



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: September 9, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Sunny, Dry Days Fair To Good For Agriculture



Weather Review

Weather conditions were fair to good for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, September 9. A high pressure system remained nearly stationary to the north and generated trade wind weather all week. As a consequence, days were mostly sunny and dry. A few showers were carried-in by the trade wind flow. These locally light showers mainly fell in windward and higher elevation areas. Daytime temperatures were at or below normal high levels on most days. The only exception was a record-breaking high of 87 degrees in Hilo on Thursday, September 6. Non-irrigated crops made fair progress to the relatively dry conditions. Irrigated crops made mostly good progress with water use at moderate to heavy levels.

Hawaii County

The Big Island experienced variable weather during the week. Weather conditions in the Hilo and Puna districts were generally good for crop progress. Evening and early morning showers provided good moisture during the first half of the week. Sunny and warm days helped to boost crop and pasture growth. The Hamakua district had cloud cover mainly at the upper elevations and light passing

showers. Winds were generally light. Crop growing areas in Waimea experienced mostly dry conditions. Winds were light and crops made steady progress with heavy irrigation. Irrigation supplies were adequate. South Kohala and North Kona districts remained very dry. Upper areas of central and south Kona received good showers early in the week followed by mostly sunny and dry weather. Orchard crops such as macadamia and coffee made steady progress. In Ka`u, Naalehu and South Point areas received light showers. Pahala area received good showers during the later part of the work week, but thick volcanic haze lingered in the area. The Volcano farm areas had cool and clear nights and sunny days.

Maui County

Weather conditions continued to be mostly sunny and warm with a notable increase in passing showers over some sections of the windward coast. Upper elevation sections of Makawao to Keokea also received some precipitation. Periodic overcast skies were also noted through the central section of the island as well as over the Upcountry area. The overall landscape in the Upcountry area showed some re-growth due to the rain received during the later part of August, and pasture conditions

have improved throughout the area. The lower sections of Kula in the Pulehu area continued to be very dry. The central section of Maui has also shown some greening, but remained relatively dry. Winds have primarily been breezy trades that brought the showers across the island.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop development during the week. Mostly sunny days, light showers, and light to moderate trade winds prevailed for windward crop growing areas. The leeward coast remained sunny and dry with the light to moderate trade winds and high daytime temperatures. There was very little cooling in the night and early morning hours. The Waimanalo irrigation system level was pegged at 13.00 feet as of September 6, 2007. Mandatory conservations efforts remain in place. Most fruit and vine crops in other areas made fair to good progress. Pressure from insect infestation and damage was high during the week and spraying for control remained steady.

Kauai County

Weather conditions were good for crop progress during the week. Sunny days, high temperatures, light rainfall, and light to moderate trade winds prevailed for much of the week. Most leeward crop

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growing areas remained fairly dry with planting and harvesting activities on schedule. Windward crop growing districts and fields at the upper elevations received some rains but irrigation levels continued at heavy levels. Orchards and fruit crops were in fair to good condition. Leafy crops made fair progress due to the high temperatures. Pressure from insect infestation and damage were at moderate levels. Spraying for control was on regular schedules.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Bananas

Orchards located in the windward areas of the Big Island were in generally good condition. Adequate soil moisture combined with sunny and warm days provided good conditions for orchard progress. Young plantings in the Pepeekeo and Keaau areas made good progress. Spraying was required to minimize Black Leaf Streak disease incidences. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Leeward and central Oahu fields remained in active harvest with heavy supplies. Heavy irrigation continued as fields remained dry. Orchards on Kauai were in fair to good condition. Spraying for insect infestation was on a regular schedule.

Papayas

Orchards in the lower Puna district of the Big Island made good progress during the week. Sunny days and adequate soil moisture were beneficial. Seedlings sprouted from newly planted fields in Pohoiki. Spraying for disease and weed control was on going. Overall harvesting on Oahu was reduced by fire damaged fields that were in active harvest. In other areas, fruit development and ripening were fair

to good. High temperatures slowed crop progress. Mealy bugs were mostly under control while ring spot virus and wild pig damage continued to lower harvesting in some fields. Kauai's orchards continued to make good to fair progress during the week. Pickings were at moderate levels from several fields in harvest. New fields entering active harvest provided a boost to available supplies.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

The Big Island's Waimea crop was in generally good condition. Medium-sized heads were harvested. Heavy irrigation was maintaining normal crop progress. The Volcano crop was in fair condition as dry conditions and cooler temperatures slowed the progress of non-irrigated plantings. Volcano supplies were for the local markets. Maui's crop continued to make relatively steady progress. Evening temperatures have been notably cooler in the Kula area. Insect pressure continued range from high to moderate, with most operations being able to manage insect damage. However, some operations have reported a high amount of losses due to insect damage over the past couple of weeks. Overall, the Maui head cabbage crop was in fair condition.

Dry Onion

On Maui, most fields have been planted for the fall harvest and are reportedly doing well. A few additional fields may be planted this month for the late fall/early winter harvest. Overall the dry onion crop was in fair condition.

Sweet Corn

Windward and central Oahu fields continued to make good progress. Sunny and dry weather during the week proved improved growing and field conditions. Areas affected by water use restrictions have resulted

in a cutback on planting activities and have experienced decreased yields. Big Island plantings made good progress due to adequate soil moisture and sunny weather. Harvest was active and crop quality was generally good.

Other Crops

Coffee

Coffee harvesting was in progress in the Kona districts of the Big Island. Orchards on Kauai were in good condition with increased harvesting forecast to continue this coming week as fruit ripening was steady. Sunny days and light to moderate winds have kept fields dry allowing for good harvesting. Rains at the upper elevations during the weekend boosted reservoir levels which allowed adequate irrigation for all trees.

Ginger root

The young ginger crop on the Big Island made favorable progress during the week. Sunny weather and adequate soil moisture 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	2.7	1.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.1
	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	2.6 _p	3.3	3.7	7.3 _p	5.4	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.6 _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	3.8	5.7	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.8 _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	11.3	10.3	3.6	9.0	9.1	8.8	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	86.9
	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	2.0	41.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.3
	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	7.8 _p	2.7	6.3	7.6	8.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	66.5 _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	4.2	2.2	2.2	4.7	4.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.5 _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	0.6	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9
	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	*	0.2	0.1	0.0	*	*	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
	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	*	0.6	0.3	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1
	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	1.4	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.1
	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	2.1	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.8
	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	*	0.9	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0
	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	1.2	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.7 _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	2.5	2.4	1.6	2.8	1.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.5
	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	3.9 _p	3.0	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	38.9 _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	3.2	3.4	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.0 _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 September 9, 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	0.01	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.16	14.10
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	30.59
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.04	0.39	0.04	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.01	40.84
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.04	0.30	0.42	0.01	0.18	0.00	0.56	1.51	86.85
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.25
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.08	0.49	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.56	1.35	66.47
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.04	0.03	0.42	0.21	0.00	0.03	0.25	0.98	26.46
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.34	8.91
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.68
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.11
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.08	14.09
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.14	18.77
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.98
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	11.72
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.11	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.21	22.50
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.00	0.09	0.05	0.73	0.00	0.16	0.00	1.03	38.85
17. Omao (HI51)	0.03	0.01	0.16	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.27	25.98

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