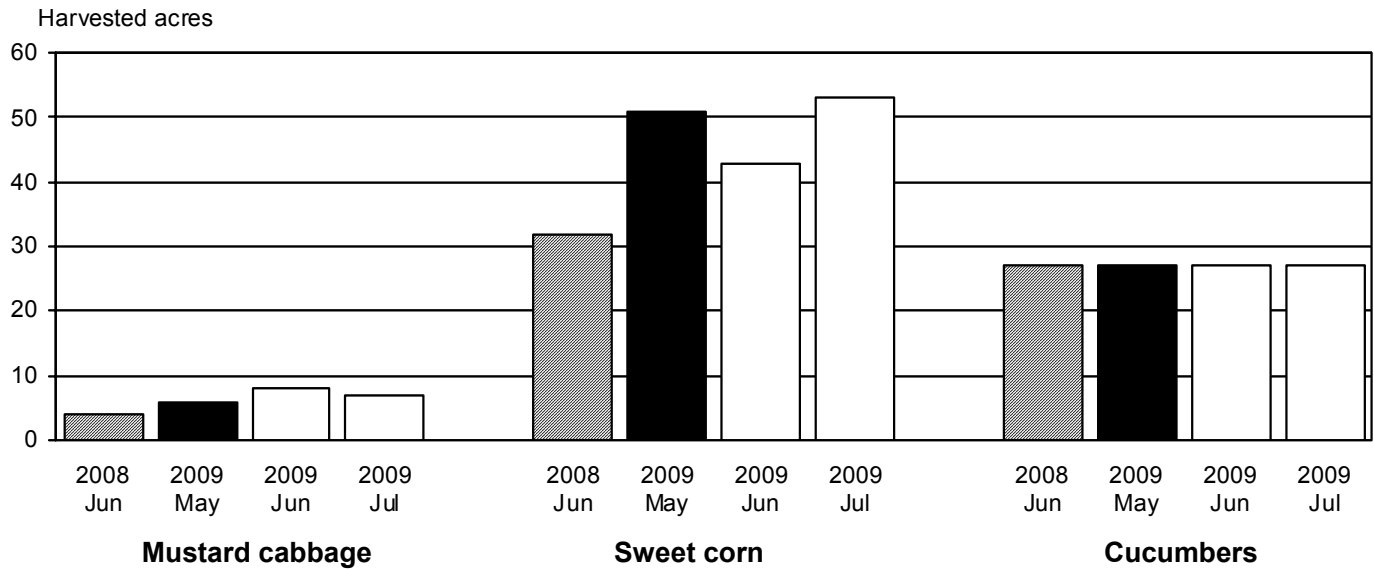
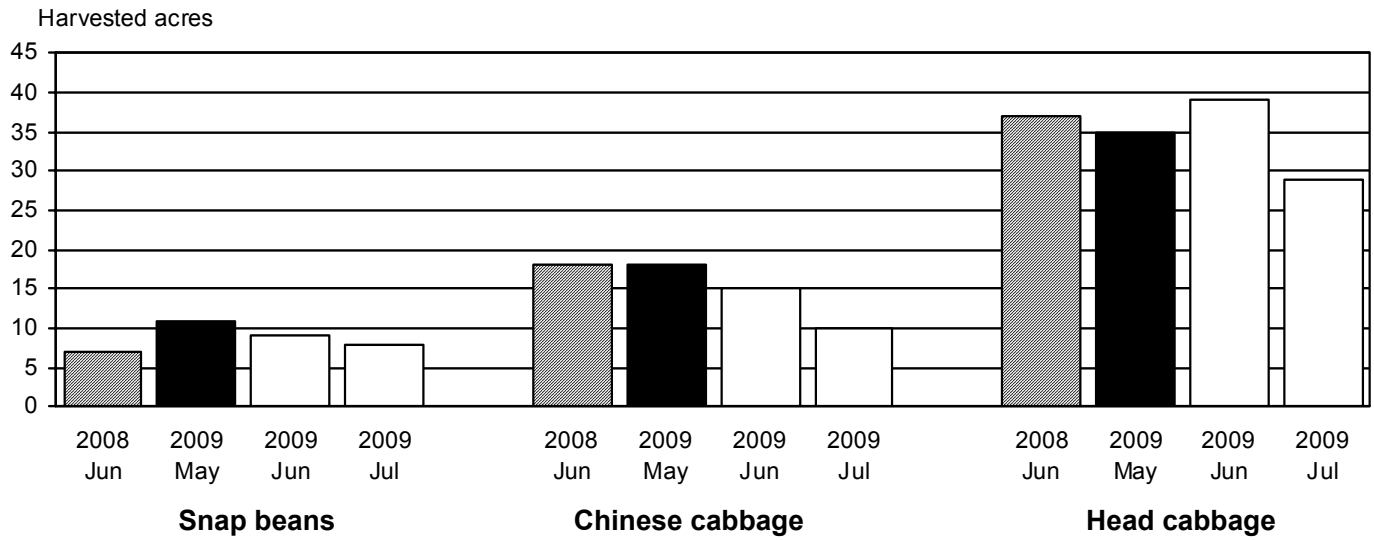
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Apr 2009	May 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009
Beans, snap	8	9	9	11	9	8
Cabbage, Chinese	16	14	15	18	15	10
Cabbage, head	39	25	45	35	39	29
Cabbage, mustard	7	7	9	6	8	7
Corn, sweet	50	42	42	51	43	53
Cucumbers	26	26	27	27	27	27
Lettuce, head	2	1	3	2	2	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	12	7	9	15	11	9
Onions, green	9	9	9	9	10	9
Romaine	10	6	10	9	8	7

Mark E. Hudson, Director
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Harvested acreage charts

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



May Review

Marketings-To-Date Generally Running Below Year Ago Levels

Chinese cabbage production totaled 520,000 pounds in May 2009, an increase of 20 percent from April 2009, but a decrease of 4 percent from May 2008. An increase in acreage for harvest accounted for the higher production from a month earlier, while fewer acreage for harvest resulted in the lower production from a year ago. Spraying was necessary to help maintain control of insect infestation. Vog related damage continue to affect the crop in the Volcano area. The crop was rated in fair to good condition.

Head cabbage growers produced an estimated 937,000 pounds during May 2009, a decrease of 10 percent and 5 percent from the previous month and a year ago, respectively. Better yields could not offset the decrease in acreage for harvest, accounting for the drop in production. Sunnier days have helped with crop development, but the warmer conditions have started to affect head quality. Spraying to contain insect infestation has been increased. Crop condition was rated fair to good.

Sweet corn production totaled

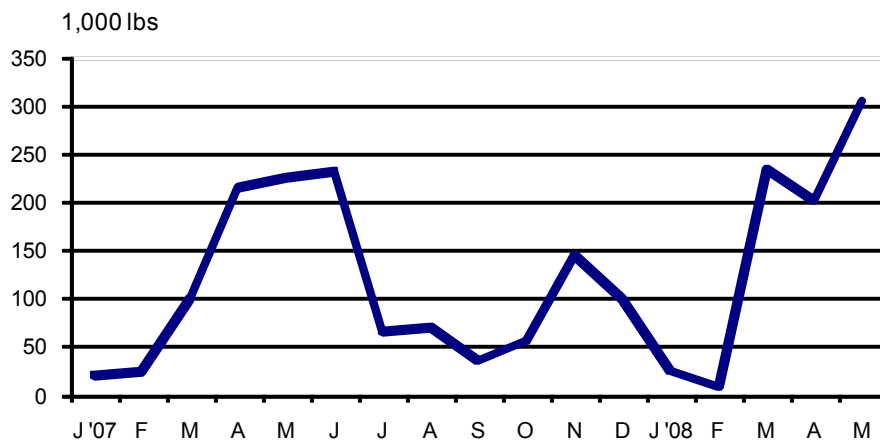
300,000 pounds in May, an increase of 103 percent and 2 percent from April 2009 and May 2008, respectively. More acreage for harvest accounted for the higher production. Corn yields were better than in the previous month, but lower than a year earlier. Longer days along with sunnier periods and warmer temperatures helped with the crops development from the April. Crop condition was rated fair to good.

Cucumber growers harvested 465,000 pounds in May 2009, an increase of 9 percent and 4 percent

from April 2009 and May a year earlier, respectively. Better yields accounted for the increase in production from April, while more acreage for harvest was the reason for the higher production from May 2008. The crop was in fair to good condition.

Dry Onions producers provided 304,000 pounds of onion during May, an increase of 52 percent and 35 percent from April 2009 and May 2008, respectively. An increase in sunny skies and dry weather had the crop in fair to good condition –

**Hawaii Dry Onion
Monthly Production, 2008 – 2009**



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

Crop	Total acres on Jun. 1	May 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	22	11	6.0	66	106.8	280	254	-9
Cabbage, Chinese	25	18	28.9	520	32.8	2,590	2,126	-18
Cabbage, head	78	35	26.8	937	27.3	4,825	4,665	-3
Cabbage, mustard	12	6	13.7	82	64.6	592	465	-21
Corn, sweet	109	51	5.9	300	47.5	829	783	-6
Cucumbers	51	27	17.2	465	61.2	2,059	1,878	-9
Lettuce, head	3	2	22.5	45	56.6	258	199	-23
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	6.0	24	96.3	141	122	-13
Onions, dry	33	15	20.3	304	61.4	585	772	32
Onions, green	19	9	12.1	109	119.3	620	431	-30
Romaine	14	9	10.1	91	61.4	398	430	8

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

**Selected Fresh Market Vegetables: Area Harvested by Season and Crop, Major States,
2007-2008 and Forecasted Area 2009
(Domestic Units)**

Season and Crop	Area		
	Harvested		2009
	2007	2008	
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Winter	173,000	159,030	150,900
Spring	271,130	269,590	259,500
Summer			
Snap Beans	17,600	15,300	16,800
Broccoli ¹	31,000	30,000	29,500
Cabbage	14,100	12,600	11,800
Carrots	19,200	18,500	19,100
Cauliflower ¹	8,800	8,600	7,900
Celery ¹	6,100	6,200	6,000
Sweet Corn	98,900	98,600	101,000
Cucumbers	4,000	3,700	4,000
Head Lettuce	38,000	37,000	34,000
Bell Peppers ¹	3,100	3,100	3,300
Tomatoes	34,000	32,500	31,700
Total 11 Vegetables	274,800	266,100	265,100

¹ Includes fresh market and processing.

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