



National Agricultural Statistics Service

Hawaii Agricultural Statistics
Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Vegetables

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October 2004

Trade winds dominate island weather

Trade wind weather provided fair to good growing conditions for vegetable crops during September. Although showers were a near daily occurrence in any parts of the State, Kauai received the greatest amount of rain with all stations recording above normal levels during September. Gradually diminishing amounts of rain were received by the other islands east of Kauai. Hawaii island, in fact, was relatively dry with most rainfall stations recording below normal levels for the month. In an unusual twist, the normally drier Kona-side of the island record the highest rainfall total for the third consecutive month. The National Weather Service reported that the dry conditions over the windward slopes of Hawaii island were quite unusual considering the presence of persistent trade winds during September. Overall, crops subject to irrigation made generally good progress while crops dependent on rainfall made fair progress during the month.

Harvested acreage charts page 2

Year-ago, month-ago, current,
and upcoming harvested
acreage.

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Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

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A brief review of the demand for
fresh sweet corn in the U.S.

A majority of vegetable crops are expected to show a decline in harvested acreage during October. Most of the decline in harvested acreage will be among cool-weather crops such as **Chinese cabbage** (-8%), **head cabbage** (-7%), **head lettuce** (-20%), and **romaine** (-22%). Relatively large percentage increases in harvested acreage are expected for **snap beans** (+56%) and **dry onions** (+73%). Dry onions farmers are also forecast to further increase their harvested acreage next month to 40 acres, more than double the 19 acres for harvest this month.



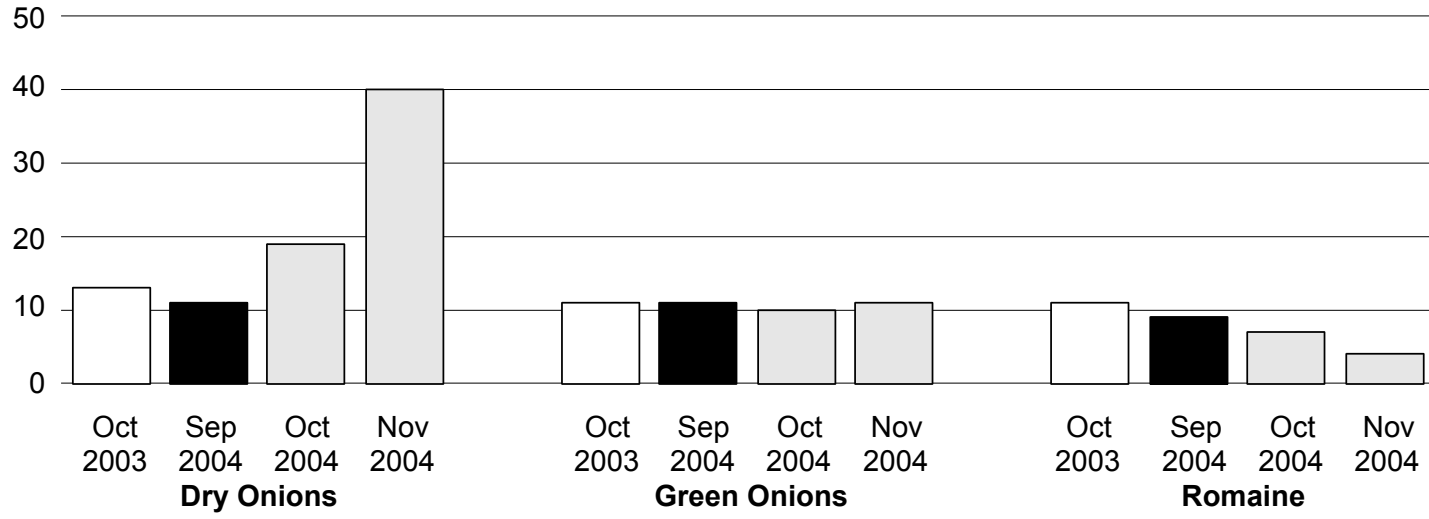
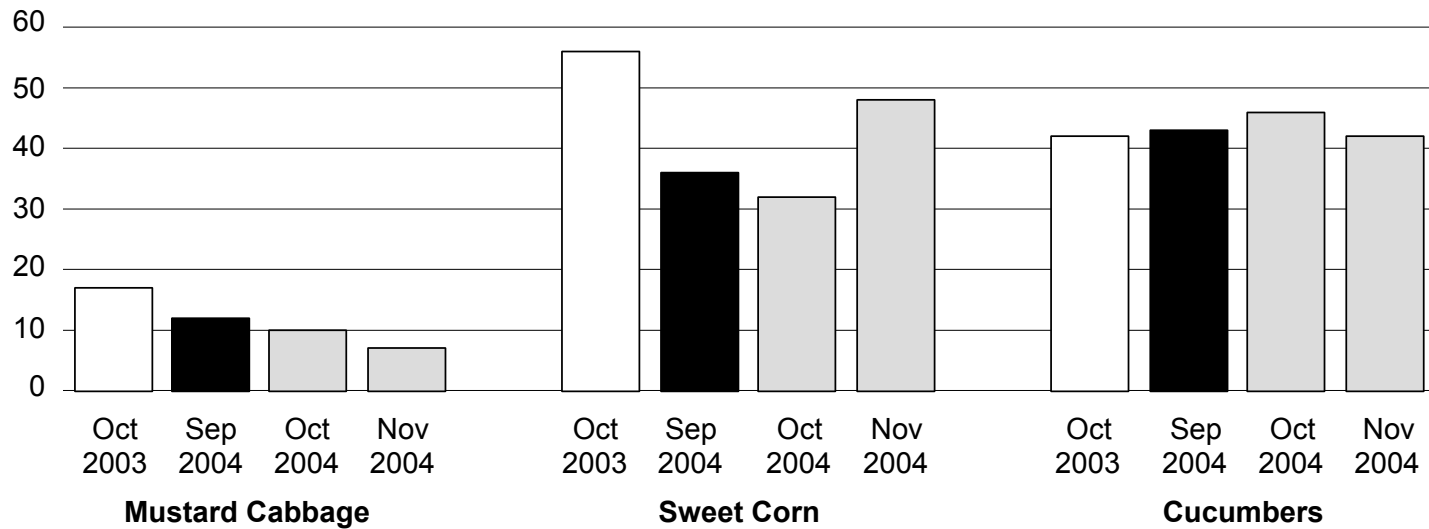
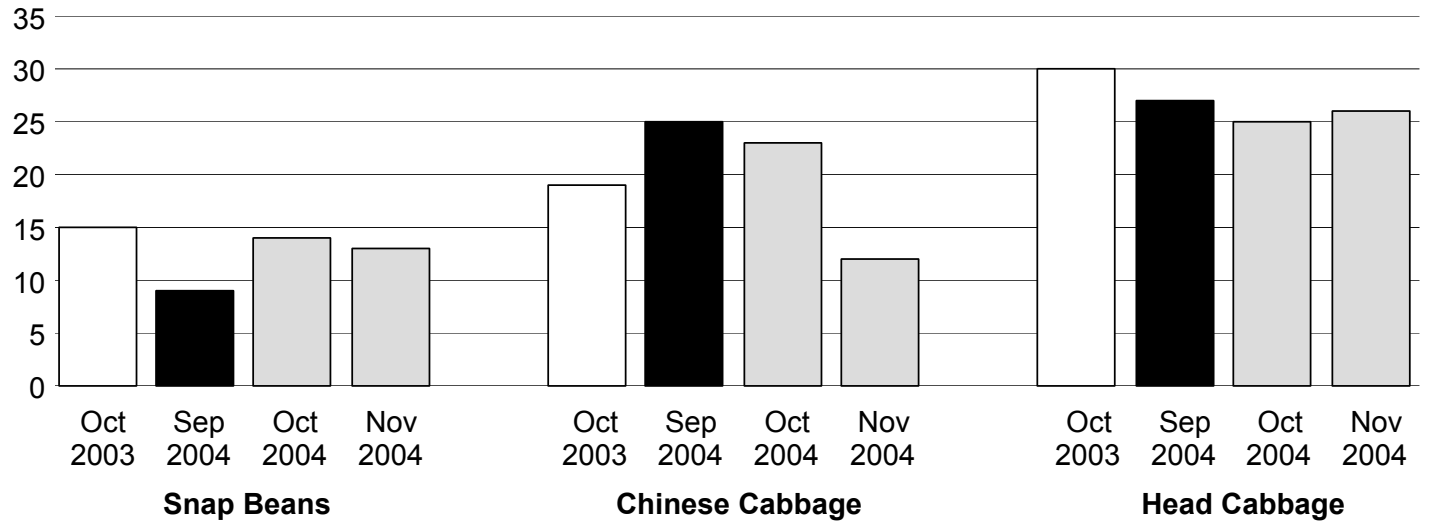
Acreage Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Aug 2004	Sep 2004	Aug 2004	Sep 2004	Oct 2004	Nov 2004
Beans, snap	10	17	15	9	14	13
Cabbage, Chinese	25	19	24	25	23	12
Cabbage, head	28	28	26	27	25	26
Cabbage, mustard	12	13	11	12	10	7
Corn, sweet	42	42	42	36	32	48
Cucumbers	43	45	39	43	46	42
Lettuce, head	5	5	7	5	4	2
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	21	38	16	11	19	40
Onions, green	12	11	11	11	10	11
Romaine	8	8	11	9	7	4

Harvested acreage charts

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

Acres



September review

Production down as summer draws to a close

SNAP BEAN production is estimated at 97,000 pounds for September, up 49 percent from August. Crop conditions ranged from fair to mostly good. Irrigation ensured normal progress in dry areas.

CHINESE CABBAGE production totaled 363,000 pounds in September, down 6 percent from August and down 23 percent from a year ago. Most of the production comes from Hawaii island where crop conditions were fair to good. Warm temperatures and disease have adversely affected crop quality and yields.

HEAD CABBAGE production is estimated at 579,000 pounds, down 1 percent from last month and down 32 percent from a year ago. Like other cool-weather crops, warm temperatures have impacted output. Dry conditions have also increased insect pressure and a higher loss to wildlife.

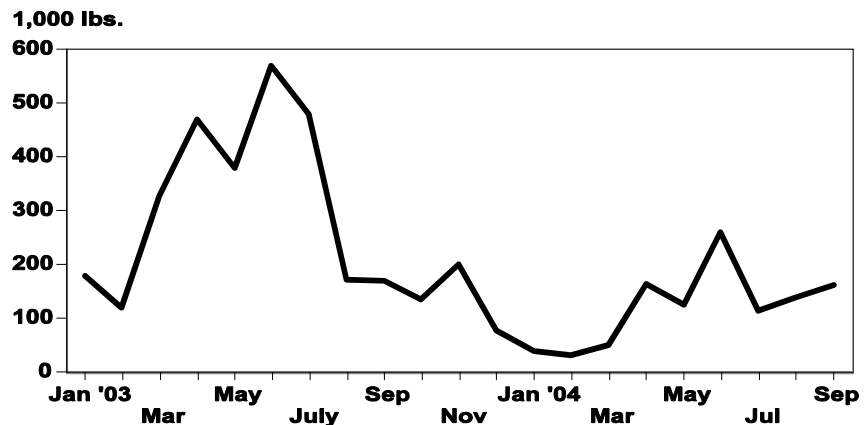
SWEET CORN production is estimated at 91,000 pounds for

September, down 18 percent from last month and down 50 percent from a year ago. Crop conditions were fair although insects and disease appeared to be on the rise.

GREEN PEPPER production is pegged at 261,000 pounds for September, down 2 percent from August and down 5 percent from a year ago. Crop conditions were mostly good.

TOMATO production is estimated at 1.4 million pounds in September, down 2 percent from last month and a year ago. Most plantings were in good conditions having benefitted from a mixture of abundant sunshine and adequate irrigation. ■

**Hawaii Dry Onions:
Monthly Production, 2003 - 2004**



Acres, average yield, sales, and average farm price, September 2004, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Oct 1 st	September 2004				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2003 ^{2/}	2004	Change
				----- 1,000 lbs. -----	Cents per lb.	----- 1,000 lbs -----		Percent
Beans, snap	26	9	10.8	97	92.7	645	656	2
Cabbage, Chinese	32	25	14.5	363	33.5	5,174	3,789	-27
Cabbage, head	52	27	21.4	579	30.5	10,214	6,432	-37
Cabbage, mustard	17	12	9.4	113	69.4	938	1,042	11
Corn, sweet	90	36	2.5	91	71.7	1,905	1,068	-44
Cucumbers	74	43	11.9	513	53.4	4,445	4,138	-7
Lettuce, head	6	5	12.0	60	52.7	627	588	-6
Lettuce, semi-head	8	4	9.0	36	77.8	238	264	11
Onions, dry	102	11	14.7	162	172.4	2,871	1,089	-62
Onions, green	25	11	9.7	107	87.3	1,096	857	-22
Peppers, green	^{3/}	22	11.9	261	58.2	2,450	2,298	-6
Romaine	11	9	13.8	124	49.7	1,401	1,098	-22
Tomatoes	^{3/}	57	24.7	1,409	59.9	13,083	11,695	-11

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

California Fall Vegetable Review

Crop Conditions as of October 6, 2004

Broccoli: Cool weather has been favorable for the crop. Conditions were good during planting and no major pest or disease problems have been reported. Growers have stepped up production in response to increased broccoli consumption stemming from the popularity of the latest low-carbohydrate and low-fat diets.

Cantaloupes: The crop is progressing well under favorable conditions. Quality is good and no major insect or disease problems have been reported. However, supply gluts and low prices have plagued California cantaloupe growers this season.

Carrots: Growing conditions for the California crop have been favorable. Baby carrots continue to be in high demand and packaging options are expanding to follow the trend.

Cauliflower: California's fall crop development is normal with no pest or disease problems reported. Weather conditions have been favorable for cauliflower development.

Celery: Fall season celery is in good condition with no pest or disease problems reported.

Corn, Sweet: The crop is in good condition with no insect or disease problems reported.

Honeydews: The crop is progressing well under favorable growing conditions. Good quality if reported.

Lettuce, head: Good crop development is reported in the San Joaquin Valley. Along the Central Coast, warm late summer weather accelerated growth.

Tomatoes: California growers planted fresh market tomatoes as the summer harvest was winding down. Fields have received insecticide treatment as needed. A recent cold snap

in the San Joaquin Valley slowed crop development, but no significant problems have been noted. The market for California's fresh market tomatoes has improved dramatically following the hurricane in Florida which have curtailed production in the East.

California Fall (Oct.-Dec.) Season Fresh Market Vegetables and Melon Acreage

Crop	Harvested		For Harvest 2004	<u>2004</u> <u>2003</u>
	2002	2003		
	<i>Acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
Broccoli ^{1/}	27,000	29,000	31,500	109
Cantaloupes	3,600	3,400	3,300	97
Carrots	15,500	14,500	14,000	97
Cauliflower ^{1/}	10,000	10,000	10,000	100
Celery ^{1/}	6,700	6,900	6,600	96
Corn, sweet	4,400	5,000	4,900	98
Honeydews	3,400	3,400	3,100	91
Lettuce, head	30,500	32,000	32,000	100
Tomatoes	9,500	9,600	9,600	100

^{1/} Includes fresh market and processing.

SOURCE: *California Vegetable Review*, October 6, 2004, California Statistical Service, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.