



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: March 25, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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State Fanned By Brisk Trade Winds



Weather Review

Weather conditions were fair to good for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, March 25. A high pressure system, to the north of the State, generated brisk trade winds for most of the week. As a result, windward areas were sunny to partly cloudy with occasional showers brought in by the trade winds. Most of the showers fell during the cooler evening and early morning hours. Leeward areas were generally sunnier and drier. Daytime temperatures were near normal while nighttime temperatures were slightly above normal. Most crops made favorable progress during the week. Bruising, due to the gusty winds, was noticed on some crops.

Hawaii County

The Big Island experienced fair weather for crops during the week. Typical trade wind conditions presented Hilo and surrounding areas with cloudy to partly cloudy skies, light showers, and sunny periods. Soil moisture was adequate, and farm operations were active. The Hamakua District was partly cloudy with light showers. In Waimea, Puukapu had cloudy skies, sunny periods, and light to moderate showers. Showers during the later part of the week

helped to reduce the need for heavy irrigation. Lalamilo was sunny and dry during the first half of the week. Cloudy skies and light showers prevailed later in the work week. Showers were light and crops required irrigation. The upper North Kona district had high cloud cover and generally dry weather. Cloud cover and sufficient soil moisture from the previous week's showers helped to maintain pasture growth, but more rains would be welcomed. Central Kona was cloudy with light showers. Mornings were generally sunny. The south Kona area had light showers and partly sunny skies. Avocado trees were in full bloom. Weather conditions in Ka`u, were generally dry and windy at times. Upper sections had cloudy afternoons and light showers. Soil moisture was adequate due to the good showers from the previous week. Macadamia nut flowering was occurring in the orchards. The Volcano area was cool and windy early in the week followed by partly cloudy skies and light showers.

Maui County

Maui County experienced increased periods of sunny skies during the week. Rainfall from the previous week dissipated to only a few brief passing showers mainly over the windward sections. Moisture from the previous week slowly

evaporated from the roadsides and fields. This has enabled entrance into fields that received heavy amounts of precipitation. Field preparation and planting were active. Periods of cloud cover occurred over the central sections of Maui, but were moved across the island by brisk trade winds during the middle of the week. By Friday, mostly sunny skies with very light air movement prevailed over the central section of Maui. The increase sunny skies and longer days helped the growth and development of crops. Pastures throughout the County have new re-growth due to the recent rainfall and sunny and warm weather.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop progress during the week. Days remained sunny and dry with occasional overcast conditions and light to moderate showers affecting mostly the windward crop growing areas. Leeward and central Oahu districts remained mostly sunny and dry with little to no rains reaching the crops. Temperatures were moderate during the day with some cooling in the evenings with the return of the trade winds. Gusty trade winds affected some fruit and vine crops in exposed areas and mostly in the windward districts. Most orchard crops made fair to good progress

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during the week with the sunny weather and favorable rainfall. Leafy crops made good progress benefiting from the warmer daytime temperatures and cooler evenings. Spraying for insect infestation and control of diseases were on schedule.

Kauai County

Weather conditions were good for crop progress during the week. Typical trade wind weather brought passing light to moderate showers to most crop growing areas on the island during a mostly sunny week. Brisk trade winds kept fields fairly dry and crops made good progress. Field preparation and planting of crops was active during the week. Rains at the upper elevations allowed some irrigation systems to be replenished. Temperatures were moderate during the day with light cooling in the night and early morning hours. Leafy vegetables and other cool weather crops made fair to good progress. Spraying for insect and disease control was back on schedule.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Banana

Orchards in eastern sections of Hawaii Island were in good to fair condition. Young plants were making good progress. Soil moisture was adequate. Regular spraying was minimizing disease and insect damage. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Fields in windward Oahu made fair to good progress with light to moderate harvesting. Leeward and central Oahu fields remained in fair to good condition. Irrigation levels were at moderate levels during the week. Fruit development and ripening continued to improve during the week with the favorable weather conditions. On Kauai,

orchards were in fair to good condition. Harvesting was expected to continue light to moderate for on-island market.

Papaya

Light showers and sunny days benefited orchard growth in the lower Puna areas of the Big Island. Routine spraying has minimized disease damage. Field activities such as weeding, leaf trimming, fertilizing, and harvesting were active. Fruit quality and yields were fair. Young plantings made steady progress. Orchards on Kauai made fair to good progress during the week. Pickings remained at light to very light levels from many older fields. Spraying to contain insects and diseases were slowed in areas where the winds were too blustery.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop was in good to fair condition. Weeds were a problem in isolated Puukapu and Lalamilo fields. Head quality was generally good. New plantings made steady progress. Maui's head cabbage crop made good progress. Weather conditions enabled continued growth and uniform development. Insect pressure was present, but has been generally kept under control. Damage has been minimal for most fields. Overall, the head cabbage crop was in fair condition. New fields on Oahu were in good condition with fields in active harvest. Insect infestation remained under control and head quality was good.

Dry Onions

On Maui, some maturing fields were producing larger bulbs compared to previous harvests. Young fields have benefited from the increasing day length and are expected to do well with the changing weather conditions. Overall, the dry onion crop was generally in fair condition.

Sweet Corn

The Big Island crop was in good to fair condition. Soil moisture was adequate and sunny periods benefited crop growth. Harvesting was active. On Oahu, harvesting was active with the continued sunny, dry, and warmer weather allowing the plants to make good progress in central Oahu fields. Windward fields made fair to good progress. The drier weather also allowed more active field preparation and planting to occur.

Cucumbers

New plantings on Oahu made good to fair progress during the week as the winds slowed crop progress and caused some damage to fruits in exposed fields. Flower and fruit set was fair during the week.

Miscellaneous

Coffee

Light coffee flowering was observed in the Holualoa district of the Big Island. Coffee fields on Kauai continued to make good progress with good flowering from the last rains.

Ginger Root

Field preparation and planting continue to take place in eastern areas of Hawaii Island. Conditions were good for planting activities. Harvesting was light.

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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3
	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	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5
	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	5.8 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.8 _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	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.5
	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	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7
	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	13.4	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.6
	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	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6 _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	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4
	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	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7
	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	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.3
	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	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1
	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	2.1 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6 _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	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.9
	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	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.0
	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	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.3 _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 March 25, 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		
Island of Hawaii					<i>Inches</i>				
1. Kamuela (HI86)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.14	0.26	6.28
2. Kealakekua (HI84)	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.10	5.52
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.03	0.35	0.06	0.07	M	0.08	0.37	0.96	24.78
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.16	0.39	0.26	0.16	0.34	0.19	0.46	1.96	42.45
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.71
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.06	0.34	0.22	0.18	0.61	0.19	0.81	2.41	31.57
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.17	0.27	0.10	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.63	7.63
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.36
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.42
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.03	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.19	5.27
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.13	0.34	6.72
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.34	0.05	0.09	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.56	10.32
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.10
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	M	0.05	5.62
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.28	10.92
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.13	0.01	0.31	0.21	0.74	21.04
17. Omao (HI51)	0.01	0.15	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.21	0.04	0.55	11.32

^{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.

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