



Attractors, Repellants, Trappers and Pollinators – Insectary Plants

By Mary Matsukawa, Class of 2014

The 2014 cohort of Maui Master Gardeners completed their gardens and class work in May. The class created four new gardens at the UH/Maui College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) site. The idea behind this year's gardens is to demonstrate how plants can attract pollinators, repel insects that damage crops and also trap insect pests away from crop product. The class broke into four groups to design the layout of each garden, laid the drip irrigation, amended the soil; based on a current soil sample provided by the Extension office, ordered required mulch, created signage, added amendments and planted their gardens. The gardens are the 'hands on' work of the participants. The experiment emphasized group work process and collaboration. Cucumbers, peppers, lettuce, lilikoi, eggplant, sorghum, beans, sunflowers, many different herbs and native plants such as Lehua Ohia, Ilima, and Mamaki are just some of the plants used in the gardens. A special mahalo to Certified Master Gardener Lance Mohler for working so hard on the irrigation design and installation.



A shot of the pollinator garden. Master Gardener Intern John Torrence created this wonderful banner!

Graduation/Certification/Recertification

On June 20th, the Maui Master Gardeners will celebrate graduation, certification, and recertification. In addition to our 2014 interns celebrating graduation, we have our 2013 class that has worked hard to become certified. We're grateful to the Master Gardeners that will become recertified this year. I'm also pleased to announce that we will have 12 Master Gardeners reach Emeritus status. They have been and have continued to be very dedicated to the Program.

UH Master Gardener Statewide Conference

Please save the date for the UH Master Gardener Statewide Conference on Maui on October 24, 25, and 26. This is a change in dates from the previous announcement. Maui Master Gardeners hope to have an agenda ready to go very soon. We hope to see a number of people from the neighbor islands!

Maui Educational Apiary Project

Maui Master Gardeners have begun honeybee management training. Like the Oahu Master Gardener Honeybee Hui, they will be going through a 6 month training with Scott Nikaido and Ethel Villalobos from the UH Honeybee Project. An added bonus is that we are collaborating with Daniel Downey from Hawaii Department of Agriculture and with UH Maui College EdVenture program. In fact, members of the Maui Master Gardener bee group were able to attend an EdVenture training taught by Danielle Downey. We were able to get a mid-class report on how our hives are doing. We hope to be able to show everyone our hives when you visit in October!



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