

# Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

October 1, 2008

In cooperation with:



## Slight Increase In Showers During July

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

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

July saw the return of more typical trade wind weather. Although conditions remained dry, many areas of the State benefited from the slight increase in precipitation. Much of the precipitation came from trade wind showers, the remnants of Elida or afternoon convective activities. Nonetheless, water use conservation measures, notices, and restrictions continued in place. Many of the rain gage stations on Kauai recorded near-normal to above-normal rainfall during the month of July, with rainfall amounts well above normal along the leeward sectors. On Oahu, rainfall totals were mixed. Waimanalo along with many leeward sectors recorded near to above normal rainfall totals, with drier conditions prevailing elsewhere. Rainfall amounts around Maui County varied from below normal to well above normal, with most crop growing areas seeing rainfall totals only around 50 percent of normal. Many of Hawaii island's windward locations benefited from an increase in shower activities due Elida's remnants on July 22 and 23. Crops were rated to be in poor to good condition.

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in August 2008, when compared with acreage harvested in July, was higher for 3 crops, lower for 4 crops, and unchanged for 4 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **snap beans** (+43%), **mustard cabbage** (+33%), and **sweet corn** (+6%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected for **head cabbage** (-39%), **head lettuce** (-25%), **dry onions** (-50%), and **romaine** (-17%), while the expected acreage for harvest was unchanged for **Chinese cabbage**, **cucumbers**, **semi-head lettuce**, and **green onions**.

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

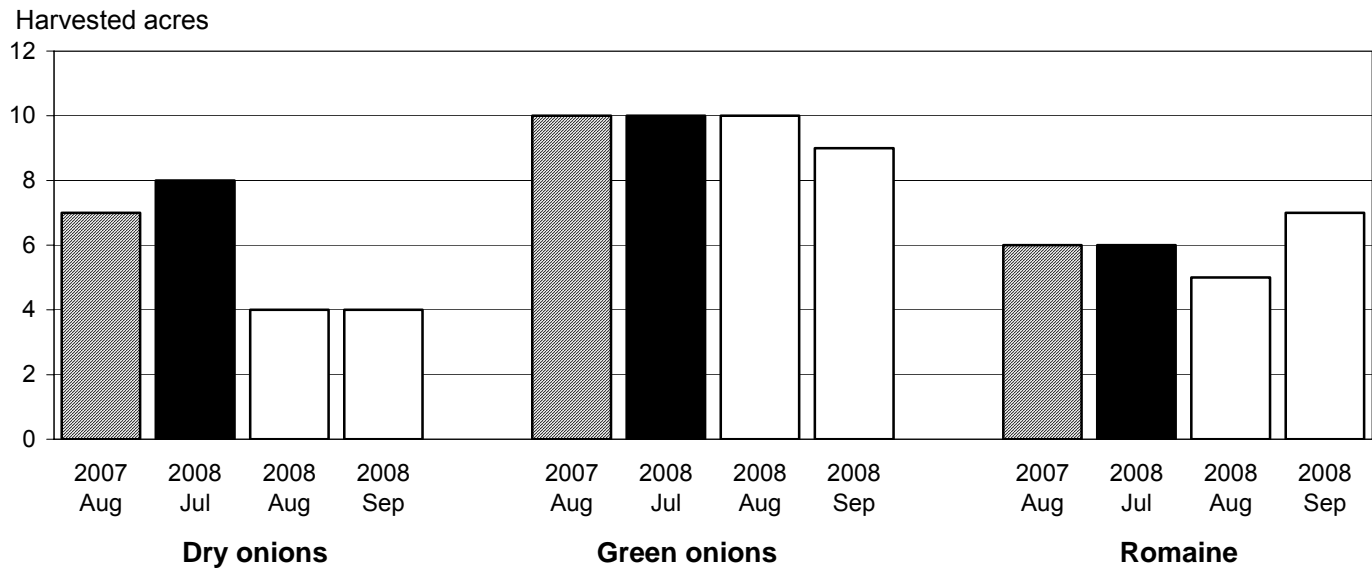
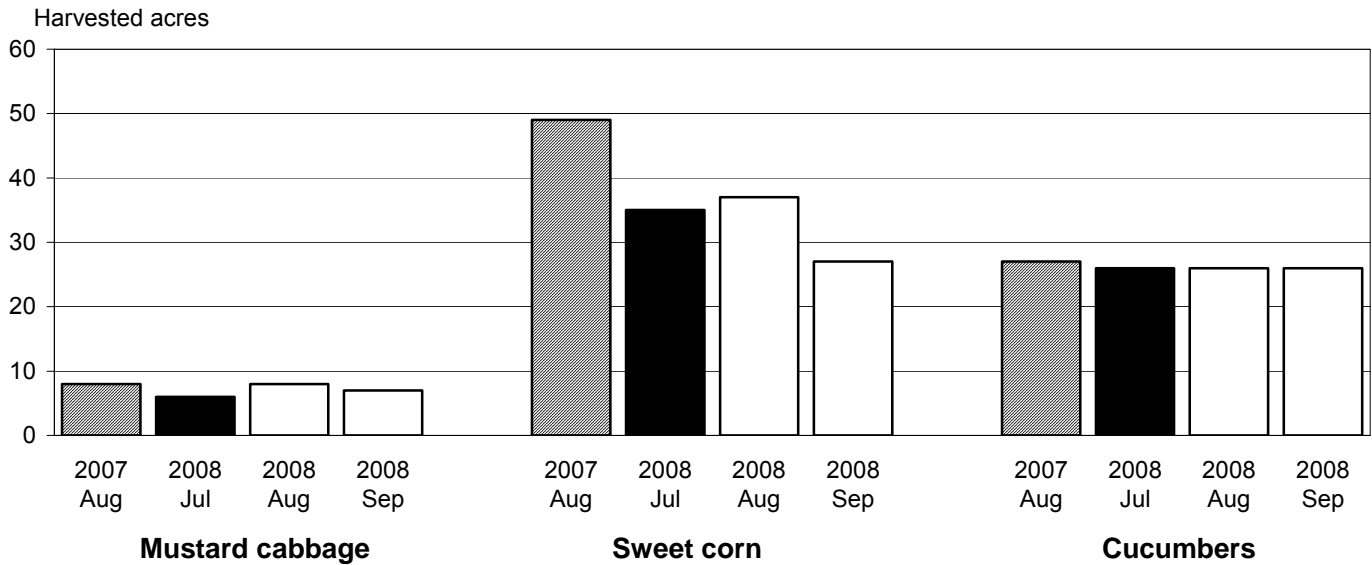
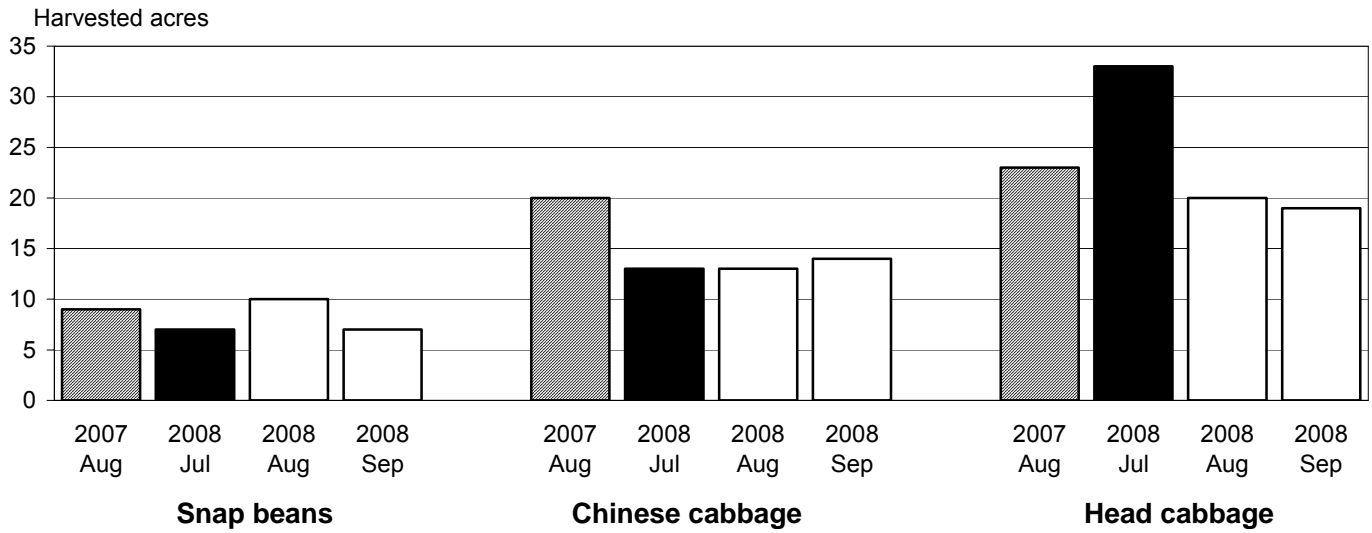
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sep 2008
Beans, snap	8	9	7	7	10	7
Cabbage, Chinese	12	16	18	13	13	14
Cabbage, head	16	24	37	33	20	19
Cabbage, mustard	8	7	4	6	8	7
Corn, sweet	37	32	32	35	37	27
Cucumbers	24	25	27	26	26	26
Lettuce, head	5	4	1	4	3	4
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	4	11	20	8	4	4
Onions, green	10	9	10	10	10	9
Romaine	6	7	4	6	5	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



# July Review

## Chinese Cabbage Production Lower

Chinese cabbage growers harvested an estimated 372,000 pounds during July 2008, a decrease of 22 percent and 28 percent from June 2008 and July 2007, respectively. Although yields were higher, the decrease in acreage for harvest was the reason for July's lower production. Long days coupled with heavy irrigation contributed to the crops steady development. However, because of this same warm, dry conditions insect and disease damage were more prevalent.

Head cabbage producers produced an estimated 719,000 pounds in July, 4 percent and 24 percent less than a month earlier and year earlier, respectively. When compared to June, the decline in acreage for harvest in July was more than the slight increase in yield could make up for. On the other hand, when compared to July 2007 the increase in acreage for harvest was not enough to overcome the decline in the crop yield. Heavy irrigation when possible has helped, but non-irrigated field was negatively

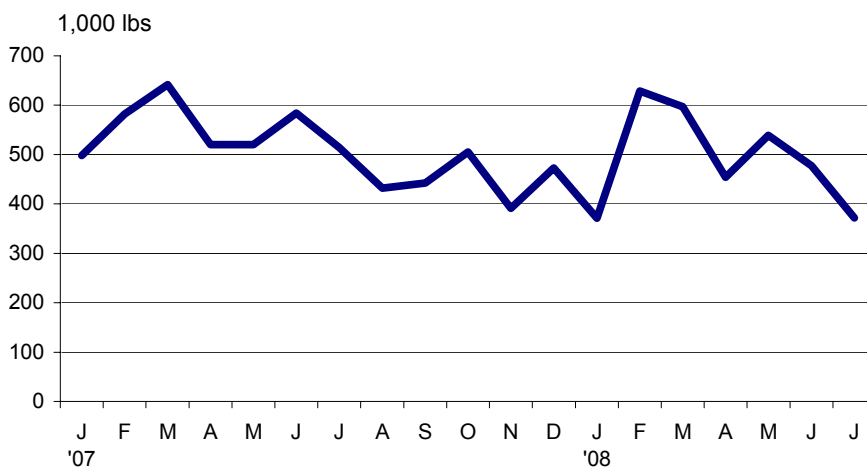
affected.

Sweet corn production totaled 229,000 pounds in July, a 5 percent and 27 percent increase from June 2008 and July a year earlier, respectively. An increase in acreage for harvest was the main reason for the higher production. However, yields in some fields were adversely affected by corn ear worm infestation.

Dry Onion production decreased to an estimated 66,000 pounds in July,

71 percent and 61 percent less than June 2008 and July 2007, respectively. A large decrease in acreage for harvest along with smaller bulb sizes contributed to July's lower production. The warm dry weather continue to benefit crop development in some areas, but as reflected with this month's production this same condition has resulted in lower yields and poor quality bulbs. ■

### Hawaii Chinese Cabbage Monthly Production, 2007 - 2008



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

Crop	Total acres on Aug. 1	July 2008				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield <sup>1/</sup>	Total sales	Average farm price	2007 <sup>2/</sup>	2008	Change
		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	17	7	8.3	58	110.0	443	396	-11
Cabbage, Chinese	23	13	28.6	372	34.7	3,860	3,439	-11
Cabbage, head	40	33	21.8	719	28.0	7,004	6,290	-10
Cabbage, mustard	12	6	16.3	98	73.9	805	764	-5
Corn, sweet	74	35	6.5	229	58.6	1,504	1,277	-15
Cucumbers	46	26	10.4	270	62.3	2,985	2,841	-5
Lettuce, head	5	4	12.3	49	60.5	379	358	-6
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	9.3	37	100.5	240	214	-11
Onions, dry	20	8	8.3	66	63.3	1,001	882	-12
Onions, green	21	10	12.9	129	118.6	857	865	1
Peppers, green	<sup>3/</sup>	18	11.1	200	65.0	1,392	1,592	14
Romaine	10	6	12.8	77	45.2	657	555	-16
Tomatoes	<sup>3/</sup>	58	22.7	1,319	68.7	8,519	8,878	4

<sup>1/</sup> Total sales divided by acres harvested. <sup>2/</sup> Revised. <sup>3/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.