

# A Look at Hawaii Agriculture



Capital: Honolulu

Population: 1,295,178

Statehood: August 21, 1959 (50<sup>th</sup>)

State Bird: Nene (Hawaiian goose)

State Tree: Kukui

State Flower: Yellow hibiscus

Number of Counties: 5

Largest City: Honolulu - 371,657

Nickname: Aloha State

Number of Farms: 7,500

Average Farm Size: 149 acres

Total Farmland: 1.1 million acres



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## Climate & Soil

- Cool trade winds keep the climate of Hawaii mild all year.
- State average temp in July is 77°F, and in January 71°F.
- The average of amount precipitation is 400" in the mountains to less than 10" in the lowlands.
- Snow sometimes covers the highest points on the islands of Hawaii and Maui.
- The soil is very rich due to heavy rainfall.

## Crops & Livestock

- Greenhouse and nursery products are the top commodities in the state. They account for almost a million dollars annually.
- Hawaii ranks sixth nationally for the sale of tree nuts.
- The island of Hawaii has several large cattle ranches. Cattle and calves are the fifth most important commodity in the state.
- The other top commodities in the state in 2008 were: sugarcane, macadamia nuts, and coffee.
- On the island of Oahu, dairy and egg farms are a major source of farm income.
- Pineapple is an important crop for the island of Maui.
- The islands of Maui and Kauai also raise cattle and hogs.

## General

- Farmland accounts for 27% of Hawaii's total land useage.
- The Alphabet for the native Hawaiian language only has 12 letters A E H I K L M N O P U W.
- Hawaii has 152 certified organic farm operations.
- The average age of a farm operator in Hawaii is 59 years old.
- Hawaii ranks 42nd nationally for total agricultural sales within the United States.