

OAHU COUNTY EXTENSION UPDATE

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Oahu County Extension Agent
August 11, 2008

Perennial Peanut Field Days with Dr. Ted Radovich

Poamoho Experiment Station Waimanalo Experiment Station
Monday August 18, 2008 Thursday, August 21, 2008
9:30 am 9:30 am

We have been working with Dr. Ted Radovich, assistant researcher in Sustainable Farming Systems to investigate the impact of perennial peanut on soil quality and fruit tree growth.

Perennial peanut is a spreading, nitrogen-fixing ground cover that is used in landscapes and as forage for animals. Some fruit tree growers in Hawaii have used it as living mulch and report improved fruit tree growth as a result. A project funded in part by the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture was conducted on two O'ahu orchards and at the University of Hawaii Experiment stations at Poamoho and Waimanalo. Results indicate that well-established stands of peanut can maintain soil moisture, increase levels of nitrate in the soil solution and have the potential to improve soil quality in the long term.

Nodulation occurred without inoculation in both the Wahiawa (Poamoho) and Waialua (Waimanalo) soil series. Detailed results of this work will be presented at the field days and small quantities of peanut seed will be available.

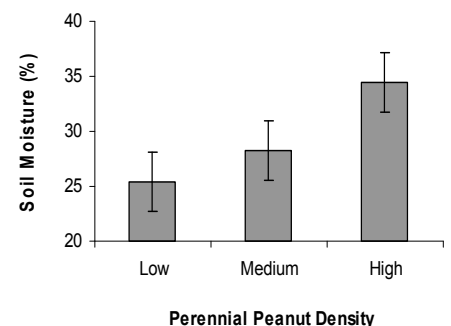
Eggplant Variety Trials

Dr. Ken Takeda UH CTAHR horticulturist developed a new line of eggplant varieties before his retirement. These varieties are currently being evaluated at the Poamoho and Waimanalo Research Stations. The varieties at the Waimanalo Research Station are being grown under organic culture. Preliminary results suggest the new eggplant varieties have tremendous promise. Additional time is needed to test the suitability of these varieties for commercial production. Data about the eggplant variety trial can be found at the following website:

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/fac/publica.html>

Hawaiian Taro Collection Coming to Oahu

In 1939, Whitney, Bowers and Takahashi identified 84 varieties of taros found in Hawaii. Of the 84 varieties, approximately 79 varieties were considered Hawaiian taro varieties. Nearly 70 years later, CTAHR has in its collection about 75 of the original 86 varieties. Within the next week, we will be bringing the Hawaiian taro collection from Molokai, Hawaii and Kauai to Oahu. The goal is to multiply Hawaiian taro varieties and make them available to interested growers; institutions and organization committed to preserving Hawaiian taro in Hawaii.



<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/fac/publica.html> Improving
Spray Efficiency One Step at a Time
Workshop #2: Increasing Spray Application Efficiency to
Minimize Pest Populations and Resistance Issues

Pearl City Urban Garden Center

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

6:00-8:00 PM

In Workshop #1, we discussed the key elements (pressure, speed, nozzle selection, etc) which play a key role in obtaining good spray coverage. In Workshop #2, we will be using a fluorescent solution to visually demonstrate the effect of these factors on crop. Growers will be able to see how adjustments in spray application can affect spray coverage.

We are working with Dr. Mike Kawate (CTAHR pesticide registration specialist), Robin Shimabuku (Maui), Randy Hamasaki (Hawaii) and the Hawaii Farm Bureau to deliver a series of educational programs on spray technologies. We are working on obtaining HDOA re-certification credit hours for this workshop. To register for this workshop, please contact the Wahiawa Extension Office at 622-4185.

Email: Oahu County Online Agricultural Announcements

We have been sending notices electronically to Oahu growers to alert you about upcoming events related to Oahu Agriculture. If you are interested in receiving these email notices, please email suganoj@ctahr.hawaii.edu. If you would like to be removed from this list, please email the above address and indicate that you would like to be removed.

Previous Oahu County Newsletters can be found here:

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/fac/publica.html>

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