

Monthly Hawaii Vegetables

In cooperation with:



August 22, 2007

Drought-like Conditions Along Leeward Sectors

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acreage charts..... page 2**
Year-ago, month-ago,
and upcoming harvested acreage.

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Production statistics and
comments on selected crops.

The month of July continued to experience very warm, sunny conditions. Trade winds persisted mostly at moderate levels during the month. The passing of a weak shear line between July 14 and 16 only intensified these trades. The trade winds were momentarily interrupted with the passing of Tropical Depression Cosme on July 20 and 21. These trade winds provided near to above normal rainfall totals to many windward sectors of the State. Tropical Depression Cosme, on the other hand, provided increased precipitation to the east and southeastern sectors of the Big Island. In general, leeward sectors of all islands continued dry and under drought conditions. This ongoing dry spell along leeward areas has resulted in mandatory water restrictions for agricultural or residential areas of the Waimanalo area of Oahu, upcountry of Maui, and the Hamakua and South Kohala districts of the Big Island. Although some crops have benefited from the hot, dry weather during July, many other crops have suffered; as a result, crop condition was rated only fair.

The expected vegetable acreage for harvest in August when compared with acreage harvested in July was lower for 7 crops, higher for 2 crops, and unchanged for 2 crops. An increase in acreage for harvest is expected from **snap beans** (+10%) and **sweet corn** (+61%). A decrease in the acreage for harvest is expected for **Chinese cabbage** (-8%), **head cabbage** (-28%), **mustard cabbage** (-11%), **cucumbers** (-11%), **dry onions** (-42%), and **romaine** (-22%), while the expected acreage for harvest were unchanged for **head lettuce**, **semi-head lettuce**.

Acreage Acres planted, harvested, and for harvest for 11 selected vegetables, State of Hawaii.

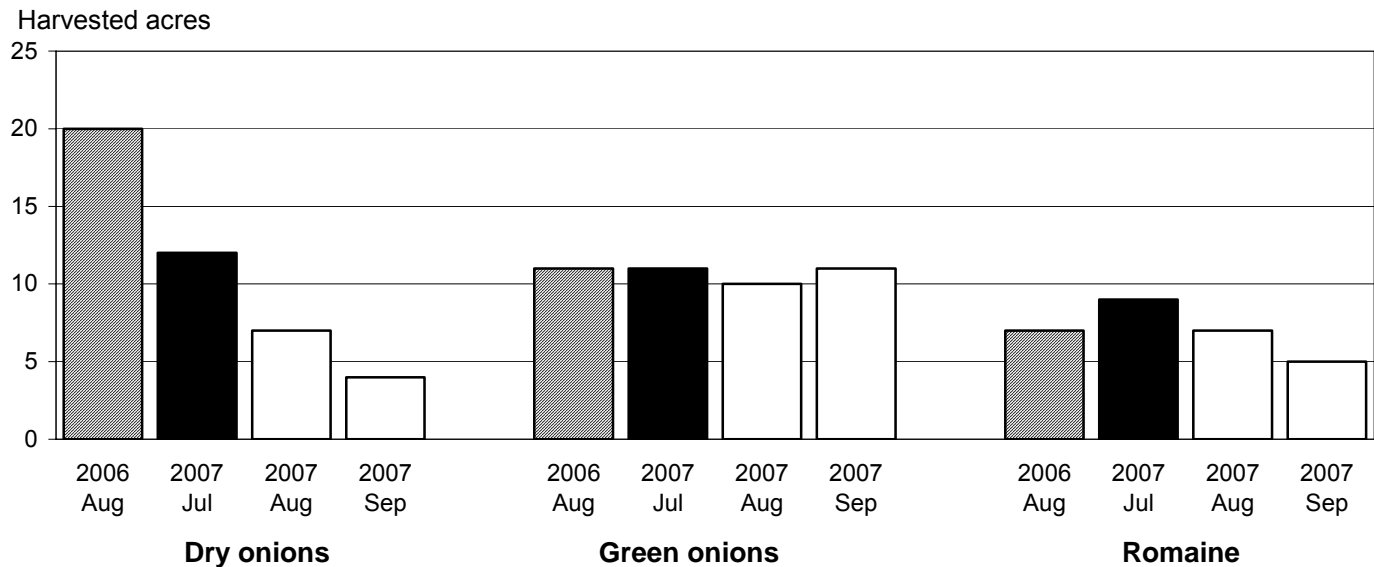
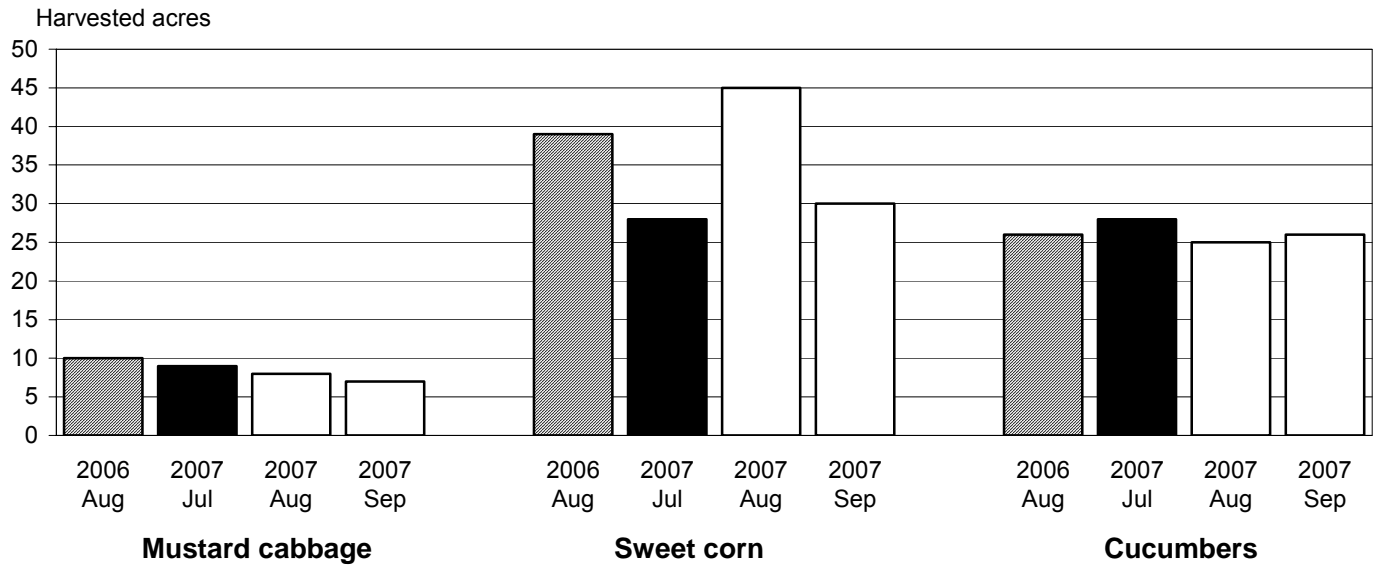
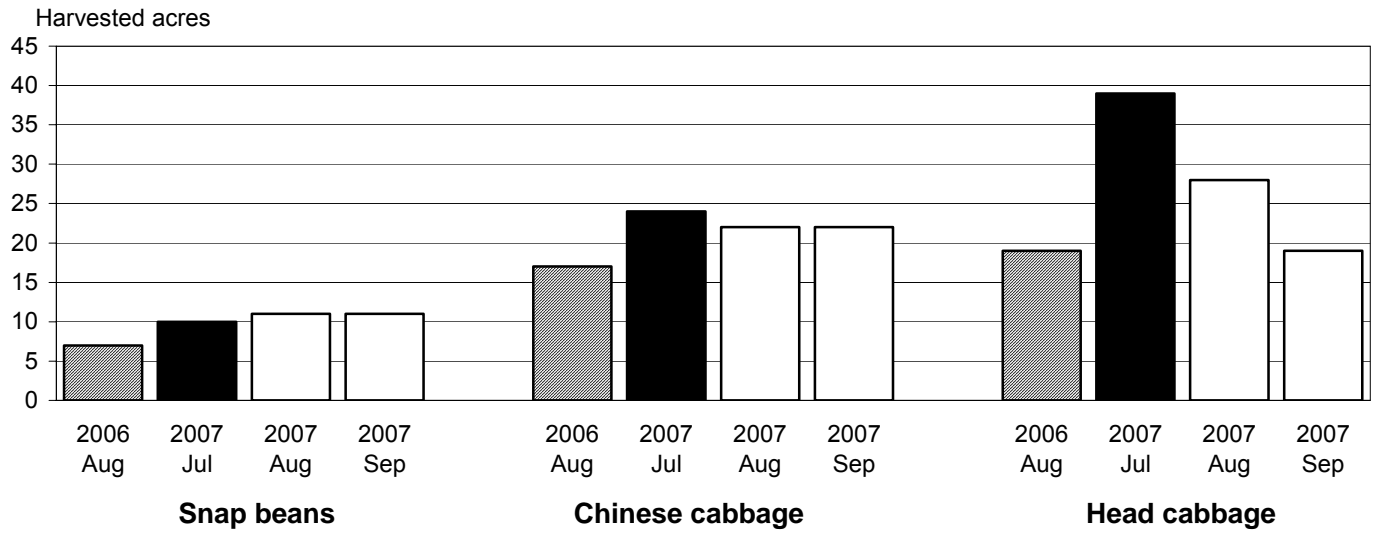
Crop	Acres planted		Acres harvested		Acres for harvest	
	Jun 2007	Jul 2007	Jun 2007	Jul 2007	Aug 2007	Sep 2007
Beans, snap	11	11	10	10	11	11
Cabbage, Chinese	26	22	24	24	22	22
Cabbage, head	22	19	41	39	28	19
Cabbage, mustard	8	8	8	9	8	7
Corn, sweet	36	36	60	28	45	30
Cucumbers	24	25	27	28	25	26
Lettuce, head	3	3	4	4	4	3
Lettuce, semi-head	4	4	4	4	4	4
Onions, dry	2	5	21	12	7	4
Onions, green	9	11	11	11	10	11
Romaine	7	6	8	9	7	6

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Harvested acreage charts

Acres harvested a year ago
 Acres harvested last month
 Acres intended for harvest



July Review

Tomato Production Below Year Ago

Chinese cabbage production total 514,000 pounds during July 2007. This was 12 percent below June 2007, but 28 percent above July 2006. The increase in production from a year ago resulted from an increase in yields and acreage for harvest. Crop conditions on the island of Hawaii were mixed as heavy irrigation was necessary to offset the windy, dry, and very warm conditions. Some farmers experienced heat rot losses.

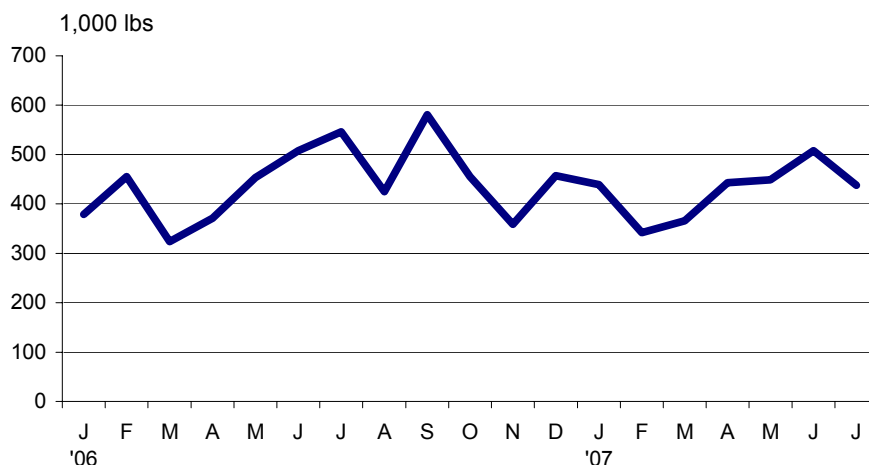
Head cabbage producers produced an estimated 945,000 pounds in July. This was 11 percent and 1 percent below the previous month and a year ago, respectively. The decrease in production was the result of fewer acres available for harvest. Crop yield was below a month earlier, but better than the previous year. When possible, heavy irrigation was necessary to offset the very warm, dry conditions and to keep the crop in fair condition. Insect infestations were becoming a problem in some fields along with the production of smaller and lighter heads.

Cucumbers growers harvested an estimated 438,000 pounds in July. This was 14 percent and 20 percent below June 2007 and July 2006, respectively. The decline in production resulted from lower yields which was the result of the moderate winds and dry conditions.

Tomato growers produced an estimated 1.3 million pounds in July.

This was 13 percent and 22 percent below June 2007 and July 2006, respectively. Although the very warm, dry conditions during July helped to maintain the tomato crop in fair to good condition, the decrease in production from the previous month can be attributed to lower yields. ■

**Hawaii Cucumber
Monthly Production, 2006 – 2007**



Acreage, average yield, sales, and average farm price, July 2007, State of Hawaii.

Crop	Total acres on Aug. 1	July 2007				January-to-date sales		
		Acres harvested	Average yield ^{1/}	Total sales	Average farm price	2006 ^{2/}	2007	Change
		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Cents per lb.		----- 1,000 lbs. -----		Percent
Beans, snap	18	10	5.5	55	91.1	432	443	3
Cabbage, Chinese	35	24	21.4	514	28.9	3,833	3,860	1
Cabbage, head	46	39	24.2	945	24.5	6,991	7,004	0
Cabbage, mustard	10	9	12.2	110	62.7	828	805	-3
Corn, sweet	79	28	6.4	180	67.9	748	1,504	101
Cucumbers	47	28	15.6	438	47.5	3,036	2,985	-2
Lettuce, head	5	4	15.5	62	60.5	467	379	-19
Lettuce, semi-head	7	4	6.3	25	88.4	246	240	-2
Onions, dry	19	12	14.2	170	96.3	893	1,001	12
Onions, green	23	11	10.0	110	104.3	769	857	11
Peppers, green	^{3/}	4	0.8	3	76.7	1,799	1,392	-23
Romaine	9	9	12.2	110	62.4	810	657	-19
Tomatoes	^{3/}	58	22.0	1,275	57.0	8,165	8,519	4

^{1/} Total sales divided by acres harvested. ^{2/} Revised. ^{3/} Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.