



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: July 29, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Weather Conditions Favorable For Agriculture



Weather Review

Weather conditions were generally favorable for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, July 29. Trade winds resulted in windward areas experiencing a mix of partly cloudy skies and mostly light showers. Leeward sections of all islands were mostly sunny to partly cloudy and received occasional showers that drifted over from the windward side. Temperatures were slightly higher than normal at the start of the week, but cooled as the week progressed due to increased cloudiness. Overall, crops made fair to good progress during the week.

Hawaii County

The Big Island experienced frequent sunny periods during the week. Hilo and surrounding areas were mostly sunny with brief night and morning showers. Soil moisture was adequate as light showers added to the already good moisture levels provided by the previous week's storm. Farmers increased planting activities due to good growing conditions. The Hamakua District received very light showers and mostly sunny skies. Weather in Waimea was generally sunny and dry. Trade winds were light to moderate. Crops were on heavy irrigation and water supplies were adequate, but slowly decreasing. In

Kona, convective showers continued to add good ground moisture in isolated areas in south and central areas. Weather conditions were generally dry in other sections of Kona with cloudy skies in the afternoons and mostly sunny in the mornings. In Ka'u, coastal sections from South Point to Pahala were mostly sunny. New grass growth is expected due to the increase in ground moisture from the previous week's storm. Higher, interior sections had cloudy afternoons and isolated light showers. Farm areas in the Volcano region had sunny skies mixed with cloudy periods and light passing showers.

Maui County

Hot, sunny weather prevailed throughout Maui County during the week. Trade winds brought occasional showers over the northeast-facing sections of the islands. Mountain and upper elevation areas continued to benefit from the trade wind showers. Rainfall received earlier in the month allowed for some re-growth, but most pastures and the overall landscape continues to remain dry. The recent trade wind showers may have helped increase the inflow volume into the various reservoirs for the Upcountry area, but water use cutbacks were still in effect. Irrigation demands continued to be

elevated to ensure crop growth and development. Moloka'i and Lana'i were also very dry with only the upper elevation areas showing green vegetation. Irrigation water on Moloka'i was reported to be adequate and was helped by trade showers in the northeast water shed area.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop development during the week. Windward crop growing areas experienced mostly sunny days with light to moderate showers during the latter part of the week. Leeward sectors remained hot and dry with the light to moderate trade winds brought light showers, although crop growing areas received hardly any rainfall. The Waimanalo irrigation system level was reported at 22.50 feet with the mandatory 20 percent cutback in water remaining in place. Most fruit and vine crops made fair progress. Pressure from insect infestation and damage was high during the week and spraying for control was stepped up.

Kauai County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop progress as sunny days, light passing showers, and light trade winds prevailed for the week. Windward crop growing areas and upper elevations experienced light, early-morning

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rains with mostly sunny days allowing for active field work. Most leeward crop growing areas remained dry with very light rains reaching the fields. Irrigation levels continued heavy. Reservoirs used to irrigate field crops are forecasted to have enough water to supply crops through the harvest season. Temperatures were high during the week with very little cooling at night. Orchards and fruit crops were in fair condition with the high temperatures slowing crop development. Leafy crops also made fair progress due to the high temperatures. Increased pressure from insect infestation and damage was reported. Spraying for control was on a regular schedule.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Bananas

Good soil moisture and frequent sunny periods have been beneficial for orchards in windward areas of Hawaii Island. New plantings and young stalks made good progress as a result of the beneficial weather conditions. Black Leaf Streak disease was minimized by routine spraying and leaf trimming. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Fields in windward areas remained in fair condition. Leeward and central Oahu fields remained in active harvest with heavy supplies due to the seasonal trend. Irrigation levels remained at heavy levels during the week because of the relatively dry weather conditions. Orchards on Kauai were in fair to good condition. Spraying for insect infestation was on a regular schedule.

Papayas

Favorable weather conditions benefited orchards in the lower Puna areas of the Big Island. Sunny

days and adequate soil moisture helped to boost flowering and fruit development. Young fields have trees with full fruit columns. Spraying for disease and weed control was active during the week. Harvesting was at moderate levels. On Oahu, fruit development and ripening were fair to good with the high temperatures slowing crop progress. Mealy bugs were mostly under control while Ring Spot virus lowered output in some fields.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

Active harvest is in progress in the Waimea fields. Head sizes ranged from medium to small in the Waimea area of the Big Island. Heavy irrigation maintained normal crop progress. Insect damage was generally light. The Volcano crop was in fair condition. Weather conditions have not been favorable for optimum growth. Maui's crop continued to show slow but steady progress under hot growing conditions. Producers increased irrigation for their fields, but overall the crop appears to be tolerating the heat well. Insect pressure for the most part has been low to moderate throughout the major growing area with only a few reports of slightly increased pressure being noted. Damage was under control. Losses to the crop were mainly due wildlife feeding as the dry surrounding areas have not been sufficient to support the natural wildlife in the area. Birds, deer, and some domestic animals have entered fields in search of food and water. Plantings have continued, and production is expected to be steady at current levels. Some fields were abandoned on Oahu to control the increasing pressure from the Diamondback moth infestation.

Dry Onions

Maui's crop continued to show steady progress even though the

hot growing conditions have been very challenging for the crop. Average yields were hovering at lower levels for most fields mainly due to smaller bulb size. There have also been increased reports of losses due to wildlife feeding and damage in the fields. Some of these fields will be abandoned. The onion crop was in generally fair to marginally fair condition.

Tomatoes

Young vines in the Big Island's Waimea area made good progress. The crop was in generally good condition. Vines in Glenwood and Kona greenhouses were in fair to good condition. Young vines had good fruit set.

Other Crops

Coffee

Field in the Kona Districts of the Big Island benefited from convective showers. Orchards on Kauai were in good condition as the berries size up with heavy irrigation applications. Reservoirs were replenished with rains at the upper elevations and water resources are expected to be at adequate levels to bring the crop to harvest. Insect pressure was low.

Ginger Root

Young ginger crop continued to make good progress due to the favorable weather conditions in eastern sections of the County of Hawaii. Sunny and warm weather throughout most of the week and adequate soil moisture benefited root development.

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	0.4	1.9	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.0
	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	2.6 _p	3.3	3.7	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.0 _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	3.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.7 _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	3.6	9.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	75.2
	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	0.6	0.1	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.2
	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	7.8 _p	2.7	6.3	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.6 _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	4.2	2.2	2.2	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.9 _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	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1
	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	0.5
	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	0.2	*	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5
	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	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.0
	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	1.2	1.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6
	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	0.6	1.2	0.1	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
	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	0.4	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.9 _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	2.5	2.4	1.6	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.9
	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	1.3	2.8	3.6 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.1 _p
	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	1.5	3.5	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.7 _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 July 29, 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	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	11.99
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.94	0.36	0.14	0.24	0.06	0.87	0.00	2.61	23.03
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.07	0.15	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.15	0.00	0.44	33.66
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.32	0.52	0.00	0.08	0.48	0.14	0.00	1.54	75.21
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.13	10.18
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.14	0.39	0.00	0.18	0.61	0.23	0.00	1.55	56.55
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.65	0.27	0.08	0.18	0.20	0.01	0.03	1.42	19.91
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.08
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	7.49
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.12	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.09	0.29	13.04
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.26	0.04	0.05	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.01	0.73	17.63
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	7.04
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.19	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	10.89
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.09	0.07	0.12	0.46	19.93
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.24	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.15	0.16	0.12	0.72	34.11
17. Omao (HI51)	0.16	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.23	0.04	0.50	21.65

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