



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: July 22, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Cosme Dumps Rain On Big Island



Weather Review

Weather conditions were fair for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, July 22. A trade wind pattern persisted for most of the week and resulted in mostly sunny skies with passing showers. Tropical Depression Cosme passed south of the Big Island over the weekend delivering some much needed rain to the parched island. Showers were concentrated in windward areas of the County of Hawaii where 24-hour totals of 4 to 6 inches were recorded on Saturday morning. Most other parts of the island received less than an inch of rain. No unusual losses were reported although ponding did occur and fieldwork was slowed or halted by the passing storm.

Hawaii County

Weather conditions were mostly sunny until Tropical Depression Cosme brought some much needed rain to the southern districts as it passed to the south on Friday evening. Hilo and surrounding areas received good showers on Friday and Saturday from the Tropical Depression. Minor flooding occurred during the height of the storm. The Hamakua District received good showers at the beginning and at the end of the week. Rainfall was sufficient to

raise soil moisture levels. Puukapu had cloudy periods and light showers. Heavy irrigation was necessary for crop progress. Hot days and heavy irrigation caused an increase in disease incidences for some leafy crops. Rainfall at the upper Kohala mountain slopes helped to maintain adequate reservoir levels. Pastures in the lower North and South Kohala districts remained very dry. Afternoon showers provided good moisture to orchards and pastures in the upper south and central Kona districts. Pastures in North Kona also received beneficial showers during the week. Coastal areas in Ka'u were very dry during most of the week. Steady showers from the passing storm system brought much needed moisture on Friday. The Volcano farm district experienced hot and sunny weather through most of the week. Steady showers from the passing storm system helped to raise low soil moisture and replenish water catchment tanks.

Maui County

Weather conditions were a combination of sunny skies and frequent periods of cloud cover through the mid-sections of the island. Periodic light showers continued to move across some windward-facing sections and upper elevation areas of the islands. By

the end of the week, and into the weekend, remnants of the storm that passed south of the State brought increased cloud cover and rainfall. Rain fell in the central to east areas of the island. Some areas did receive a fair amount of precipitation which helped alleviate the very dry conditions.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop development during the week. The high pressure system north of the state caused the shearing apart of Cosme, the hurricane turned tropical storm which threatened to bring heavy rains and winds to the State. Light to moderate showers and increasing overcast skies kept the windward crop-growing areas cooler and benefited crop development. Leeward sectors of the island remained hot and dry with moderate winds and light showers reaching the higher elevations. The Waimanalo irrigation system level was reported at 23.00 feet and the mandatory 20-percent cutback in water use remained 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.

Mark Hudson, Director
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Kauai County

Weather conditions for Kauai were good to fair for crop progress during the week. The approach of the first tropical storm to threaten Hawaii, Tropical Depression Cosme, brought increasingly gusty winds and light to moderate rains to the island. Windward crop-growing areas and upper elevations received more moisture which benefited most field crops and reservoirs used for irrigation. Temperatures were moderate as partly overcast skies and showers provided a cooling effect. Pastures in some areas received favorable rains resulting in fair to good soil moisture for grass growth. Orchards and fruit crops were in good to fair condition with the moderate temperatures and passing showers providing relief from the previous week of hot and dry days. Leafy crops also made fair to good progress. Pressure from insect infestation and damage was slowed. Spraying for control was hindered due to windy and rainy conditions.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Bananas

Orchards in windward areas of the Big Island made good progress. Soil moisture was adequate. Sunny, warm days aided orchard progress. Disease incidences were minimized by routine spraying. Bunchy Top disease incidences remained isolated in the Puna and Kona areas. Growers were replanting in the Keaau area. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Fields in windward areas remained in fair condition. A seasonal upswing kept leeward and central Oahu fields in active harvest with heavy supplies. Irrigation remained at heavy levels during the week

because of dry conditions. Kauai's orchards were in good condition. The slightly cooler weather and rains provided good soil moisture which benefited most orchards.

Papayas

Orchards in the lower Puna areas of the Big Island made good progress. Mostly sunny and dry weather during the work week reduced soil moisture levels. Increased moisture from the passing storm system helped boost soil moisture. On Oahu, fruit development and ripening were aided by increased day length and mostly sunny conditions. Mealy bugs were mostly under control while Ring Spot virus lowered harvesting in some fields. Orchards on Kauai continued to make fair to good progress during the week. Pickings were at light to moderate levels from several small fields. Spraying to contain the insect population was slowed as the winds and rains picked up.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop was in fair to good condition. Heavy irrigation was required for normal crop progress. Routine spraying minimized insect and disease incidences. New plantings made steady progress. The Volcano crop made slower progress. Maui's crop continued to show fair and steady progress. Increased irrigation was essential for steady growth and development as well as maintaining quality heads. Farmers were minimizing losses from damage by insects by maintaining a steady and effective spraying program. Insect pressure was a concern, but it has been kept under control. Overall, the head cabbage crop was in fair to good condition. On Oahu, some fields were abandoned to control the increasing pressure from a Diamondback moth infestation.

Dry Onions

Maui's dry onion crop remained in fair condition. The prolonged hot and dry growing conditions have made it very challenging growers to maintain steady growth and development. Increased irrigation has helped some fields, but older fields have already achieved their potential yield. Most of these mature fields will have a greater percentage of medium bulbs. Overall, the dry onion crop was in fair condition.

Sweet Corn

On Oahu, harvesting was expected to be active with heavy supplies reaching the market. Some reports of light worm damage remained during the week. Isolated windward fields experienced some growing problems and lower than expected yields. Sweet corn plantings in windward areas of the Big Island were in generally good to fair condition. Weather conditions were favorable for crop development.

Other Crops

Ginger Root

The Big Island crop made good progress during the week. Soil moisture was adequate and replenished over the weekend by Cosme's rain. Sunny and warm weather throughout most of the week 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	1.6 _p	3.3	3.7	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.4 _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	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3 _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	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	73.9
	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	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1
	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	7.7 _p	2.7	6.3	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.1 _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	4.1	2.2	2.2	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.0 _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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.9
	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	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.2
	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	0.3	2.7	0.6	1.2	0.1	0.0	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	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.8 _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	2.4	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.5
	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	10.5	6.5	4.5	1.3	2.8	3.1 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.6 _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	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.3 _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 July 22, 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)	0.01	0.84	0.08	0.00	0.01	0.13	0.00	1.07	11.98
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.11	0.93	0.16	0.06	0.15	0.24	0.94	2.59	20.35
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.00	0.40	0.04	0.00	0.03	1.57	0.07	2.11	33.29
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.00	0.89	0.11	0.00	0.13	4.05	0.32	5.50	73.94
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.67	0.07	1.85	10.12
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.00	0.61	0.00	0.02	0.00	3.02	0.14	3.79	55.07
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.46	0.03	0.01	0.12	0.11	0.18	0.65	1.56	19.03
8. Kula (HI65)	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	6.08
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.51
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.16	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.26	7.49
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.26	0.03	0.12	0.12	0.60	12.87
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.06	0.06	0.19	0.08	0.22	0.05	0.26	0.92	17.16
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.01
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.17	0.12	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.06	0.19	0.69	10.84
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.08	0.11	0.06	0.15	0.11	0.05	0.05	0.61	19.51
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.11	0.09	0.13	0.34	0.24	0.35	0.24	1.50	33.62
17. Omao (HI51)	0.27	0.03	0.33	0.16	0.27	0.17	0.16	1.39	21.30

^{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.

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