



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: April 2, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Field Office · 1428 South King Street · Honolulu, HI 96814-2512 · 1-800- 804-9514 · www.nass.usda.gov

Light Winds Generate Warm Days with Afternoon Showers



Weather Review

Weather conditions were mostly favorable for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, April 1. A trough of low pressure resulted in light, gentle breezes for most of the week. As a result, days were relatively warm with some afternoon showers triggered by convective heating. Nights were generally clear and cool temperatures prevailed into the early morning hours. Cooler northerly winds returned by Sunday and some accompanying clouds brought moderate to heavy showers to some windward areas.

Hawaii County

The Big Island experienced variable weather for the week. Hilo and surrounding areas had light showers and cloudy skies during the first half of the week and mostly sunny and dry weather during the second half. Light southerly winds brought volcanic haze to the windward areas during the second half of the week. In Waimea, Puukapu had mostly clear mornings, cloudy afternoons, and light passing showers. Lalamilo was mostly sunny and dry. Heavy irrigation was required for normal crop progress. Leeward areas also experienced light winds and lingering volcanic haze. The Kona Districts experienced warm

temperatures, afternoon cloud buildup along the slopes, and isolated light to heavy showers. Weather conditions in the Ka`u district were similar to that of Kona with sunny mornings, afternoon cloud buildup over the slopes, and isolated showers. The Volcano area had misty rain and periods of cloudy and sunny weather. Thick volcanic haze covered the area on certain days.

Maui County

Maui was mostly sunny and fair for the week. Weather conditions were beneficial for agriculture in Maui County. There were a few periods of cloud cover in the central section of the island along with some brief showers. Upper elevation areas received frequent cloud cover and some areas reported receiving up to an inch of rainfall. The recent increase in ground moisture and warm, sunny skies allowed for active planting and harvesting of crops. Growth and development of crops and pasture forage was also encouraged by the favorable weather. Winds were variable with some periods of very little air movement.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop progress during the week. Sunny and dry days prevailed over most central and

leeward Oahu crop growing area. Temperatures and humidity were high while light variable winds brought volcanic smog over the island. Windward crop growing areas had mixed weather conditions; partly sunny with frequent clouds bringing a mix of light to moderate showers with occasionally heavy rains to isolated fields. Crops made fair to good progress and continued to recover from previous gusty winds. Most orchard crops made fair to good progress during the week with the sunny weather and favorable rainfall. Leafy crops made good progress having benefited from the longer, sunnier days. Spraying for increasing insect populations, and disease control, were on schedule.

Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were good to fair for crop progress during the week. Very light variable winds, intermittent rainfall, high temperatures, and humidity typified the week's weather. Rains, in the windward sectors and at the upper elevations, were generally favorable for most orchard and fruit crops. Field preparation and planting of crops was active during the week. Temperatures were moderate to high during the day with cooling in the night and early morning hours. Spraying for insect and disease control was hindered in some areas because of the rains, but the drier

Mark E. Hudson, Director
Steve Gunn, Deputy Director

Ronald Nakamura, Research Statistician

west Kauai fields remained on schedule.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Banana

Orchards in eastern sections of Hawaii Island had adequate moisture. Spraying was required to minimize disease damage. Banana Bunchy Top virus damage was still localized in the Puna and Kona areas. Oahu orchards were in good to fair condition. Fields in windward Oahu made fair progress with light to moderate harvesting. Leeward and central Oahu fields remained in fair to good condition. Irrigation was at moderate to heavy levels. Fruit development and ripening continued to improve during the week with the favorable weather conditions. Kauai's orchards were in fair to good condition.

Papaya

Papaya orchards in the lower Puna area of the Big Island were in fair to good condition. Spraying for disease and weed control was active during the week. Young papaya fields in the lower Kapoho area made steady progress. Fruit quality and yields were improving. Orchards on Kauai made fair to good progress during the week. Spraying to contain insect infestation and disease infestation remained slow in rainy areas.

Vegetables

Chinese Cabbage

The Big Island's crop was making good progress with heavy irrigation. Light disease incidence was noticed on the wrapper leaves. Head quality and yields were generally good. New plantings made good growth.

Head Cabbage

On Hawaii Island, the Waimea crop made good progress with irrigation. Selective spraying was minimizing insect and disease damage. New plantings increased in the Lalamilo area and were making good progress. Maui's crop was reported to be showing steady increased growth due to the warming conditions and longer day length. Rainfall received a couple of week ago increased the overall ground moisture and some producers may reduce irrigation for the week. Some areas reported that the increase moisture has increased incidences of rot. While there has been some loss due to the rot, overall production is not expected to be significantly affected. Overall the crop was in generally fair condition. On Oahu, new plants were in good condition. Insect infestation remained light to moderate.

Sweet Corn

Sunny, dry, and warm weather allowed plants to make good progress in central Oahu fields. Windward fields made fair to good progress, slightly slowed with the overcast skies and intermittent rains. Big Island plantings had adequate soil moisture and the crop

was making steady progress. Overall, the crop condition was in fair condition.

Cucumbers

New plantings on Oahu made good progress during the week as the warmer and sunnier weather conditions were favorable for most fields located in the central part of the island. Flower and fruit set was good during the week.

Semi-head (Manoa) Lettuce

The dry weather and higher temperatures have caused an increase in insect infestation and light damage to Oahu's Manoa lettuce crop. Spraying to control insects was active.

Dry Onions

The crop on Maui benefited from this week's sunny weather and in generally fair condition. Average bulb size was larger, although there were some losses due to quality defects in development as a result of cooler conditions during the previous months. Overall, producers are expecting increased improvement in the condition of the dry onion crop. Yields are expected to increase and losses from defects are expected to decrease as growing conditions continue to improve.

Miscellaneous

Ginger Root

Most growers have finished harvest for the season. Planting and field preparation for next season's crop was active in east Hawaii sections.

Monthly Trend for Selected Stations

Comparison of 2007 cumulative monthly and annual totals with average monthly totals for selected stations. ^{1/}

Station name		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
<i>Inches</i>														
Island of Hawaii														
1. Kamuela	2007	1.4	3.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4
	Average	6.6	6.0	7.9	6.9	4.0	2.2	3.7	4.1	2.2	3.3	5.8	7.3	60.0
2. Kealahou	2007	2.1	2.5	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2
	Average	4.7	3.4	5.6	6.2	7.7	8.2	8.7	8.3	8.2	6.2	4.4	3.4	75.0
3. Laupahoehoe	2007	6.7	12.3	6.0 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0 _p
	Average	13.5	13.2	19.5	18.9	11.7	6.2	10.0	12.4	6.9	9.3	13.6	14.8	150.0
4. Mt. View	2007	18.2	14.1	11.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.6
	Average	14.1	13.6	19.6	18.0	13.1	9.4	12.8	14.6	10.7	12.1	15.8	16.2	170.0
5. Pahala	2007	1.7	0.4	4.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4
	Average	7.7	6.1	6.3	5.0	3.8	2.2	2.1	3.3	3.4	4.2	5.5	5.4	55.0
6. Pahoa	2007	12.2	13.4	7.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.8
	Average	13.9	10.9	10.5	13.9	10.5	7.1	9.8	10.6	9.2	11.5	13.3	14.6	140.0
Island of Maui														
7. Hana	2007	1.3	4.0 _p	2.6 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9 _p
	Average	8.5	5.7	9.1	7.5	5.9	4.1	5.9	5.8	6.1	7.3	8.0	6.1	80.0
8. Kula	2007	0.4	1.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6
	Average	3.5	3.0	2.5	1.6	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.5	2.3	3.3	22.3
9. Lahainaluna	2007	0.2	*	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
	Average	4.4	2.7	2.4	1.7	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.0	3.4	20.0
10. Wailuku	2007	0.5	1.3	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3
	Average	5.2	3.8	3.6	3.0	1.2	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.7	2.9	4.3	28.0
Island of Oahu														
11. Kahuku	2007	2.9	1.4	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5
	Average	6.3	4.2	5.3	4.0	2.5	1.9	2.2	2.6	2.2	4.0	4.6	5.3	45.0
12. Mililani	2007	4.3	2.5	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.6
	Average	6.4	4.9	4.9	4.0	2.5	1.7	2.1	2.4	1.7	3.7	4.5	6.2	45.0
13. Waianae	2007	2.2	0.3	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2
	Average	3.8	2.3	2.5	1.6	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.7	1.8	2.0	3.3	20.0
14. Waimanalo	2007	2.3	1.3	3.2 _p	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8 _p
	Average	6.8	4.6	3.6	3.2	3.2	1.5	1.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.6	5.5	42.8
Island of Kauai														
15. Anahola	2007	3.2	3.8	4.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5
	Average	6.8	4.4	6.0	4.6	3.2	1.6	2.5	2.5	2.0	5.1	5.4	5.9	50.0
16. Hanalei	2007	4.9	10.5	6.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.6
	Average	11.8	9.4	13.4	12.2	9.3	6.5	9.8	8.7	6.9	8.5	10.2	12.0	118.7
17. Omao	2007	2.8 _p	4.6	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.5 _p
	Average	6.9	4.5	5.5	5.2	4.2	3.4	4.7	4.6	3.8	4.7	5.9	6.7	60.0

^{1/} Rainfall stations were selected from the National Weather Service's Hydronet system of automated rain gauges. All data has not been quality controlled to date, and therefore is not certified by the National Weather Service.

M = Missing. p = Partial or incomplete. e = Estimated. * = More than zero, but less than .05 inches of rain.

Precipitation for week ending April 1, 2007
Daily, weekly, and year-to-date precipitation totals for selected Hawaii stations.^{1/}

Station name and identification number	24-Hour totals at 8 a.m.							Weekly total	Jan. 1 to date
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
<i>Inches</i>									
Island of Hawaii									
1. Kamuela (HI86)	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	6.35
2. Kealakekua (HI84)	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.71	6.23
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.23	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.25	25.03
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.33	0.31	0.08	0.00	0.37	0.03	0.00	1.12	43.57
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.00	0.42	0.02	0.06	0.71	6.42
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.50	0.27	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.11	0.22	1.18	32.75
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.08	0.06	0.11	M	M	M	0.00	0.25	7.88
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.19	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	4.57
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.42
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.27
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.14	0.91	0.00	0.00	0.71	0.00	0.00	1.76	8.48
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.23	10.55
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	5.16
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.01	0.62	0.26	0.12	0.11	0.05	0.04	1.21	6.83
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.29	0.02	0.16	1.04	1.57	12.49
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.08	0.32	0.00	0.36	0.06	0.00	0.70	1.52	22.56
17. Omao (HI51)	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.13	11.45

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1428 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96814-2512

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