



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: April 29, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Breezy Trade Wind Weather Continues



Weather Review

Weather conditions were fair to good for agricultural crops during the week ending Sunday, April 29. Brisk trade wind weather prevailed for most of the week as a high pressure area positioned itself northeast of the State. Trade winds, in the 15 to 25 mph range, brought in passing showers to windward areas and the upper elevations on an almost daily basis. These showers were generally light to moderate. A few showers were blown over to leeward areas by the moderate winds. The breezy conditions provide some relief from temperatures that were near normal during the day and above normal at night. Some forms of irrigation and spraying were hampered by the winds. Winds slacken considerably over the weekend as the high pressure system moved off to the east.

Hawaii County

Weather conditions were mostly favorable for crops during the week. Wet weather from the previous week lapped over into the first few days of the week. Windward sections of Puna, Hilo, and Hamakua were kept moist with frequent showers and cloudy conditions. Intermittent showers and scattered sunny periods

allowed field work to continue on schedule. High wind warnings were posted on Tuesday for leeward sections of Kohala where conditions were very gusty and dry early in the week. Windward areas of Kohala, however, received some moisture in the upper elevations. In a rare event, the National Weather Service issued a winter weather warning for the summits of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa on Tuesday as temperatures were expected to be below freezing above the 8,000-foot level. Irrigation remained heavy in the Waimea area, although Puukapu farmers received light rains early in the week. The South and North Kona districts remained mostly sunny and dry, but some showers fell in upland areas. Windward sections cleared on Wednesday and the rest of the week saw mostly scattered clouds with a few isolated showers. The Ka`u District received showers early in the week, but these were isolated and mostly in the upper elevations. Coastal sections had brief, scattered showers and mostly sunny conditions.

Maui County

Brisk winds early in the week hampered field activities in the central section of Maui Island. Farms located in the upcountry areas also received windy weather which was stressful for some vine

crops. Rainfall occurred in windward-facing areas; mainly in the late afternoon and early morning hours. The upcountry and leeward areas of Maui Island did not receive any significant amount of rain and some areas are drying out. Pastures in these areas were not able to produce much re-growth in the past couple of weeks. Overall, growing conditions have been favorable for most crops. Warm daytime temperatures and brisk winds required close monitoring of field plantings.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions remained good for crop progress during the week. Sunny, dry days with light rainfall and isolated gusty winds prevailed over most crop growing areas on the island. Temperatures were moderate with cooling in the night and early morning hours. Windward crop growing areas experienced fair weather conditions with a favorable mix of sunny periods and light showers throughout the week. Central and leeward crop-growing areas remained dry with heavy irrigation needed for normal crop development. Most fruit and vine crops made fair to good progress with the brisk trade winds causing light scarring of fruits in exposed fields. Orchard crops made fair to good progress during the week. Leafy crops made good progress

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having benefited from the sunny, dry weather. Spraying for insect infestation and control of diseases were interrupted in some fields by gusty winds.

Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were good to fair for crop progress during the week. A high pressure system north of the state caused breezy trade winds to prevail. Rains in the windward sectors, especially at the upper elevations, did little to provide enough moisture for crop irrigation. The sunny days, drying winds, and light rains in the crop growing areas made moderate to heavy irrigation necessary to ensure normal crop development. Most orchard and fruit crops made good progress with the increasing day length and favorable mix of sunshine and rain. Temperatures were moderate during the day with some cooling into the night and early-morning hours. Spraying for insect and disease control was scheduled during periods of calm. Sugarcane harvesting and milling remained active. Coffee orchards made good progress during the week. Pastures continued in good to fair condition with higher elevation fields benefiting from the showers during the week.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Banana

Soil moisture in windward areas of the Big Island was high and the crop was in generally good condition. Mostly sunny days, following wet weather early in the week, were beneficial for fruit development and orchard condition. Banana Bunchy Top virus incidences remain isolated in the Puna and Kona areas. Oahu banana orchards were in fair to good condition. Fields in windward

areas were in fair condition. Banana Bunchy Top virus continued to adversely affect production. Leeward and central Oahu fields made fair to good progress. Rouging and spraying for insect infestation was stepped up and has helped slow Banana Bunchy Top infections in the area. Irrigation levels were at moderate to heavy levels due to the windy and dry weather. Fruit development and ripening continued to improve due to mostly sunny skies and the longer daylight hours.

Papaya

Orchards on Hawaii Island were in fair to good condition. Showers increased soil moisture to satisfactory levels in most orchards. Active flowering occurred in most fields. Orchards on Kauai made fair to good progress during the week. Spraying to contain insects was on a regular schedule.

Vegetables

Chinese Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop continued to make steady progress. Planting was very active in selected fields. Irrigation was necessary due to dry and windy conditions. Excessive weeds were noticed in many fields. Quality of harvested heads was fair to good.

Head Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop was in generally good condition. Light insect damage was noticed on outer leaves. Irrigation kept crop progress normal. Crop progress in the Volcano area was slow due to wet conditions. On Oahu, increasing diamond back moth infestation was stemmed with increasing control measures. New plantings were in good to fair condition.

Sweet Corn

Planting and field prep were ongoing in the windward side of the

Big Island. Frequent showers and warm temperatures boosted growth. Overall, the crop was making good progress with younger plantings making steady progress. Central Oahu fields made good progress having benefited from sunny skies, dry conditions, and warmer temperatures during the week. Light worm infestation was mostly under control. Windward area fields also made good progress.

Cucumbers

Harvesting is expected to pickup on Oahu fields as new plantings come into active harvest. Wind damage and scarring of fruits were light in exposed areas. Irrigation levels were heavy due to the dry weather.

Dry Onions

On Maui, growth and development of plantings have been very good. Fields, at all stages of development, were in good condition. Maturing fields are expected to have good yields and quality. Average bulb size is also anticipated to increase. Younger, newly-planted, fields also fared well during the week. ■

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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2
	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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.8 _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	1.0 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.0 _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	10.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.8
	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	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	7.6 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.2 _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	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.8 _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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.1
	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	*	0.0	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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
	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	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3
	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	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4
	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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7 _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	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9
	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	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.3
	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 _p	4.6	4.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.4 _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 April 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		
Island of Hawaii					<i>Inches</i>				
1. Kamuela (HI86)	0.13	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.17	7.15
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	7.81
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	M	M	M	M	0.10	0.06	0.08	0.24	26.00
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.46	0.80	0.55	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.30	2.27	53.75
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.08	7.55
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.73	0.92	0.16	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.09	2.25	40.16
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.09	0.26	0.13	0.12	0.00	0.14	0.14	0.88	11.77
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.13
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.46
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.06	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.06	0.33	7.04
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.09	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.13	9.32
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.09	0.29	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.62	12.37
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.76
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.02	0.06	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.00	0.15	0.36	8.66
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.01	0.09	0.02	0.45	0.03	0.19	0.02	0.81	13.88
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.06	0.29	0.01	0.60	0.11	0.49	0.00	1.56	26.25
17. Omao (HI51)	0.03	0.24	0.06	0.13	0.24	0.10	0.08	0.88	13.35

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