REDUCING FIELD SPOILAGE OF ONIONS BY TEMPORARY RAínhELTERS
B. A. Kratky*, Department of Horticulture, University of
Hawaii, 461 W. Lanikaula St., Hilo, HI 96720.

Temporary fiberglass-panel rainshelters were placed over
'Yellow Granex' onions (Allium cepa L.) at 0, 1, 2, and 3
months after transplanting to reduce field spoilage. Onions
transplanted during September and December were harvested
5 and 4½ months later, respectively. Only 25% of the onions
were spoiled when they were protected by the rainshelters;
this compares to 69% spoilage in the unprotected plots. The
time of placing the rainshelters over the onions did not
significantly affect protection in these trials. Thus, it
is apparent that rain protection for onions is primarily
needed in the final 1-2 months before harvest.