FBGA Key Project - Latest Data - Oct. 19, 2023

Members:

I have attached Don Rockwood's (FFGT) latest data. I have worked with this data and the details so I can see trends by individual plants. A production summary is below:
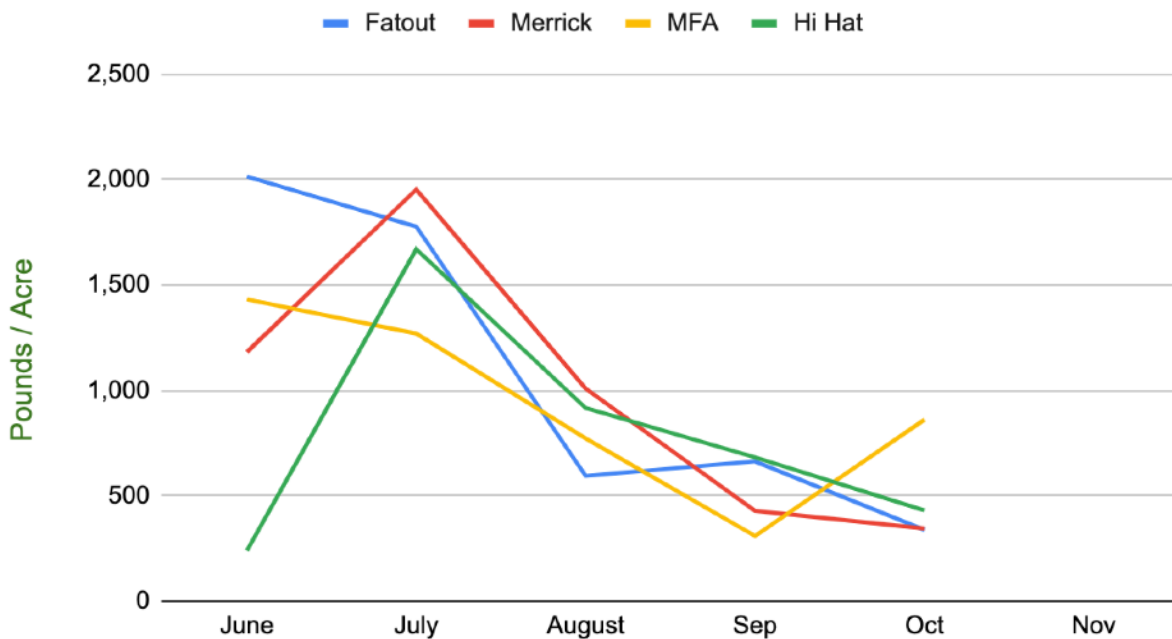
FBGA Analysis from FFGT and IFAS Key Project Research

(Projections to improve with monthly data)

Farm Name	Five Months (thru 10/8) Production LBSs / Acre	Season Production Projected / Ac	% Less than 3" Diameter
Fatout Farm	5,388	6,466	20%
Merrick 27	4,918	5,902	56%
MFA	4,645	5,574	45%
Hi Hat Ranch	3,941	4,729	28%

The latest month's data was down 5% from the previous month. Within that we had one farm, MFA, which was actually up 178%. You can see on the chart below the drop in production we have experienced over the last several months.
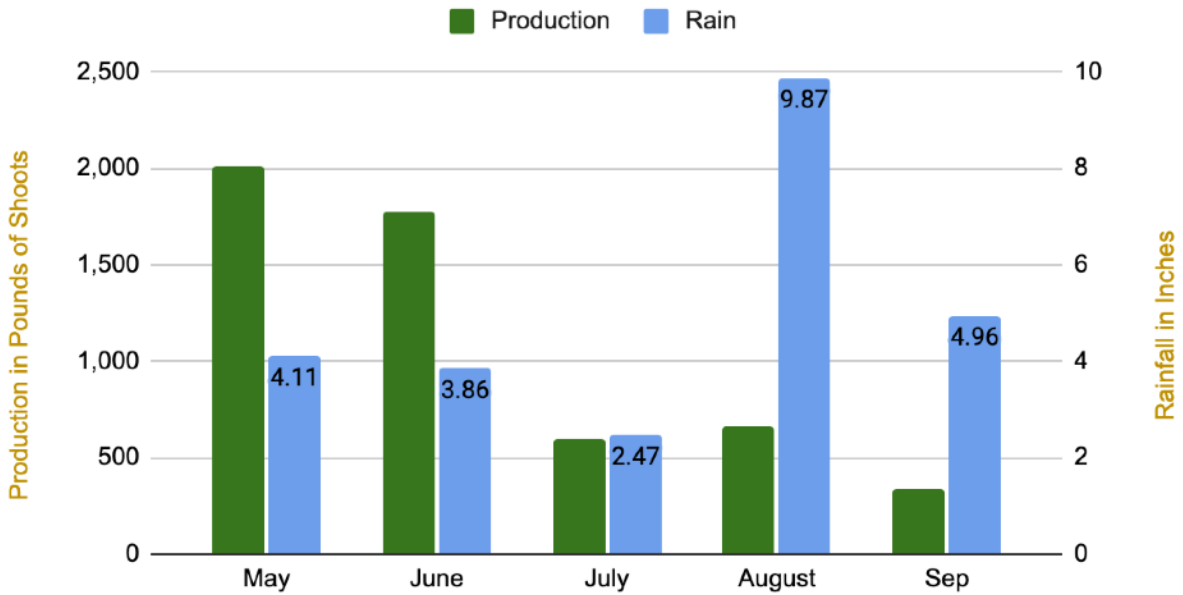
Shoots Production Pace

I was hopeful that the rainfall in September would have a positive impact on the shoots production but as you can see in the charts following, it really hasn't.
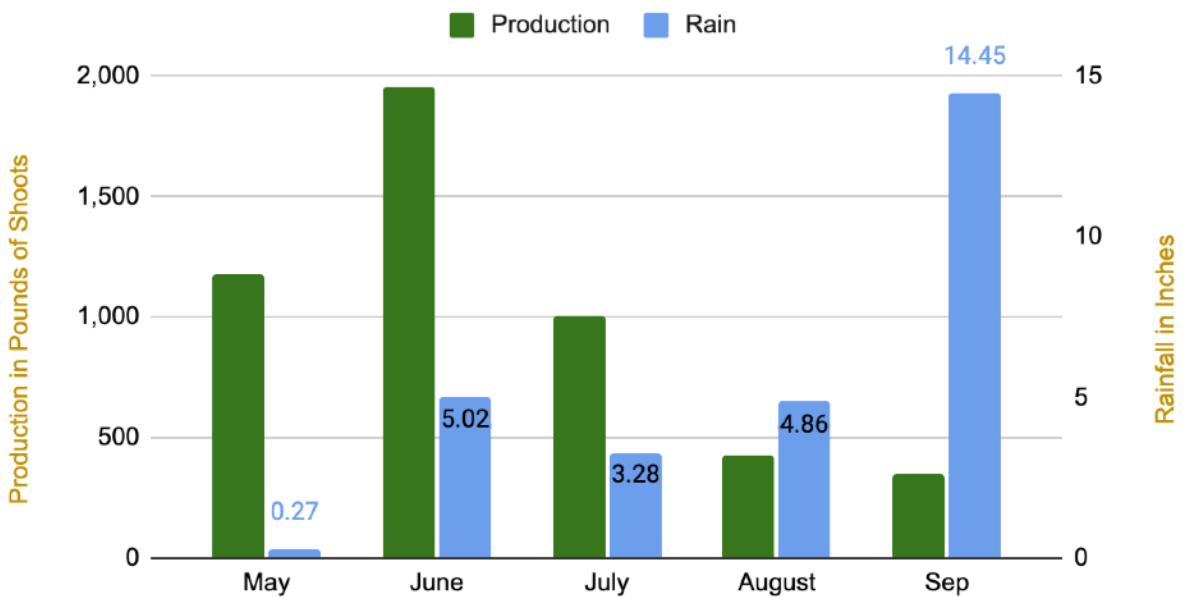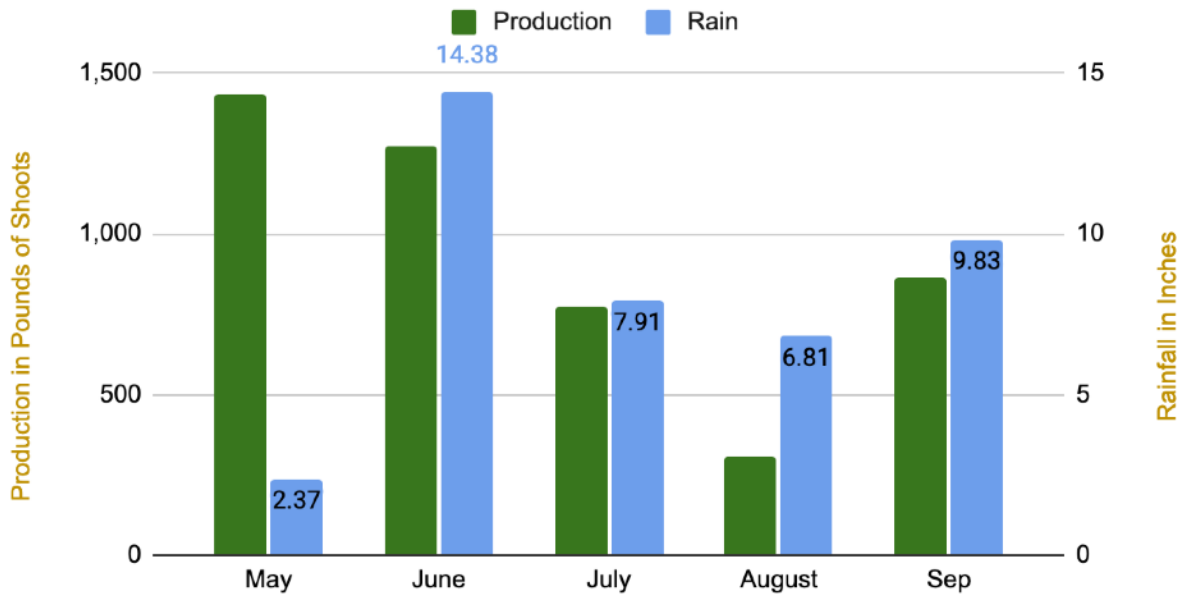
Fatout Production vs Rainfall
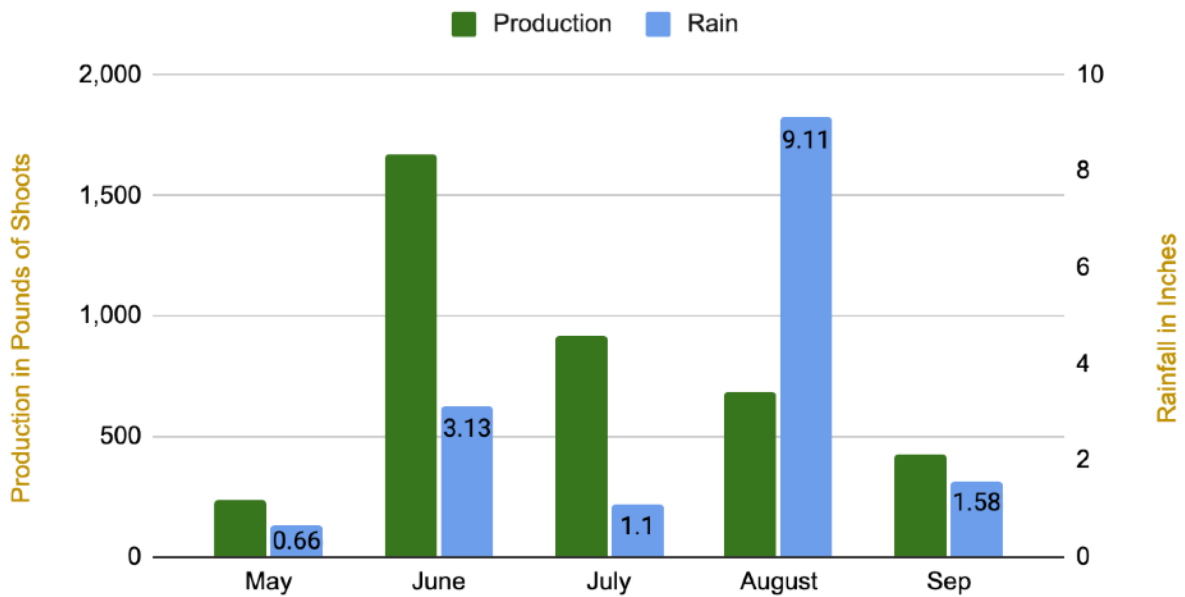### Monthly

Merrick Production vs Rainfall
Monthly

MFA Production vs Rainfall

Monthly

Legend: ■ Production ■ Rain

Y-axis left: Production in Pounds of Shoots (0, 500, 1,000, 1,500)
Y-axis right: Rainfall in Inches (0, 5, 10, 15)

Month	Rainfall
May	2.37
June	14.38
July	7.91
August	6.81
Sep	9.83

Hi Hat Production vs Rainfall

Monthly

Legend: ■ Production ■ Rain

Y-axis left: Production in Pounds of Shoots (0, 500, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000)
Y-axis right: Rainfall in Inches (0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10)

Month	Rainfall
May	0.66
June	3.13
July	1.1
August	9.11
Sep	1.58

Remember that we have one month to go with the season and that will give us a more accurate final count. At the end of the season the new shoots all abort and it is fairly obvious. I thought we were seeing signs of this a week or so ago but then I found the farms producing strongly here in mid October.

Below is a summary showing the quantities and sizes of new shoots by farm. While we have averages of 4-6 new shoots per plant so far, about 20% of the plants produce in much greater quantities as seen in the right hand column.

Farm	New Shoots qty / Plant	Avg New Shoots Base Diameter	New Shoots qty for robust plants
Hi Hat	4.9	2.8	10-17
Fatout	4.3	2.9	9-19
Merrick	5.6	2.2	11-36
MFA	4.7	2.4	8-15

In just a month we will have our Annual Meeting and you can get a complete view and reporting from Don Rockwood, Dr. Davie and myself. All in all, this has been a very revealing project. Please plan to attend so that you benefit from all we have learned.