



## West Hawaii Master Gardeners Summer Newsletter

*by Celeste Makrevis, West Hawaii MG Association*

2014 Master Gardener Trainees June, Tricia, Dave and Karen created Keiki Seed Planting Day for our Keauhou Farmers Market outreach on May 3rd. Master Gardener Joan coordinated the event for West Hawaii Master Gardeners with the Farm Bureau and Keauhou Farmers Market.

The team prepared a handout with care instructions to give to the keiki and their parents. A separate version of the instructions was prepared for participants with limited/no English.

The team organized potting soil, 4-pack pots, seeds, labels, and watering cans for the day. Examples of the various seeds grown to plants and their fruit were available to help keiki decide which seeds to sow.



A colorful sign directed participants to our booth. Keiki and their families enjoyed taking home their very own plants-to-be.

This project inspired the group to plan a Keiki Corner to be included at all of our outreach events. Plans are under way to coordinate each Keiki Corner event with the overall theme of the outreach.





Master Gardeners Grace, Earl and Maurine led Master Gardeners and MG Trainees in the on-going Surinam Cherry Research Project, gathering data, harvesting 1609 lbs. of Surinam cherries, preparing cherries for commercial sale, developing recipes using the cherries and pruning the trees.

Master Gardeners Grace, Earl, Bob & Celeste continue to participate in nursery surveys with the Big Island Invasive Species Committee. We are nearly finished the initial surveys for invasive plants in local nurseries. Next up is surveying for coqui frogs and Little Fire Ants.

