

# Hawaii

### State Fact Sheet

#### Total area: 4.10 million acres Acres in ag production: 1.12 million Farms and ranches: 7,521 Average farm size (acres) 149

Population: 1,283,388 - Rural: 377,787 - Urban: 905,601

Market value of ag products (million): \$ 513.63

Principal operators by sex:

- Male 5,715
- Female 1,806

All operators by race:

- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 928
- Asian 3,651
- White 5,445
- All operators of Spanish, Hispanic or Latino Origin - 622
- American Indian or Alaska Native 63
- Black or African American 10

Total Area administered by the FSA Hawaii State Office is 4.6 million square miles and includes Guam, American Samoa, Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau and the Marshall Islands.

(USDA - NASS Census of Agriculture 2007; ERS State Facts 2009)

• Hawaii grows 100% of the U.S. produced ginger root, macadamia nuts, taro, coffee and guavas.

• Public awareness of Hawaii's vulnerable food system – a seven (7) day food supply for a resident population of 1.3 million and 6.5 million visitors annually and the closest port is 2,500 miles away – and the desire to live sustainable lifestyles has grown exponentially in recent years. Residents, visitors, chefs, supermarkets and community based organizations are driving a strong demand for locally grown produce, beef, coffee, tea, flowers, and more. In response, Hawaii's agricultural industry is pushing out new products and replacing imports with locally grown crops and marketing products through initiatives such as "Buy local – It matters," the "Hawaii Seal of Quality Program," and the decades strong "Island Fresh" daisy logo.

• Hawaii's proximity to abundant fresh and seawater bodies provides numerous environments conducive to the production of shrimp, abalone, tilapia, halibut, seaweed, microalgae and aquarium trade species. Additionally, several off-shore operations are producing or plan to produce sea-going, high value Amber Jack, Tuna and other species. A proud history of fish cultivation in coastal ponds by pre-contact Hawaiians garners community support and further drives

#### Governor:

Neil Abercrombie (D)

Lt. Governor: Shan Tsutsui (D)

Chairperson of Agriculture: Scott Enright

#### Senators:

Schatz, Brian - (D) Hirono, Mazie - (D)

#### **Representatives:**

Hanabusa, Colleen - (D - 1st) Gabbard, Tulsi - (D - 2nd)



## Hawaii

#### Hawaii FSA:

State Executive Director: Diane Ley

State Committee: Herbert "Monty" Richards - Chair Steven Kai Tim Law

Number of County Offices/ Service Centers: 6

Number of FSA Employees: 29

Hawaii FSA State Office PJKK Federal Building 300 Ala Moana Blvd, Rm 5-108 PO Box 50065 Honolulu, HI 96850

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Revised August 2014

the demand for fresh aquaculture products in local markets and for export.

• The seed crop sector in Hawaii has taken off by leaps and bounds in the past decade. Now accounting for 45% of the value of farm gate receipts and 96% of the biotechnology sector, seed research and seed grow-out is big business in the state. The sector employs nearly a quarter of all agricultural jobs and currently utilizes only five percent of the arable land in the islands; yet, the contribution to agriculture does not stop at Hawaii's shoreline when it comes to seeds. Rather, the technology, new crop products, and a steady supply of seed flow out to farmers across the nation and the globe.

• On the horizon, awareness grows that Hawaii's fuel supply is vulnerable – 90% reliance on imported fossil fuel – and is the highest cost in the country. These facts have stimulated agriculture and energy entrepreneurs, researchers and policy makers to explore expanding opportunities in the nascent biofuels / bioenergy sector, well beyond the current use of sugar cane baggase for electrical production. The vision is to become a model for the production of drop-in fuels for automobiles, jets, tactical vehicles and electrical generators, utilizing Hawaii-grown algae, eucalyptus, sweet sorghum, banana grass, jatropha and energy cane.

Top 5 diversified agriculture commodities, 2009			
	Value of	Percent of	
	receipts	diversified agriculture	
	thousand \$	farm receipts (A)	
1. Seed Crops	\$ 222,560	45.6	
2.Greenhouse, Nursery	\$ 80,092	16.4	
3. Aquaculture	\$ 32,330	6.6	
4. Macadamia Nuts	\$ 29,400	6.0	
5. Cattle and calves	\$ 28,945	5.9	
All commodities	\$ 627,690		

Top 4 agriculture exports, estimates, FY 2009			
	Rank among states	Value in million \$	
1. Fruits & Preparations	10	\$ 38.2	
2. Other (B))	32	\$ 31.5	
3. Tree Nuts	6	\$ 14.7	
4. Feeds and fodders	44	\$ 6.0	
Overall Rank / Value	45	\$ 107.5	

(A) Percentage of displayed commodities receipts in State.

(B)) Details not published to avoid disclosing administratively confidential market data. Commodities can include bananas, guava, papaya, pineapple and other fruits and vegetables.

(USDA - NASS Census of Agriculture 2007; ERS State Facts 2009)