



# Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

Week ending: February 18, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Field Office • 1428 South King Street • Honolulu, HI 96814-2512 • (808) 804-9514 • www.nass.usda.gov

## Beneficial Weather Turns Breezy Over Weekend



### Weather Review

Weather conditions were generally favorable for agriculture for most of the week ending Sunday, February 18. Nearly ideal weather prevailed through Friday as days were sunny to partly cloudy with scattered showers providing adequate moisture. Crops made generally good progress under these beneficial conditions. Trades winds strengthened over the weekend as a strong high pressure system moved north of the State. Gusts up to 30 mph hampered crop development and spray programs through the weekend.

### Hawaii County

Hawaii County crops were treated to mostly good conditions during the week. Light trades returned, and a more normal weather pattern developed early in the week. After a mostly sunny Monday, Puna and Hilo districts received light rains and mostly cloudy conditions on Tuesday. Occasional downpours on the upper slopes kept streams flowing and soil moisture high. Less amounts of rain along the Hamakua coast were beneficial to orchard crops and pastures. Leeward sections were mostly sunny. Cloud cover in upper Kona and Kohala regions produced very light, misty showers and had a cooling effect.

Ka`u had similar conditions with cloud cover over the slopes and sunnier coastal areas. Volcano farms were still experiencing very cool nights, but rainfall has been light for the week. In general, cooler winter temperatures have slowed moisture loss, but irrigation has been necessary in vegetable crop areas of Lalamilo and Puukapu. Farmers were on regular irrigation schedules as little to no rain fall occurred this week. Sunny days and light variable winds dominated early in the week. Heavy vog blanketed Kona districts and inland sections of South Kohala due to south easterly winds midweek.

### Maui County

Variable weather for most of Maui County continued through the week. Early in the week, mostly fair and sunny skies prevailed for many areas of Maui. Light trade wind showers occurred in windward sections. These trade showers did increase as the week progressed also affecting the central section of the island. On Friday, the central areas received a fair amount of rainfall. Trade winds also increased and appeared to be variable with occasional gusts. Over the weekend, there was an increased amount of clear skies over the central areas, but some windward sections continued to receive frequent passing trade showers.

### Honolulu County

Weather conditions were mostly good for crop progress on Oahu during the week. Sunny days, moderate trade winds, and passing showers prevailed for most of the week. Gusty trade winds, in the 25-30 mph range, hampered crop progress and spray programs over the weekend. Windward crop growing areas experienced dry days allowing for crops to make good progress with active field preparation and planting. Crop growing areas in the Leeward and central Oahu also remained sunny and dry; providing good conditions for all farm activities. Temperatures were moderate during the day with cooling during the night and early morning hours. Most orchard crops made good progress during the week. Leafy crops also made good progress. Spraying for insect infestation and control of diseases were back on schedule.

### Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were generally good for crop progress during the week. Days were mostly sunny and dry. Partly cloudy conditions and light showers occurred at midweek. Trade winds were light to moderate becoming breezy by the end of the week as a high pressure system passed north of the state. Orchard and field crops made fair to good progress during

**Mark E. Hudson**, Director  
Steve Gunn, Deputy Director

Ronald Nakamura, Research Statistician

## Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather (continued)

---

the week. Leafy vegetables and other cool-weather crops also made good progress. Spraying for insect and disease control was on a regular schedule.



### Agricultural Highlights

#### Fruits

---

##### **Banana**

Soil moisture in Big Island orchards was adequate, and the crop was in generally good condition. Partly sunny days and very light scattered showers allowed field work to progress. Replanting in some orchards was in progress. Banana Bunchy Top virus incidences remained isolated in the Puna and Kona areas. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Windward Oahu orchards made fair to good progress. Trees were recovering from the previous week of gusty winds, however, another round of gusty winds this past weekend will setback recovery. Leeward and Central Oahu fields remained in fair to good condition. Fruit development and ripening continued to improve during the week. Kauai's orchards were in fair to good condition. Crop progress slowed due to wind damage.

##### **Papaya**

Big Island orchards were in fair to good condition. Soil moisture was adequate. Active flowering occurred in most fields. Trees fallen from winds were being removed as needed. Orchards on Kauai were in fair to poor condition. A decrease in production is forecast in the coming weeks as tree losses from the

damaging winds are expected to reduce fruits for harvest. New plantings made fair progress. Spraying to contain insect infestation was back on schedule.

#### Vegetables

---

##### **Chinese Cabbage**

The crop in the Waimea area of Hawaii island continued to make steady progress. Planting has been steady in selected fields, and irrigation was necessary as the week progressed and soils dried out. Quality of harvested heads was fair to good.

##### **Head Cabbage**

The Big Island's Waimea crop was in generally good condition. Light insect damage on outer leaves was noticed. Irrigation was keeping crop progress normal. The crop in Volcano was experiencing slow progress due to cool temperatures. On Oahu, insect infestation remained under control and head quality was good. New fields were in good condition. Maui's crop maintained steady progress, but continued to take longer to reach ideal head size mainly due to cool growing conditions. Insect pressure remained relatively low and damage continued to be under control in most fields. Some fields needed to be selectively harvested. Normal field activities were being maintained. The head cabbage crop was in fair to good condition.

##### **Sweet Corn**

On Oahu, the return of the sunny and dry weather allowed plants to make better progress. Windward fields made fair to good progress with the drier days allowing active

field preparation and planting. The crop in eastern sections of Hawaii Island made good progress. Field conditions were dry enough for pre-plant preparation, but still moist enough to maintain good growth. Young seedlings made steady progress.

##### **Cucumbers**

Fields on Oahu, damaged by gusty winds, made slow recovery and had a shortened harvest life. New plantings made fair progress.

##### **Semi-head (Manoa) Lettuce**

On Oahu, sunny and dry weather with cool evening temperatures were beneficial for good crop progress. Insect infestation and damage were light and being contained. Kauai's crop was in good condition with steady planting.

##### **Dry Onions**

Current weather conditions were requiring Maui producers to watch their fields very closely. Insect pressure continued to be a concern. Increased spraying may be needed, and this could be an additional challenge for some producers depending on the field's location and wind conditions. The dry onion crop was in fair condition.

#### Miscellaneous

---

##### **Coffee**

In the Kona area of the Big Island, heavy rains of a few weeks ago produced a flush of blooms. Light flowering was still occurring in many Kona areas. Cloud covered slopes were maintaining adequate soil moisture.

## Monthly Trend for Selected Stations

Comparison of 2007 cumulative monthly and annual totals with average monthly totals for selected stations. <sup>1/</sup>

Station name		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
<i>Inches</i>														
<b>Island of Hawaii</b>														
1. Kamuela	2007	1.4	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5
	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	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4
	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	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.7
	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	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
	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	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4
	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
<b>Island of Maui</b>														
7. Hana	2007	1.3	2.3 <sub>p</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6 <sub>p</sub>
	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	2.0
	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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
	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
<b>Island of Oahu</b>														
11. Kahuku	2007	2.9	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
	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	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7
	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	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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4
	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
<b>Island of Kauai</b>														
15. Anahola	2007	3.2	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5
	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	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3
	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 <sub>p</sub>	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7 <sub>p</sub>
	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

<sup>1/</sup> 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 18, 2007  
Daily, weekly, and year-to-date precipitation totals for selected Hawaii stations.<sup>1/</sup>

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		
<b>Island of Hawaii</b>					<i>Inches</i>				
1. Kamuela (HI86)	0.03	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.16	4.52
2. Kealakekua (HI84)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.80
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.04	0.18	0.02	0.03	0.05	1.32	0.39	2.03	12.39
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.18	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.02	1.10	1.28	2.67	21.67
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.15	0.00	0.16	1.87
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.07	0.00	0.09	0.07	0.17	0.79	0.32	1.51	15.38
<b>Island of Maui</b>									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.00	0.00	M	0.00	0.10	0.31	0.02	0.43	3.58
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.03	1.95
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.27
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.07	0.18	1.76
<b>Island of Oahu</b>									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.21	0.04	0.25	4.01
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.03	0.53	5.73
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.04	2.43
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.07	0.04	0.16	3.40
<b>Island of Kauai</b>									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.00	0.23	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.34	5.53
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.00	0.03	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.68	0.28	1.07	9.25
17. Omao (HI51)	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.33	0.03	0.54	3.67

<sup>1/</sup> 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.

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
NASS, Hawaii Field Office  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96814-2512

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**  
**PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**