



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: May 13, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Trade Wind Weather Favorable for Agriculture



Weather Review

Weather conditions were favorable for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, May 13. A strong high pressure system north-northwest of the State continued to generate trade wind weather for the islands. Days were mostly sunny with some cloud build-up in windward areas. Rainfall was generally light and limited to the windward areas and the upper elevations. The trade winds slackened a bit over the weekend as a trough of low pressure moved closer to the State. Overall, crops made fair to good progress during the week. Irrigation was necessary to maintain normal crop progress and spray programs were on a regular schedule.

Hawaii County

Weather conditions were generally good in the windward districts and fair in the leeward and southern sections of the island during the week. Soil moisture in the Hilo and surrounding areas were generally good due to light night and early morning showers. Days were sunny and warm. The Hamakua District was mostly sunny with light showers generated by the trade wind flow. Waimea was mostly dry with gusty winds and cloudy periods. Winds decreased during

the later part of the week. Lalamilo remained dry and required heavy irrigation. Puukapu received light showers, and irrigation was still necessary for normal crop progress. The Kona District remained mostly dry with upper sections having afternoon cloud cover and light showers during midweek. However, soil moisture remained low. Ka`u remained sunny and dry throughout the week. The upper slopes had cloud cover and very light showers. Coastal areas were windy and dry. Sunny skies, cloudy periods, and light showers prevailed in the Volcano area.

Maui County

The island of Maui was mostly sunny with some periods of cloud cover in the upper elevations. Brief, isolated showers were reported along the windward-facing shoreline areas and at times in Haiku and Makawao. Passing showers also occurred across the central section of Maui during the middle of the week. Rainfall over the past several weeks were not enough to maintain consistent re-growth for most of Maui's pastures. The general landscape throughout the island was showing signs of drying out.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions remained favorable for good crop progress

during the week. Days were sunny and dry. Rainfall was light and trade winds were blowing at moderate to light levels. Temperatures were moderate to high with the winds providing some cooling in the night and early morning hours. Windward crop growing areas experienced fair weather conditions with sunny days and light intermittent showers throughout the week. Central and leeward crop growing areas remained mostly dry with some rains drifting to crop growing areas at the end of the week. Heavy irrigation was necessary to ensure normal crop development. Most fruit and vine crops made fair to good progress with the trade winds keeping fields dry and in good condition. Orchard crops made fair to good progress during the week. Leafy crops made fair progress as the high temperatures caused an increase in insect populations. Spraying for insect infestation and control of diseases were on regular schedules.

Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were good for crop progress during the. A high pressure system north of the state kept trade winds steady at moderate levels with light rainfall reaching some crop growing areas. The dry and windy conditions made heavier irrigation necessary to ensure normal crop development.

Mark E. Hudson, Director
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Most orchard and fruit crops made good progress with the beneficial weather conditions. Temperatures were moderate during the day with some cooling provided by trade winds. Spraying for insect and disease control was on regular schedules.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Banana

Big Island orchards in eastern sections were in generally good condition. Sunny days and adequate soil moisture benefited fruit and orchard development. Younger stalks made good progress. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Fields in windward areas were in fair condition as Banana Bunchy Top virus continued to keep production down. Leeward and central Oahu fields continued to make fair to good progress also hindered by Banana Bunchy Top virus damage. Irrigation levels remained at moderate to heavy levels during the week due to the windy and dry weather. Fruit development and ripening continued to make good progress with the sunny days and warmer temperatures. Kauai's orchards were in fair to good condition.

Papaya

Favorable weather conditions are beneficial for orchard progress in the lower Puna area of the Big Island. Orchards in the Kapoho and Pohoiki area were in generally good condition. Spraying was ongoing for weed and disease control. Orchards on Kauai continued to make fair to good progress during the week. Spraying to contain insect populations continued on a regular schedule.

Vegetables

Chinese Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop made good progress with heavy irrigation. Insect and disease damage was generally light due to timely spraying. The crop was in generally good condition.

Head Cabbage

On the island of Hawaii, fields in Waimea were in good to fair condition. The quality of the harvested heads was fair due to weeds and warmer temperatures. Insect and disease damage was generally light. New plantings made good progress with heavy irrigation. On Maui, the head cabbage crop continued to show good growth and development during the week. Warm growing conditions in the Upcountry area allowed for the average head size to increase and development within the fields to be more uniform. However, the warm weather was also conducive for increasing insect populations. Increased irrigation was necessary for most fields, especially in the lower elevation areas. The clear weather has allowed for normal field activities to occur. Overall, the head cabbage crop was in fair to good condition. Central area fields on Oahu were in mostly good condition. Insect infestation was at light levels and mostly under control.

Sweet Corn

Adequate soil moisture and sunny days favored growth in east Hawaii fields. Overall crop conditions ranged from fair to good. Beneficial weather conditions allowed plants to make good progress in central Oahu fields. Ear worm infestation was light and under control. Windward fields made good progress during the week.

Semi-head (Manoa) Lettuce

Planting and harvesting remained steady on Oahu. Light to moderate insect infestation and damage to plants continued to lower yields. Spraying to control insects was active.

Dry Onions

Maui's crop continued to show good growth and development during the week. Fields, at the various stages of development, benefited from this week's weather. Newly transplanted fields may have been stressed due to the warm sunny days. Maturing fields showed good growth over the passed couple of weeks. Good yields are expected mainly due to increased bulb size and decreased occurrence quality defects. Overall, Maui's dry onion crop was in good condition.

Miscellaneous

Ginger Root

Crop progress is good on the Big Island. Adequate soil moisture and sunny days benefited young ginger growth in East Hawaii fields. ■

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	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4
	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	1.6 _p	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1 _p
	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	1.2 _p	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.3 _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	10.3	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.2
	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	1.2	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6
	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	7.7 _p	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.1 _p
	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	4.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5 _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	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3
	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	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
	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	1.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1
	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	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.6
	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	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.4
	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	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8
	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	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8 _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	2.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.2
	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	4.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.0
	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	2.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.1 _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 May 13, 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)	0.00	0.18	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.23	7.41
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.21	8.07
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.06	0.31	0.02	0.24	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.64	27.31
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.25	0.32	0.17	0.33	0.15	0.12	0.38	1.72	56.22
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	7.57
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.06	0.29	0.54	0.34	0.03	0.10	0.06	1.42	42.06
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.08	0.14	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.46	12.47
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.13	5.26
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	7.09
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.11	9.57
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.48	0.07	0.12	0.69	13.41
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.76
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.06	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.12	8.80
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.14	14.17
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.10	0.17	0.00	0.33	26.97
17. Omao (HI51)	0.05	0.04	0.08	0.03	0.15	0.06	0.11	0.52	14.12

^{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.

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