

National Agricultural Statistics Service

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# Hawaii Vegetables

A monthly summary of acreage, sales, and farm prices for Hawaii's major vegetables

## Head Cabbage

**Other crop highlights** ..... page 2  
Crop conditions and projections of harvested acreage.

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Plantings, acres harvested, average yield, total sales, and average farm prices.

**U.S. vegetable outlook for 2002** ..... page 4  
Outlook report for 2002 fresh vegetable acreage.

### Crop condition

Crop conditions were good to fair. Cooler temperatures generally benefitted the crop and, with regular spraying, have minimized insect and disease damage. There were periods of heavy rain in December that hampered harvesting and planting activities, but not at a significant level.

### December review

Statewide sales totaled 885,000 pounds in December, up 36 percent from November. The increase in sales was achieved through improved yields and a 16-percent increase in harvested acreage.

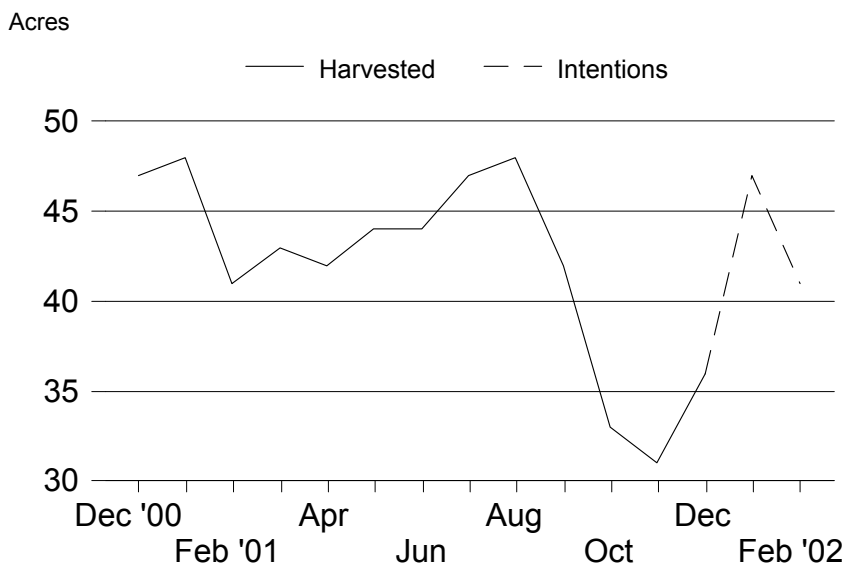
Farm prices averaged 25.0 cents per pound in December, down 5 percent from November.

### Outlook

Harvested acreage is expected to increase 31 percent in January to 47 acres. Head cabbage farmers are then forecast to decrease harvested acreage by 13 percent to 41 acres in February. Part of the reason for the decline in February is that it is a short month (fewer days) compared to January.

Harvesting in the coming months will depend on upcoming weather conditions.

**HEAD CABBAGE:** Monthly acres harvested and forecast for harvest. State of Hawaii



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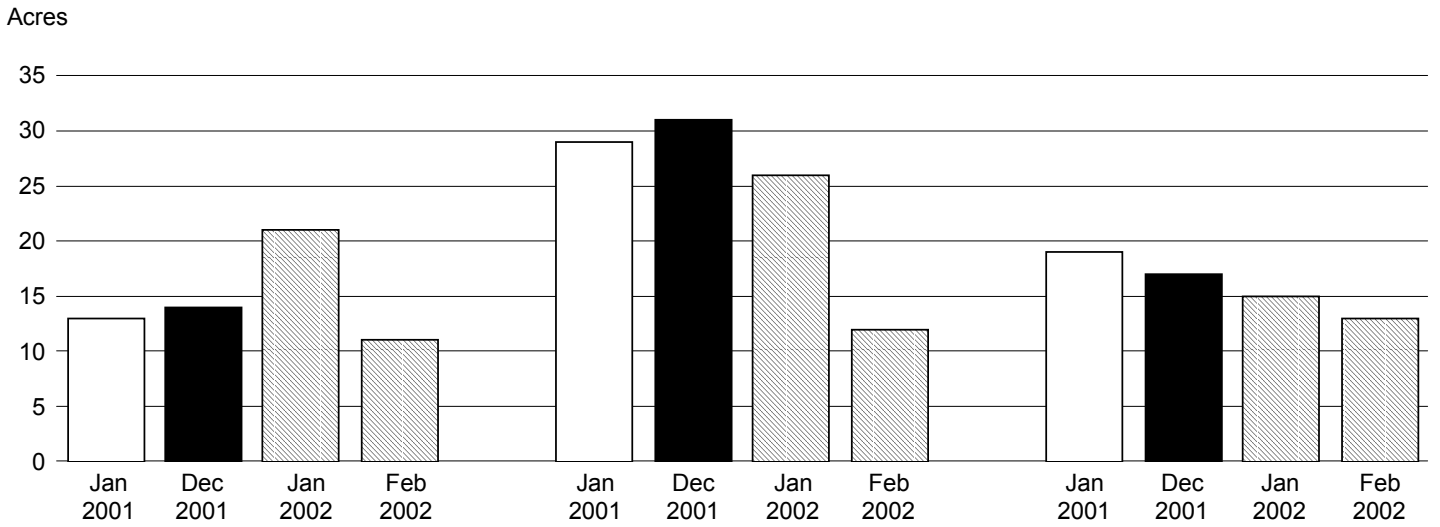
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# Crop highlights

Crop conditions, acres harvested, and acres intended to be harvested for selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Acres harvested year ago
  Acres harvested
  Acres intended for harvest



## Snap Beans

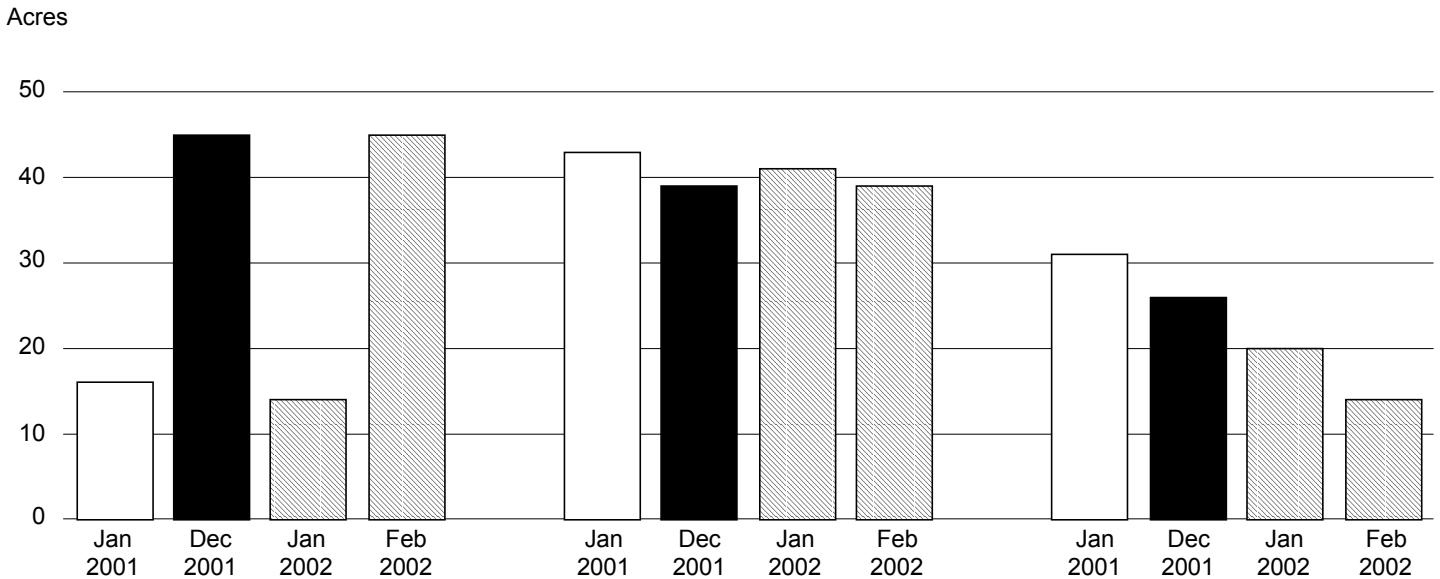
Intermittent showers, cloudy skies, and cool temperatures hindered crop progress in most areas. Overall crop conditions ranged from fair to poor. Although harvested acreage is expected to increase in January, yields are anticipated to be lower.

## Chinese Cabbage

Crop conditions were fair to good. Insects and disease were at relatively low levels. However, reduced daylight and cool temperatures will slow crop progress.

## Romaine

Plantings were in fair to good condition. Winter conditions have slowed crop progress and kept pest at bay. Some plantings have benefitted from the change in weather.



## Dry onion

Crop conditions were generally fair. Cooler temperatures and periodic showers slowed growth and hampered yields. Harvested acreage is expected to increase significantly as acreage for harvest reaches maturity on Oahu.

## Cucumbers

Fields remain in fair to poor condition. Showers, cloudy skies, and periods of gusty weather hampered crop development during December and resulted in lower than anticipated yields.

## Sweet corn

Plantings were in variable condition due to winter weather conditions. Harvested acreage is expected to decline in the coming months due to the advent of shorter daylight hours and cooler temperatures.

# December statistics

Total acres, harvested acres, average yield, total sales, and average farm prices for 13 selected vegetables with January-to-date totals, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>	December 2001				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield <sup>1/</sup>	Total sales	Average farm price	2000 <sup>2/</sup>	2001	Change
			<i>1,000 lbs per acre</i>	<i>1,000 lbs</i>	<i>Cents per lb.</i>	<i>----- 1,000 lbs -----</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Beans, snap	30	14	4.7	66	116.5	1,200	1,052	-12
Cabbage, Chinese	39	31	17.6	545	23.0	7,200	6,744	-6
Cabbage, head	97	36	24.6	885	25.0	14,600	12,473	-15
Cabbage, mustard	19	9	11.4	103	48.8	1,500	1,406	-6
Corn, sweet	39	26	3.6	94	66.6	2,400	1,768	-26
Cucumbers	64	39	8.3	324	52.6	5,700	5,300	-7
Lettuce, head	9	8	6.3	50	42.9	965	891	-8
Lettuce, semi-head	8	5	2.8	14	71.2	335	300	-10
Onions, dry	105	45	2.9	130	111.5	4,300	5,342	24
Onions, green	29	15	6.6	99	99.1	1,500	1,362	-9
Peppers, green	35	17	15.2	259	57.2	2,800	3,099	11
Romaine	22	17	9.7	165	49.8	2,000	1,939	-3
Tomatoes	3/	69	19.3	1,330	54.7	16,500	17,483	6

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

# Acreage summary

Monthly new plantings, acres harvested, and acres for harvest for 13 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

Crop	New acres planted			Acres harvested			Acres for harvest	
	Oct 2001	Nov 2001	Dec 2001	Oct 2001	Nov 2001	Dec 2001	Jan 2002	Feb 2002
Beans, snap	13	19	14	17	19	14	21	11
Cabbage, Chinese	33	31	23	32	34	31	26	12
Cabbage, head	44	28	49	33	31	36	47	41
Cabbage, mustard	11	11	12	8	13	9	14	6
Corn, sweet	32	20	14	42	41	26	20	14
Cucumbers	39	40	38	37	38	39	41	39
Lettuce, head	7	7	6	8	6	8	6	2
Lettuce, semi-head	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Onions, dry	40	48	11	33	13	45	14	45
Onions, green	14	13	12	13	13	15	13	12
Peppers, green	1/	1/	1/	19	19	17	1/	1/
Romaine	15	16	17	11	15	17	15	13
Tomatoes	1/	1/	1/	59	62	69	1/	1/

<sup>1/</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

## Outlook for 2002

### Fresh vegetable area expected to decline in 2002

By and large, given average weather, fresh vegetable supplies are expected to remain at or above a year earlier through the first quarter of 2002. However, for the year as a whole, fresh area harvested is expected to decline slightly. In planning and planting for each market window, growers and shippers will consider (among a range of factors):

- ✓ Prices received a year ago
- ✓ Costs of production
- ✓ Expected strength (or lack thereof) of domestic and export demand

### Factors supporting decline in acreage

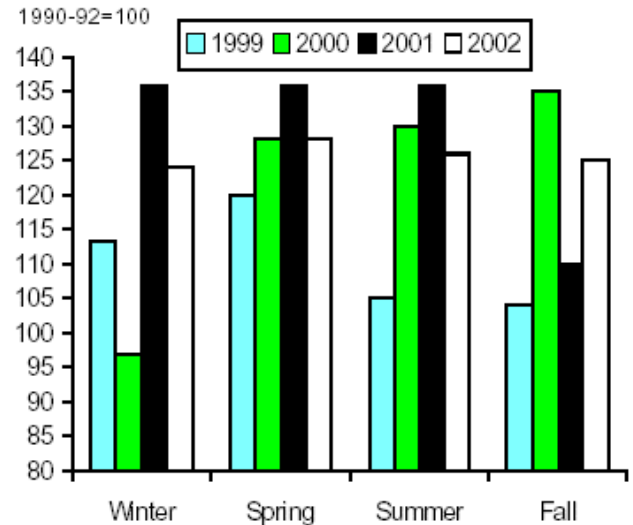
Factors supporting increased area are slightly higher annual prices for 2001 and lower input prices for energy-related items like fertilizer and fuel. Supporting reduced area is uncertain domestic demand due to the slow economy. Also on the negative side is the strong dollar, with its attendant negative impact on export competitiveness.

### Decline in acreage likely to occur in fall 2002

After a small increase in area during the first quarter, acreage is expected to remain near year-earlier levels in the spring and summer seasons. Given the poor prices

received this fall, growers will likely reduce acreage during the fall quarter next year. Assuming average weather in 2002, annual fresh vegetable and melon supplies from domestic sources could be slightly lower for the year. ▲

Vegetables: Quarterly f.o.b. shipping-point price



Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA through the third quarter of 2001 and ERS forecasts thereafter.

Except from *Vegetables and Melons Outlook/December 2001*, Economic Research Service, USDA. Visit their website: [www.ers.usda.gov](http://www.ers.usda.gov) for the complete text.

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