



# HAWAII

## TOP 5 CROPS: HAWAII

1. PINEAPPLE
2. SUGAR CANE
3. MACADAMIA NUTS
4. COFFEE
5. PAPAYAS

### Crop Protection Leaders

Hawaii is home to one leading crop protection company: Monsanto Company. This company provides thousands of jobs, boosting our economy and securing our state food supply.

- In the Aloha State, an investment of \$1.00 in crop protection products yields 16 times in direct economic returns, which the farming community can then reinvest to make Hawaii's agricultural economy even stronger.
- The net benefits Hawaii's agricultural economy gains from securing crops with various crop protection technologies is around \$12.9 million, depending upon the product.

### CropLife America: Helping to Feed a Hungry World

*America's crop protection industry is helping to feed a hungry world, decrease food costs, drive our economy, and protect our environment.*

Crop protection technologies help control the thousands of weed species, harmful insects, and numerous plant diseases that afflict crops and threaten both the abundance and the safety of our food supply.

- The crop protection industry is one of the most highly-regulated in the U.S. today, ensuring the safety of users and consumers, and reducing environmental impacts. As the nation and the world confront the threat of climate change, the industry stands at the forefront of sustainable agriculture, helping farmers do more with less through innovation, while protecting the soil and natural habitats of the land they farm.
- Crop protection products help American farmers improve agricultural productivity, generating robust crop yields that drive local economies and create jobs from the farm, to the distribution system, to the grocery stores and restaurants who sell these plentiful foods. The strong crop yields made possible by crop protection also help keep food costs down so American families can afford meals for their table.

In Hawaii, the crop protection industry brings these same commitments, values, and technologies to the state's **\$2.9 billion food and agricultural economy**, safeguarding the state's food supply and protecting its environment.

### Agriculture in Hawaii: Driving the State Economy

*Agriculture generates 3.1% of Hawaii's economy, employs 42,000 people, and ranks 43rd in the nation for total agricultural cash receipts.*

**7,500  
FARMS**

7,500 farms cover more than 1,110,000 acres across our state, powering a diverse agricultural economy.

**\$513  
MILLION**

Hawaii agricultural products have an annual market value of \$513 million, including more than 83% from crop production – valuing \$429 million annually.

Hawaii supplies 90% of the world's macadamia nuts. Hawaii is sometimes referred to as "The Pineapple State" because of the pineapple industry's impact on the state's economy.

Without crop protection, the vital economic impact of Hawaii's agricultural industry would be virtually devastated.

# CROP PROTECTION IN THE ALOHA STATE

## Ensuring Hawaii's Robust and Healthy Food Supply

*The food supply nourishing Hawaiian families—and exported around the globe—is fundamentally reliant upon crop protection technologies.*

Every spring and summer, plant diseases reproduce in countless numbers, infecting – and ultimately killing – Hawaiian crops. Each year, **2.5 million weeds** prepare to emerge on every acre of Hawaii's cropland, competing with crops for water, nutrients, space, and sunlight. And across Hawaii, crop feeding insects reproduce in countless numbers, feeding on crops, reducing yields, making crops unmarketable, and in some cases killing the plant entirely.

These infestations threaten Hawaii's food supply, economy, environment, and health of our citizens. Crop protection products stem those threats, preventing crop loss, and protecting the agricultural base.

## Safeguarding Hawaii's Environment and its Citizens

*Few industries play a greater role in driving sustainable agriculture than crop protection.*

Crop protection technologies enable Hawaiian farmers to manage weeds without plowing or tilling the soil, reducing erosion and avoiding runoff into rivers and streams, while also reducing fuel consumption. Nationwide, this practice saves **337 million gallons of tractor fuel annually**, and prevents **356 billion pounds of disturbed soil** from eroding into rivers and streams.

*In Hawaii, crop protection technologies enable no-till production on acres, preventing pounds of soil erosion annually.*

Planting more acres of arable farmland decreases animal habitats, impacting biodiversity. Crop protection technologies enable Hawaiian farmers to do more with less, reducing the need to convert additional acreage for crops.

Many invasive weeds and nuisance plants grow back when mowed or pulled. Far from being a simple annoyance, weeds kill native plants, suffocate lakes, and plug reservoir intakes, destroying the natural habitats of fish, birds and mammals. Crop protection products are indispensable weapons, enabling Hawaiian growers to successfully preserve several endangered species populations that had nearly vanished.

*Crop protection also guards the health of the food supply that sustains Hawaiian families and the world.*

The ever-increasing reach of the global economy has allowed infectious agents like salmonella and E. coli to enter our food supply. The U.S. commitment to crop protection technologies serves as a first line of defense, attacking these threats and generating a safe, healthy, and robust food supply for Hawaii and the nation.

What would the Aloha State's food supply look like **WITHOUT** crop protection?

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## NO PAPAYA

Hawaii's fifth-largest crop, papayas, are an exotic fruit choice eaten raw, cooked or as a flavor in various cuisines. Without crop protection, this one-of-kind fruit would be completely eliminated from Hawaii's crops. A vicious and serious virus would eradicate the medium-sized fruit, costing Hawaii's economy \$11.9 million.

## NO BANANAS

From baby food to lunch boxes, to a rejuvenating snack for marathon runners, bananas provide a whole host of nutritious opportunities for Americans. Hawaii is the only state in the U.S. that produces bananas for the world, and without crop protection technologies, aggressive plant diseases would destroy nearly one-third of this precious crop.