



Hawaii Weekly Crop Weather Report

National
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

Week ending: December 26, 2010

In Cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Hawaii Field Office · 1428 South King Street · Honolulu, HI 96814-2512 · 1-800-804-9514 · www.nass.usda.gov

Soaking Rains



Weather Review

Last week's rainfall was a sharp increase in comparison to the week prior. Rainfall was widespread across the State, compared to only the northern counties the week prior. Heavy rainfall brought about flash flood watches and warnings throughout the State during the week. Heavy rains in some areas caused damage to crops especially where soils were already saturated. With such extensive rains, some areas that had not been receiving much rain, despite the previous storms, finally received some. As the year comes to an end, the State seems to be pulling out of unfavorable drought conditions with near to above rainfall in most locations for the month of December.

According to the National Weather Service latest seasonal outlook, "increased odds for above median precipitation during the rainy season favor improvement..."



Hawaii County

After having a week lacking of rains, the Big Island received heavy showers dispersed throughout the week. Pahala and other windward areas received anywhere from three to over five inches of rain. The leeward Kealakekua gauge also received over an inch of rain. The Waimea Irrigation System water level was marked at 49 feet on Thursday, December 23rd; no change from the previous weeks reading. The current conservation status is unrestricted.

Maui County

Showers were much heavier in Maui than the previous week with most areas seeing some type of precipitation daily. The Molokai Irrigation System water level was marked at 16.5 feet on Thursday, December 23rd; an increase of 6 percent the previous week's reading of 15.5 feet. **Phase III mandatory conservation measures remained in effect. Measures included a MANDATORY 30 percent conservation in usage from all non-homestead users.**

Honolulu County

Windward, leeward, and interior sections of Oahu received heavy rains throughout the week. For most locations, more than a third of the rain collected over the entire year came from the last few weeks. The Waimanalo Reservoir Irrigation System water level was marked at

39.5 feet on Friday, December 24th; an increase of 10 percent from the previous Thursday's reading of 35.75 feet. **Phase III mandatory conservation measures remained in effect. Measures included a MANDATORY 30 percent reduction in use and water service limited to Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays between the hours of 7 AM and 3:30 PM.**

Kauai County

Rainfall from the previous weekend continued during the week, lessening slightly during the week but picking up again at the end. Flooding occurred in some areas hit by heavy rains.

Note: To clarify: The record high mentioned last week, 84 degrees Fahrenheit for Lihue on the 13th, broke the old record of 83 degrees. The record said to be set on the 16th should read Friday December 17th. The record rainfall mentioned in last week's release, 5.41 inches for Honolulu, was set on Sunday, December 20th. Finally, for Kauai County gauges were 27 percent over normal, rather than 27 percent of normal.



Agricultural Highlights

Orchards

Extensive rainfall helped to maintain and improve orchard conditions.

Vegetables

Conditions for crops varied with flooding and rot causing damage in some areas.

Livestock and Pasture

Pasture recovery continued as rainfall was widespread and constant throughout the week.

Mark Hudson, Director

Larry Chun, Agricultural Statistician

National Agricultural Summary

December 19 - 25, 2010

Highlights: A week-long Pacific storm barrage caused flooding and mudslides from southern California into the southern Great Basin but maintained overall favorable Western water-supply prospects. Storm-total rainfall reached at least 1 to 2 feet at numerous locations in southern California. More tranquil weather arrived in the West during the second half of the week, although rain and snow returned to the Pacific Coast States on Christmas Day. Farther east, the last in a series of Pacific storms produced much-needed precipitation on the central and southern Plains. However, the most significant rain fell east of the primary hard red winter wheat belt, where a portion of the crop remained stressed by developing drought and winter weather extremes. In fact, temperatures topped 80 degrees Fahrenheit in much of the south-central United States on December 20-21, aggravating the effects of drought on pastures and winter wheat. Meanwhile, a substantial snow cover remained in place across the northern Plains and upper Midwest, where additional snow fell during the week. Snow depths of 1 to 2 feet in the upper Mississippi Valley hampered rural travel. Across the remainder of the Midwest, a brief mild spell began to erode the existing snow cover. However, snow returned to parts of the western and southern Corn Belt toward week's end. Elsewhere, frigid conditions eased across the South and East, where precipitation was mostly light and spotty. Developing drought remained a concern with respect to pastures and winter grains across much of the South, particularly from central and eastern Texas into the southern Atlantic States.

U.S. Drought Monitor Hawaii

December 21, 2010

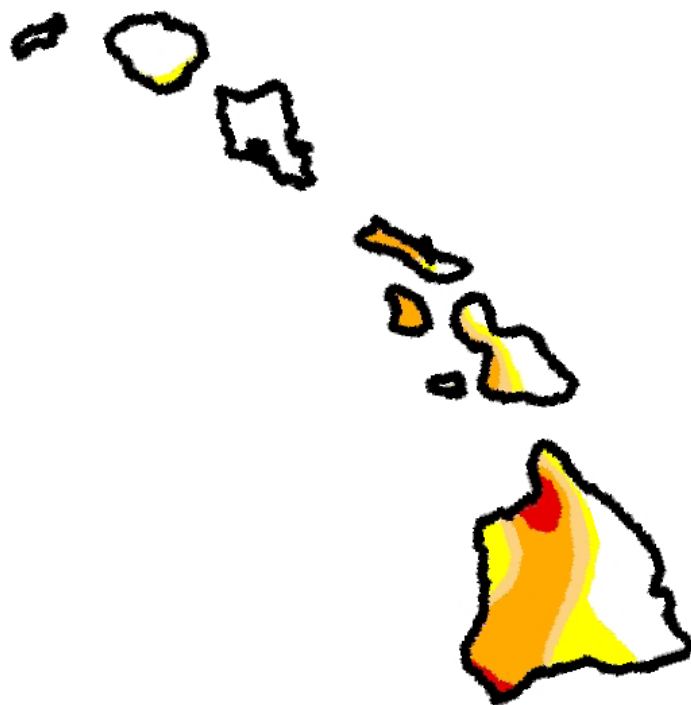
Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	43.97	56.03	39.76	30.28	4.37	0.00
Last Week (12/14/2010 map)	37.76	62.24	43.76	32.21	10.40	0.00
3 Months Ago (09/21/2010 map)	2.19	97.81	73.89	46.79	31.04	5.11
Start of Calendar Year (12/29/2009 map)	31.12	68.88	53.44	28.81	5.10	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	2.19	97.81	73.89	46.79	31.55	5.11
One Year Ago (12/15/2009 map)	31.12	68.88	53.44	28.81	5.10	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



Released Thursday, December 23, 2010

D. Miskus, CPC/NOAA

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

Monthly Trend for Selected Stations

Comparison of 2010 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	2010	2.4	0.7	6.8	3.5	0.7	1.3	1.7	1.9	0.9	2.5	2.2	1.6	26.2
	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	2010	1.4	0.1 _p	* _p	1.3	1.9	1.3 _p	4.8	3.6 _p	3.1	5.1	3.4	5.8	31.8 _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	2010	3.9	3.1	20.2	10.0	2.0	2.6	2.6	4.0	2.4	5.9	10.4	5.2	72.5
	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	2010	1.6	2.4	16.9	12.2 _p	7.6	5.8	5.7	5.7	3.9	10.0 _p	11.4	10.3	93.2 _p
	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	2010	0.1	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	1.7	2.7	7.4	17.3
	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	2010	1.1	1.5	8.8	7.8	3.8	4.6	5.1	5.1	3.1	7.4	7.4	7.0 _p	62.6 _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	2010	1.5 _p	0.8	7.3	6.7 _p	2.2 _p	1.3 _p	6.0 _p	3.8 _p	2.8	2.7 _p	4.2	5.9	45.1 _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	2010	0.9	1.0	2.4	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1 _p	*	0.7	0.4	4.0	10.7 _p
	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	2010	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	*	*	0.3	0.1	*	0.2 _p	* _p	0.9	2.3 _p
	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	2010	0.3 _p	0.3 _p	0.2 _p	0.1 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.9 _p
	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	2010	0.7 _p	* _p	0.1 _p	3.4	2.0	0.7	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.0	2.3	7.7	22.5 _p
	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	2010	1.7	1.4	4.5	4.7	4.6	0.9	2.4	3.0	0.9	2.9	1.7	14.1	42.7
	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	2010	0.5 _p	0.2 _p	0.9	0.5	1.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.6	6.2 _p	10.9 _p
	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	2010	5.6	1.5	1.0	0.3 _p	0.7 _p	0.2	0.8	0.7	1.4	0.8	2.6	11.1	26.6 _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. Moloaa Dairy	2010	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.5	0.5 _p
	Average	6.9	4.7	6.2	5.0	3.9	1.7	2.7	2.6	2.2	5.0	5.4	5.6	51.9
16. Hanalei	2010	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	0.0 _p	8.5 _p	1.1 _p	1.1 _p	0.0 _p	1.9 _p	0.2 _p	2.1	3.3 _p	0.0 _p	18.3 _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	2010	2.9	0.8	5.7	6.9	2.9	2.3	2.5	3.7 _p	2.3	2.0	3.3 _p	12.3	47.6 _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 December 26, 2010
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)	0.07	0.00	0.13	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.08	0.38	26.16
2. Kealahou (HI84)	0.30	0.00	1.61	0.00	0.12	0.47	1.22	3.72	31.83 p
3. Laupahoehoe (HI80)	0.03	0.00	0.03	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.51	72.54
4. Mt. View (HI81)	0.08	0.00	2.85	0.04	0.24	0.03	0.00	3.24	93.22 p
5. Pahala (HI85)	0.22	0.00	0.69	1.95	0.53	1.68	0.12	5.19	17.28
6. Pahoa (HI83)	0.09	0.36	1.09	1.28	0.18	0.07	0.00	3.07	62.57 p
Island of Maui									
7. Hana (HI61)	0.12	1.36	1.62	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.54	3.66	45.06 p
8. Kula (HI65)	0.27	0.08	0.17	0.24	0.02	0.02	0.83	1.63	10.70 p
9. Lahainaluna (HI60)	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	2.25 p
10. Wailuku (HI66)	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	0.93 p
Island of Oahu									
11. Kahuku (HI09)	0.41	0.91	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.32	2.36	22.49 p
12. Mililani (HI14)	1.73	1.61	0.00	0.03	0.68	0.00	1.47	5.52	42.74
13. Waianae (HI17)	0.96	0.52	M	M	0.01	M	M	1.49	10.85 p
14. Waimanalo (HI13)	4.96	0.56	0.46	0.06	0.01	0.00	0.57	6.62	26.59 p
Island of Kauai									
15. Moloaa Dairy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47 p
16. Hanalei (HI45)	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	18.25 p
17. Omao (HI51)	0.54	0.19	0.60	0.06	0.58	0.03	1.82	3.82	47.64 p

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