

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



November 16, 2006

Hawaii's wet season starts with heavy showers and a strong earthquake

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

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Production statistics and comments on selected crops.

Hawaii's wet season starts in October and, true to form, it was a wet month. A cold front brought the first round of showers over the western half of the State on October 14th and the 15th. These showers became heavier as the front moved over the central area of Maui and the Big Island. Localized flooding occurred on both islands. Another round of showers pelted the State from October 19th to the 20th, but these were mainly concentrated on Maui. October came to a rainy close with more moderate to heavy showers along the windward areas of Kauai, Oahu, and Maui. A strong earthquake off the coast of the Big Island resulted in some damage to the Waimea Irrigation System. A voluntary 10-percent reduction in water consumption is in effect for users of the system. The Lower Hamakua Ditch was also damaged by the strong quake and a 30-percent mandatory restriction on water use is in effect for users of that system. The wet weather slowed crop progress, hampered spray programs, and hindered field work. Yields were adversely affected in the wettest areas.

Acreage for harvest is expected to increase for most vegetables during November. Double-digit percentage increases in harvested acreage are expected for **head cabbage** (+24%), **mustard cabbage** (+11%), **sweet corn** (+57%), **dry onions** (+50%), and **green onions** (+11%). Declines in harvested acreage are anticipated for **head lettuce** (-43%) and **romaine** (-13%).

Acreage

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

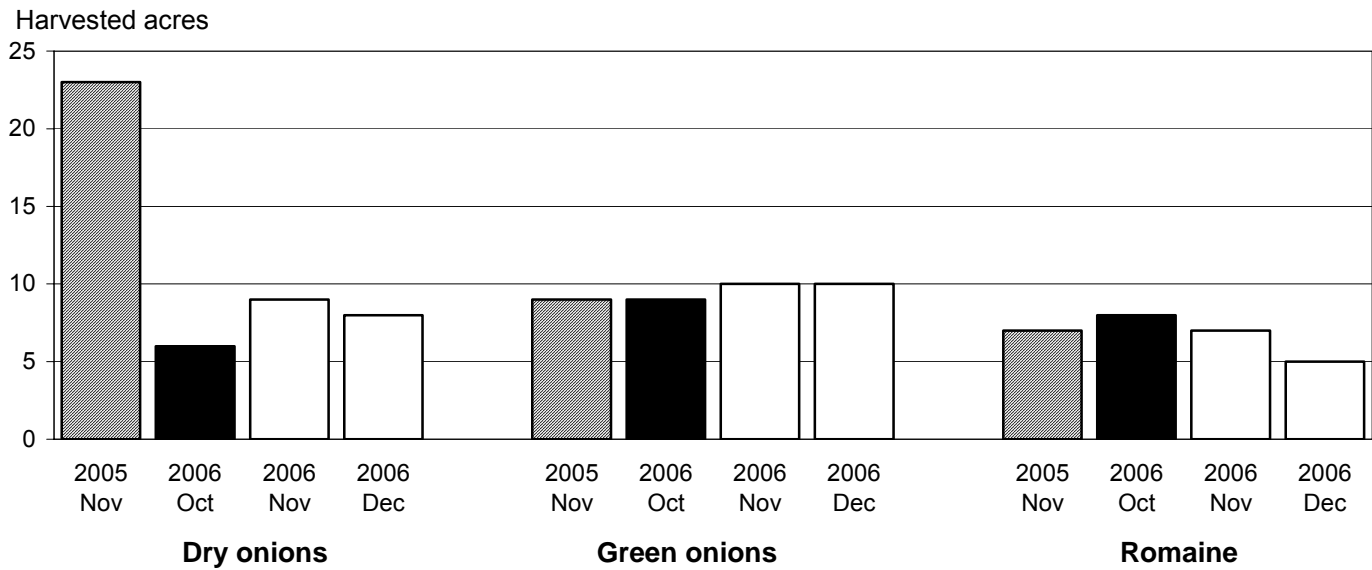
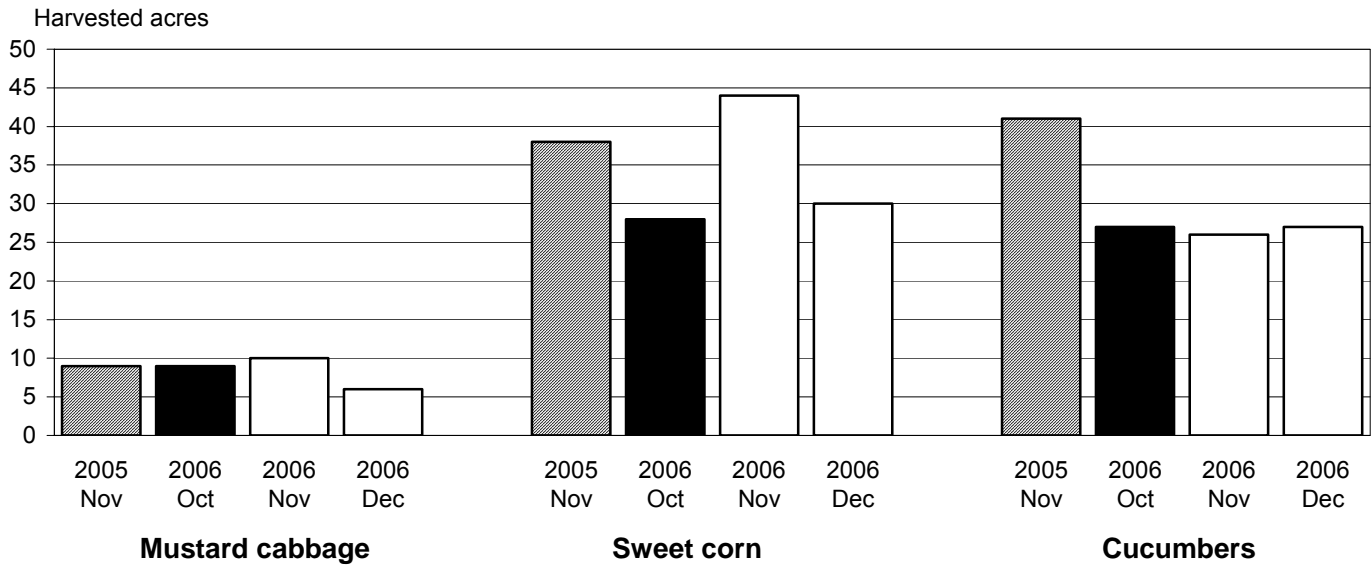
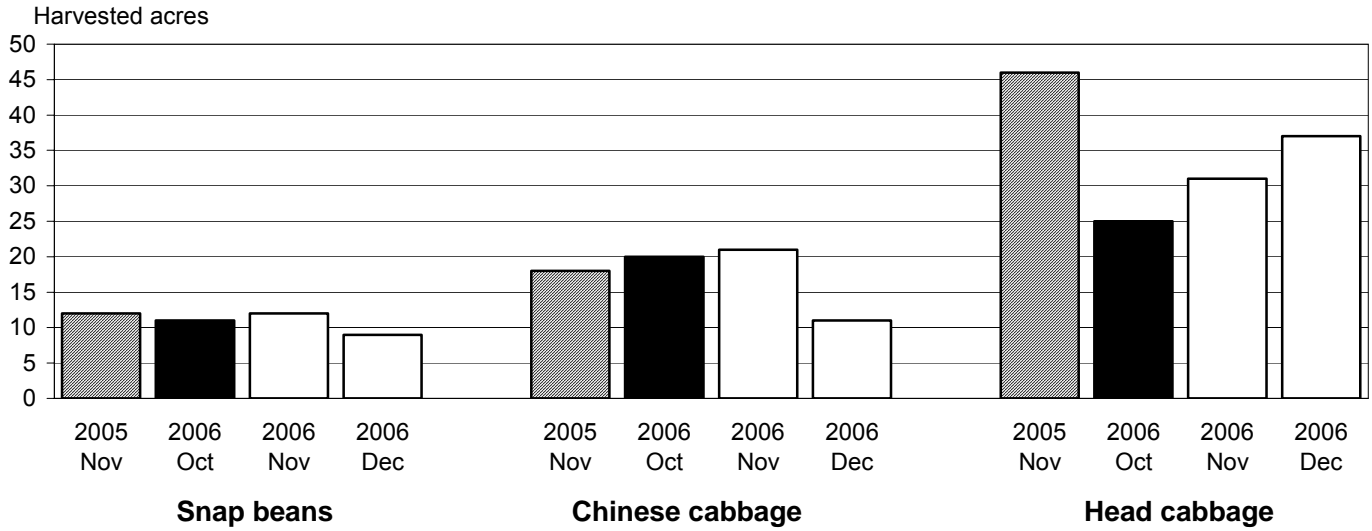
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Sep 2006	Oct 2006	Sep 2006	Oct 2006	Nov 2006	Dec 2006
Beans, snap	12	9	8	11	12	9
Cabbage, Chinese	24	21	13	20	21	11
Cabbage, head	44	40	21	25	31	37
Cabbage, mustard	9	9	9	9	10	6
Corn, sweet	40	35	38	28	44	30
Cucumbers	25	24	27	27	26	27
Lettuce, head	6	4	7	7	4	1
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	5	4	4	4
Onions, dry	8	11	9	6	9	8
Onions, green	10	10	10	9	10	10
Romaine	10	6	9	8	7	3

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Harvested acreage charts

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



October Review

Most Vegetables Register A Decline In Yield

Chinese cabbage production totaled 405,000 pounds in October, 2 percent less than September. Crops were in fair to good condition. Wet weather did not affect the major growing areas of Waimea on the Big Island. Regular irrigation result in rapid growth and the early harvest of some plantings.

Head cabbage production totaled 460,000 pounds in October, up 3 percent from September. Crop conditions ranged from fair to good. Insect and disease losses were relatively light.

Sweet corn growers produced a total of 157,000 pounds in October, down 25 percent from the previous month. Overall, plantings were in fair to good condition. Cloudy skies and wet weather hampered yields in some areas. Water conservation efforts are having an adverse effect on production because they limited plantings during summer.

Cucumber production totaled 455,000 pounds in October, 22 percent less than a month earlier. Overcast skies and showery weather

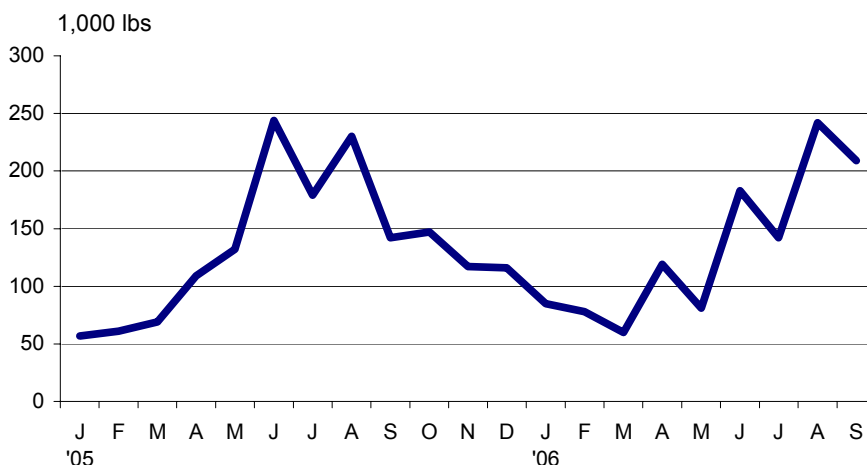
was responsible for the decline in production.

Dry Onion production is estimated at 65,000 pounds for October, down 24 percent from September 2006. Overall crop conditions were fair. October production suffered from the wet weather causing some losses.

Tomato production totaled 1.2 million pounds in October, down 20

percent from September 2006. Production from open fields was setback at mid-month to due the rainy weather. Greenhouse tomatoes were in fair to good condition and reported good fruit quality.■

**Hawaii Sweet Corn
Monthly Production, 2005 – 2006**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, October 2006, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Nov. 1	October 2006				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2005 ^{2/}	2006	Change
		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	21	11	4.2	46	79.1	555	555	0
Cabbage, Chinese	33	20	20.3	405	32.5	4,636	5,051	9
Cabbage, head	78	25	18.4	460	32.4	7,778	8,322	7
Cabbage, mustard	12	9	11.7	105	56.5	1,155	1,157	0
Corn, sweet	74	28	5.6	157	56.5	1,370	1,356	-1
Cucumbers	50	27	16.9	455	49.7	4,585	4,497	-2
Lettuce, head	5	7	10.0	70	60.5	587	677	15
Lettuce, semi-head	8	4	8.3	33	95.9	270	340	26
Onions, dry	36	6	10.8	65	112.8	2,089	1,288	-38
Onions, green	22	9	13.4	121	92.6	990	1,128	14
Peppers, green	^{3/}	24	8.0	192	66.8	2,461	2,463	0
Romaine	10	8	12.3	98	64.2	1,352	1,115	-18
Tomatoes	^{3/}	67	18.6	1,248	98.7	11,489	12,415	8

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