



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: September 30, 2007

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

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Crops Aided By Showers And Cooler Temperatures



Weather Review

Weather conditions were generally beneficial for agriculture during the week ending Sunday, September 30. Trade wind weather conditions continued to provide mostly sunny skies for leeward areas. Rainfall was generally light in these areas except for some periods of moderate showers. Windward areas were partly cloudy with mostly light, trade wind embedded showers falling daily in some areas. High clouds filtered some of the sunshine in parts of the State. Daytime temperatures were in the mid to high 80s, but were a couple of degrees cooler than normal. The advent of winter, with its cooler temperatures and more frequent showers, helped most crops.

Hawaii County

Weather conditions were fair to good for crop progress during the week. Typical trade wind weather prevailed during the week in the Hilo and Puna areas. Skies were mostly cloudy with some sunny periods. Night and morning showers kept soil moisture adequate. The Hamakua District received light passing showers mainly in the lower areas. Higher sections of Mauna Kea remained very dry. In Waimea, the Puukapu area was mostly sunny in the

morning and cloudy in the afternoon. Sunny skies kept fields in the Lalamilo area dry. Heavy irrigation was required for normal crop progress. North Kona was generally dry and pastures were in need of added rainfall. Central and south Kona sections had high clouds with afternoon showers. Steady showers on Sunday added to the ground moisture. Pastures and orchards in the upper sections of the Kona districts made good progress due to increased moisture levels. In Ka'u, upper sections from South Point to Kapapala received light afternoon showers. Coastal areas were generally dry. Volcano experienced cloudy to partly cloudy skies and light, misty showers.

Maui County

Weather conditions continued to be a combination of mostly sunny skies with occasional cloud cover mainly over the upper elevation sections of the island. Trade winds brought late night and early morning rainfall over the windward areas. The transitional weather has brought increased showers which helped to relieve drought conditions from the previous months. Irrigation requirements for some crops have reportedly decreased. Increased cloud cover also helped to reduce the stress from the daytime temperatures. Cooler temperatures have contributed to lower insect pressure for many crops.

Honolulu County

Weather conditions remained fair to good for crop development during the week. Favorable rains and overcast skies increased soil moisture and helped cool most windward area fields. The leeward coast remained sunny and dry with high temperatures and light to moderate trade winds. Light rains reached the upper elevations in the west and central parts of the island. Irrigation levels remained heavy in most crop growing areas. The Waimanalo irrigation system level was measured at 14.75 feet as of September 27. A 30 percent mandatory cutback in water usage for all consumers of the Waimanalo irrigation system remained in effect. Most fruit and vine crops in other areas made fair to good progress. Pressure from insect infestation and damage was moderate to high during the week.

Kauai County

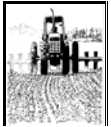
Weather conditions were good to fair for crop progress during the week. A good mixture of sunny days, partly overcast conditions, breezy trade winds, and favorable rains at the upper elevations prevailed for the week. Most leeward crop growing areas remained fairly dry with active planting and harvesting. Windward crop growing districts received light to moderate rains and moderate

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breezes which kept temperatures cooler than in previous weeks. Orchards and fruit crops were in fair condition. Leafy crops made fair to good progress due to the cooler conditions and increased soil moisture in some areas. Pressure from insect infestation and damage were at moderate levels. Spraying for control was on a regular schedule.



Agricultural Highlights

Fruits

Bananas

Light showers and some sunny periods benefited orchards in the windward areas of the Big Island. Soil moisture was ample and harvesting was active. Oahu orchards were in fair to good condition. Leeward and central Oahu fields were in good condition with heavy to moderate supplies for the market. Heavy irrigation continued as fields remained dry. Windward Oahu fields were in fair to good condition with light to moderate supplies. Overall harvesting on Oahu was expected to be at moderate to heavy levels as the shorter day length and slightly cooler temperatures have slowed ripening. Orchards were in fair to good condition on Kauai. Supplies are expected to be light to moderate, but steady, for on island sales. Spraying for insect infestation was on a regular schedule.

Papayas

Good growing conditions benefited orchard development in the lower Puna areas of the Big Island. Frequent passing showers kept soil moisture adequate. Growers were spraying to try to keep weeds under control. Harvesting in the Opihikao, Pohoiki, and Kapoho areas remained active. Fallowed fields in the Kapoho area were cleared and

planting has started. Overall harvesting on Oahu was at moderate levels with some orchards being re-worked for future harvest after being damaged by a wildfire. In other areas, fruit development and ripening were fair to good with the relief from the high temperatures favoring crop progress. Orchards on Kauai continued to make good to fair progress during the week. Pickings were at moderate levels from several fields in harvest with some new fields boosting available supplies.

Vegetables

Head Cabbage

The crop in the Waimea area of the Hawaii Island was in fair to good condition. Medium-sized heads were being harvested. Insect and disease damages were generally light. Heavy irrigation was required in the Waimea fields. Growing conditions improved slightly in the Volcano area. Maui's crop continued to show good progress. However, most fields showed slightly slowed growth and development which was expected for this time of the year. Insect pressure was relatively low, but could increase over the next couple of weeks. Producers were able to control damage and keep losses to a minimum. Plantings have been steady, but the continued shortening of the day length has slowed the rate of growth and development. Overall quality of the crop was good. On Oahu, pressure from Insect infestation was very light.

Cucumbers

Harvesting from Oahu fields was expected to be at heavy levels as several fields were in active harvest. Pressure from insect infestation was light to moderate.

Sweet corn

The Big Island crop was in fair to good condition. Soil moisture was

adequate and production will be mainly for on-island consumption. Windward and central Oahu fields continued to make good progress due to sunny skies and heavy irrigation. Areas affected by water use restrictions have cut back on planting activities and have experienced decreased yields.

Dry onion

Maui's younger fields showed good progress under cooler growing conditions. There were reports of increased insect pressure throughout the growing area which could affect production for older developing fields. Producers were trying to control insect pressure, but it has been challenging. Harvesting has been light. Overall, the dry onion crop was in fair condition.

Other Crops

Coffee

Coffee orchards in the upper areas of Kona were in fair to good condition. Soil moisture was adequate. Cherry harvest was in progress. Most of the coffee trees in the Ka'u district have branches full of still green cherries. Harvesting is expected to begin soon. Orchards on Kauai were in good condition with active harvesting anticipated to continue. Sunny days and moderate trade winds kept fields in good condition for harvesting. Beneficial rains in the upper elevations increased the water levels of reservoirs used for irrigation. ■

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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.1
	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	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	36.0 _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	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.7 _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	11.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	95.6
	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	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.2
	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	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	75.6 _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	5.1 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.2 _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	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.2
	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	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2
	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	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.3
	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	2.0	1.2	1.9	2.1	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.1
	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	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.2
	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	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.4 _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	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.5
	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	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.9 _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	1.6 _p	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.7 _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 30, 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)	0.04	0.12	0.13	0.22	0.00	0.01	0.26	0.78	15.08
2. Kealakekua (HI84)	0.52	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.10	0.72	36.00
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.23	0.02	0.11	0.03	0.53	44.71
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.23	0.00	0.40	0.60	0.07	0.25	1.35	2.90	95.64
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.32	53.17
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.23	0.06	1.80	0.45	0.18	0.11	1.10	3.93	75.58
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.30	0.58	0.27	0.08	0.07	0.19	0.27	1.76	30.18
8. Kula (HI65)	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.07	0.14	9.20
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.69
10. Wailuku (HI66)	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	8.23
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.00	0.47	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.03	0.18	0.76	15.31
12. Mililani (HI14)	0.01	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.97	20.11
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.05	8.22
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	0.02	0.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.06	0.40	12.44
Island of Kauai									
15. Anahola (HI48)	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.33	23.47
16. Hanalei (HI45)	0.47	0.21	0.32	0.09	0.18	0.00	0.16	1.43	42.94
17. Omao (HI51)	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	0.00	26.69

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