



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: February 11, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Agriculture Benefits From Favorable Weather

Weather Review

Weather conditions were generally beneficial for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, February 11. In a weather pattern similar to the previous week, conditions started off sunny and dry across the State. A weak cold front then moved eastward through the island chain at midweek bringing some light to moderate showers. The cold front quickly dissipated and cleared the entire State by Friday. Dry, cool air behind the cold front resulted in mostly sunny skies and pleasant temperatures through the weekend. This week's generally favorable weather allowed crops an opportunity to recover from the previous week's gusty winds. Farmers were also able to get spraying activities back on schedule and increase other field activities. Irrigation was light to normal as the passing cold fronts helped to maintain soil moisture.

Hawaii County

Weather conditions in Hawaii County were mostly favorable during the week. Light variable winds dominated the first half of the week. Volcanic haze laid over inland sections and eastern districts of Hilo and Puna and Hamakua. The remainder of the week was mostly sunny and clear of clouds.

Clear nighttime skies created cool conditions in locations throughout the island. The Volcano farm lot area reported temperatures dipping into the thirties on Monday and Tuesday nights. Light cloud cover built up over the slopes in Ka'u and South Kona, but little to no rainfall occurred. A weak cold front brought some light rains to windward sections by midweek. High cloud cover and scattered showers on Thursday helped replenish soil moisture in the windward orchard regions, but leeward sections continued to be mostly dry. Some clouds over the leeward slopes helped cooled temperatures. However, skies over Kohala and Kona were mostly clear and dry. Lalamilo and Puukapu farm areas experienced mostly sunny skies and light variable winds. Cool nights helped to slow soil moisture loss in these areas. Irrigation requirements were light as most fields retained adequate moisture from the previous week's showers. Irrigation was mostly limited to new planting. The need for irrigation increased in the latter half of the week due to the lack of rain and continued sunny skies.

Maui County

Weather conditions helped most crops recover from last week's windy weather. Early in the week there were longer periods of sunny

skies. Winds continued to be light and breezy, but generally were not detrimental for crops. Winds were variable throughout the week, but by Friday light trades predominated. The return of the trade winds did bring rain showers to most sections in the central area, but did not appear to follow through to the south section of the island. Some Upcountry areas also reported receiving some precipitation. Areas along the coastline of Kahului and Waiehu received a good amount of rainfall Thursday afternoon through early Friday morning. Showers also affected most parts of Kahului and Wailuku.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair for crop progress during the week. A cold front moving over the island chain at midweek was sandwiched between sunny, dry, and cool days. Variable winds prevailed as the cold front approached the island. Windward crop growing areas and fields in central Oahu at the upper elevations received most of the moisture on Wednesday. Leeward and central Oahu crop growing areas experienced passing overcast conditions and light to moderate showers. The southwesterly winds switched to the more favorable cooler trade winds by the end of the week. Temperatures were moderate for

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most of the week. Most orchard crops made fair to good progress during the week. Leafy crops made good progress with good recovery from last week's winds. Spraying for insect infestation and control of diseases were back on schedule.

Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were fair for crop progress for the week. Dry weather with light southwesterly winds early in the week turned overcast and rainy as a cold front moved over the island. This was followed by a high pressure system from the west bring trade winds and drier, cooler conditions for most crop growing areas. Orchard and field crops made fair to good recovery and progress during the week. Leafy vegetables and other cool-weather crops made good progress. Spraying for insect and disease control was back on track.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Banana

Big Island orchards in the eastern sections were in generally good condition. Cool nights slowed growth, but the dry conditions help with field activities. Banana Bunchy Top virus incidences remain isolated in the Puna and Kona areas. Oahu orchards were in fair condition. Windward Oahu orchards made fair to good progress in recovering from previous week's gusty winds. Leeward and central Oahu fields were in fair to good condition. Fruit development and ripening improved during the week. Kauai orchards were in fair to good condition with wind damage to leaves in edges and exposed fields expected to slow crop development.

Papaya

On the Big Island, soil moisture was still adequate in most orchards. Warm, sunny days created conditions for steady blooming. Overall, orchards were in fair to good condition. Orchards on Kauai were in fair to poor condition. A decrease in production is forecast in the next weeks as tree losses from the previous week is expected to reduce fruits for harvest. New plantings made fair progress. Spraying to contain insect infestation was back on schedule.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

The crop in the Waimea area of Hawaii island was in generally good condition. Irrigation has been generally light. The crop in the Volcano area was in fair condition. Crop progress was slow due to the cool weather conditions. On Oahu, Insect infestations remained light and head quality was good. New fields were in good condition.

Sweet Corn

On Oahu, the return of the sunny and dry weather allowed plants to catch up in development and harvesting to resume. Field preparation and planting activities were also more brisk due to the improved weather conditions. Windward fields made fair to good progress with drier growing conditions. Plantings in eastern sections of Hawaii island made good progress. Soil moisture was adequate in most fields.

Cucumbers

Pickings from most Oahu fields were anticipated at light to very light as last week's gusty winds causing slowed progress, damage to fruits, and some losses of flowers. New plantings made fair progress.

Semi-head (Manoa) Lettuce

The sunny and dry weather and cool evening temperatures in leeward and central Oahu fields were favorable for good crop progress. Insect infestation and damage were light and contained during the week. On Kauai, plantings were in generally good condition. Production will be for local sale.

Dry Onions

Some fields on Maui sustained wind damage from last week. It was too soon to tell whether fields will be able to recover and not affect production. Increased humidity and occasional overcast skies caused some concern for growers. Relatively high insect pressure in some fields required producers to monitor their fields for detrimental field conditions and assess the need for spraying. Overall, weather conditions were precarious for the dry onion crop and growers were challenged to support their fields.

Miscellaneous

Ginger Root

Growing conditions in the windward side of the island of Hawaii were good for root growth. Soil moisture is still adequate.

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	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4
	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	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8
	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	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4
	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	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.0
	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	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7
	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	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9
	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	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2
	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	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
	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	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
	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	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
	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	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8
	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	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2
	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	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4
	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	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2
	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	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2
	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	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2
	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	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1 _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 February 11, 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	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.26	4.36
2. Kealakekua (HI84)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.20	3.80
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.28	0.46	0.33	3.07	10.36
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.37	0.16	0.53	19.00
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.71
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.27	0.78	13.87
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.21	0.64	1.55	3.15
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	1.92
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.26
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.54	0.00	0.64	1.58
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.40	3.76
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.14	0.00	0.02	0.18	5.20
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.39
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.49	0.01	0.00	0.59	3.24
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.36	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.48	5.19
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.59	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.68	8.18
17. Omao (HI51)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.11	0.01	0.04	0.17	3.13

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