



Ka Lono Pua

"The Flower News"

Vol. X No. 3, August 2003

Cooperative Extension Service Oahu

County

Illegal Propagation Doesn't Pay

According to the July 2003 issue of Greenhouse Grower, James Deconinck of Deconinck Growers of Rochester, NY, lost a patent infringement lawsuit filed by Proven Winners LLC. The U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida issued a judgement for nearly \$120,000 to Proven Winners.

This was the second patent infringement case Proven Winners has won. Mark Broxon, executive director of Proven Winners, said "We are doing this to protect both the honest grower who pays the appropriate fees, and our breeders. Without breeder royalties, there are no new products."

Almost every grower is honest in their dealings with breeders and patent holders. However, there are a very few who feel that the plants are theirs to propagate as they please. Imagine publishing a book without the author's permission. Not only is this unfair and illegal, it may lead to a very costly lawsuit.

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Future Happenings

- Aug 19-20 Pesticide Risk Reduction Class
phone: 956-6706
- Aug 20-22 CalScape Expo 2003, Irvine, CA,
(707) 462-2276 cipa@cipaweb.org
- Aug 21-23 Farwest Show, Portland, (503) 653-
8733 or ghorning@oan.org
www.farwestshow.com
- Sep 1 Labor Day
- Sep 4 3rd Ag-Tourism Conf., Big Island
Kahua Ranch in Kamuela. \$75
before Sept 1. (808) 324-0520 or
www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/agtourism
- Sep 17-18 CanWest Hort Show, Vancouver
British Columbia (604) 574-7772
- Sep 24-27 SAF Annual Convention, Boca
Raton, FL (703) 836-8700 or
www.safnow.org
- Sept 25-27 Florida Nursery and Allied Trades
Show, Orange Co., FL
<http://www.fnga.org>
- Oct 4 First Kava Festival 9 – 4 p.m. Lyon
Arboretum <http://kavafestival.org>
- Oct 13 Discoverer's Day
- Oct 15 – 16 Landscape Industry Conference and
Trade Show, Pacific Beach Hotel,
Honolulu, (808) 325-6251 or
www.lichawaii.com.

Landscape Industry Meeting Set

The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH) is joining forces with several leading agriculture groups for its Trade Show and conference. "Changing Times: Creating Business Opportunities in the Agriculture and Landscape Industries" will be held in partnership with the Agricultural Leadership Foundation, the Hawaii Farm Bureau and the U.H.'s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The conference will be on Oct 15-16 at the Pacific Beach Hotel.

On Oct 15, the Certified Landscape Profession Test is scheduled from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. From noon to 5 p.m., a Field Day is scheduled including equipment demonstrations, tree-climbing demonstration, and an outdoor trade show with hands-on opportunities to try out equipment from mowers to sprayers and everything in between. The Field Day is geared toward both landscapers and farmers.

On Oct 16, David Minor, director of the James A. Ryffel Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at the M.J. Neeley School of Business at Texas Christian University, will speak about topics important to any business. Minor will also hold breakout sessions featuring landscape-specific business topics. Other breakout session speakers will address topics in turf grass, nursery irrigation, compost and arboriculture.

A breakout session regarding invasive species is also scheduled. LICH plans to produce by way of a work group, a green industry "Code of Conduct", in the spirit of the St. Louis Declaration on Invasive Plant Species. A trade-show and reception will be held from 4 to 8 p.m.

The total conference cost is \$125, which includes the Wednesday Field Day and all Thursday events including lunch. For the Field Day and trade show only, it's \$20. LICH members receive a 10 percent discount.

For more information, contact Garrett Webb at (808) 325-66251 or e-mail kalaoa@aloha.net. Visit the LICH web site at www.lichawaii.com.

Suppliers interested in participation in the Field Day or trade show should contact David Klawitter at (808) 671-0541 or e-mail dkmakaha@aol.com.

Oct 15 (Wed) Field Day & Trade show
noon to 5 p.m. – Kapiolani Park

Oct 16 (Thur) Conference and Luncheon
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Pacific
Beach Hotel

- Agriculture Hawaii – July 2003

Peat Prices Rise

Peat producers warn the price of Canadian peat moss will be going up. The reasons are weather and economic related. By the end of June less than 20% of a normal harvest had been collected because of wet weather this spring and early summer.

Peat producers also saw a loss in revenue because of the weakening value of the U.S. dollar. The drop in the dollar from Jan. 2003 through June accounted for an 11% reduction in revenue. This summer most peat companies announced price increases of 7-15% to cover a portion of the revenue shortfall. Increases in fuel, insurance and labor costs have resulted in many Canadian trucking companies going out of business or reducing the number of trucks on the road. This has caused reduced shipping availability and higher rates.

GMPRO greEn-MAIL, for July 29, 2003
A weekly e-mail from editor David Kuack
Sponsored by Goldsmith Plants GMPRO

Review Of Carbaryl Completed by EPA

On June 30, EPA completed a thorough assessment of the pesticide carbaryl (Sevin), one of the most widely used insecticides in agriculture. Stemming from the Agency's evaluation, EPA is requiring new measures to ensure protection for homeowners, agricultural workers and the environment.

EPA's actions will reduce potential exposures of residential users and children by eliminating most pet care and aerosol products, as well as liquid lawn care applications. Exposures to people who apply carbaryl and those who enter treated areas will be reduced in a number of ways. They include: canceling some uses and application methods; reducing maximum application rates; requiring more personal protective equipment and engineering controls; and extending restricted entry intervals for many crops.

Carbaryl can pose risks to honey bees, aquatic invertebrates and other aquatic animals. No concerns were identified related to dietary exposure to residues of carbaryl. EPA will also conduct a cumulative risk assessment for carbamate pesticides, and when this is completed, the Agency will evaluate whether further risk mitigation may be needed for carbaryl.

A Federal Register notice announcing the beginning of a public comment period on the decisions contained in this action will be published shortly. The "Interim Re-registration Eligibility Decision" for carbaryl, and related documents including EPA risk assessments and a summary of this decision, will be available at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/carbaryl/>.

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If stupidity got us into this mess, then why can't it get us out?  
-Will Rogers

## Poinsettia Pointers

Poinsettia growers have received much of their planting material already. The next couple of months are important for getting the cuttings established, developing a good root system and getting the plants to grow strong stems with good branching.

Be careful with fertilizers during this period. It is easy to over-fertilize. If you use slow release fertilizers, remember that during high temperatures the release rate is accelerated. Make sure your poinsettias have adequate calcium and that your micro-nutrient mix has a good supply of molybdenum.

Monitor root development. Wait until the roots have developed before pinching. Remember when using Marathon that good root development is necessary for uptake of the active ingredient - imidacloprid. Plants should be actively growing when Marathon is used. A good time to apply it is about 2 weeks after the final pinch when the new shoots are 2-3" high. Also carefully hand water for at least a week to allow sufficient uptake of the active ingredient. Over watering will leach out the imidacloprid.

Carefully read the label before you use any pesticide and follow the directions. Some formulations of Marathon are for soil drenches only. Also Merit, which has the same active ingredient as Marathon, is for use only on plants in the landscape. It cannot be used on plants or plant parts that are going to be sold.

Limit plant stretch by using plant growth regulators (PGR's) once the root system has developed. Use PGR's early rather than later for stocky plants with stronger stems and branches.

Be very careful when applying pesticides and PGR's during periods of high temperatures. Watch for insects and diseases, and take appropriate action quickly to avoid full blown infestations or infections.

# Five Colorado Growers Cited For Failing To Comply With Worker Protection Regulations

The largest Worker Protection Standard Penalty in EPA history is proposed for a case involving over 200 pesticide safety violations. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued administrative complaints against five Colorado growers June 3, 2003 for violations of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Acts (FIFRA) Worker Protection Standard (WPS), a regulation aimed at reducing the risk of pesticide poisonings and injuries among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers.

The Colorado growers include David Petrocco Farms, Inc.; Bauserman Farms, Inc.; Dionisio Farms; Villano Brothers, Inc.; and MJ Farms, Inc. In the case of David Petrocco Farms, Inc., EPA is proposing a civil penalty of \$231,990 for 229 violations of the WPS and FIFRA.

This is the largest proposed federal WPS misuse penalty in EPA history. "Environmental justice is one of the highest priorities for EPA's enforcement program, and this Agency will take whatever steps are necessary to ensure agricultural workers and pesticide handlers are protected from harmful exposure to pesticides," said John Peter Suarez, EPA Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "The federal government will not tolerate growers who place their workers in harm's way because they fail to comply with the law."

David Petrocco Farms employs about 250 mostly seasonal workers and averages \$12 million in annual sales. In 2001, David Petrocco Farms received a written warning notice from EPA documenting WPS violations that included not centrally displaying pesticide safety, emergency, and application information for its workers. In a follow-up inspection conducted in 2002, EPA inspectors found that the company still failed to post pesticide-specific application information about all the pesticides applied within the last 30 days in a central location accessible to all of their workers. Specific pesticide application

information is crucial in obtaining the best medical care in case of emergency.

EPA also issued complaints on June 3, 2003 against the four other Colorado growers for violations that included failure to post emergency information and failure to post pesticide-specific application information in a central location. For the violations, EPA is proposing civil administrative penalties ranging up to \$23,320.

WPS regulations are designed to reduce poisoning and injuries among agricultural workers and pesticide handlers. They regulate pesticide use and require workers and pesticide handlers be given appropriate training, equipment and information. Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that agricultural workers suffer from high rates of illnesses commonly correlated with chemical usage. Tens of thousands of illnesses are reported each year. Workers may be injured from direct spray, drift or residue left by pesticides and handlers face additional risks from spills, splashes, inhalation or inadequate protective equipment.

Growers are required to restrict entry to treated areas; provide notification of pesticide applications; post specific information regarding pesticide applications (what, where and when); assure that workers have received safety training; post safety information; provide decontamination supplies; and provide access to emergency assistance when needed.

State agencies generally have primary jurisdiction for enforcing WPS misuse violations. EPA will prosecute cases referred to it by the States. Regulated parties who want to come into compliance can find information concerning the WPS at [www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/worker.htm](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/health/worker.htm).

(Environmental News 6/5/03)

## Agricultural Careers Web Site

Farms.com/Careers is an online resource for those looking for employment or employees in agriculture. The web site lists jobs from rural agri-businesses to multi-national corporations. On the site hundreds of positions are listed.

There is a new Ag Internships section that can be found on the right hand side of the homepage. It allows students to find positions as well as employers looking to sponsor student interns.

Looking to hire? Companies that have agriculture hiring needs can register and post jobs. Set up a new employer account under the employer tools section.

The site has a search engine. Also, you can post your resume online to increase your visibility in the job market. Employers can search the resume database in search of employees.

The site's address is of course:  
[www.Farms.com/Careers](http://www.Farms.com/Careers)

For more information on the Farms.com Newsletters and the Farms.com web site, contact Farms.com either via email or phone: toll free: (877) 438-5729 or Fax at: (519) 438-3152 or Email: [careers@farms.com](mailto:careers@farms.com)

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A man phoned his wife from the office and said he was going on a weekend fishing trip. "Be sure to pack my new pajamas," he told her. When he returned, he complained, "Why didn't you pack my new pajamas?"

"I did," she replied. "I put them in your tackle box."

-Basil W. Hall in Charleston, Evening Post

TriStar Registered in Hawaii

Acetamiprid is another addition in the neonicotinoid class of insecticides which includes thiamethoxam (Flagship) and imidacloprid (Marathon). Being marketed as TriStar 70WSP, acetamiprid is applied as a foliar spray. Like other neonicotinoids it is translaminar and systemic in action. It is effective against many chewing and sucking insects like aphids, citrus thrips, leafhoppers, mealybugs, tentiform leaf miners and whiteflies.

The Restricted Re-entry Interval is 24 hours. It comes in 16 gram water soluble packets with 12 packets per outer bag. The rate varies from 1 to 6 packets per 100 gallons of spray solution depending on the insect pest being controlled. Since individual packets are not to be opened only larger volume spray tanks can be used.

Growers can apply acetamiprid up to five times a year, but should rotate with insecticides from other classes to avoid resistance. Neonicotinoid insecticides target the acetylcholine receptor in the insect's central and peripheral system (a target site shared with nicotine). Some white flies (*Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius)) have already developed resistance to some of this group.

Since acetamiprid acts both as a contact and a systemic insecticide it has fast knock down and some residual activity. TriStar also provides ovicidal activity to give some control through the entire insect life cycle.

This article is provided for guidance and is not a recommendation. Reference to a company or product name does not imply approval or recommendation of the products by CES, CTAHR, UH, or USDA to the exclusion of others which may be suitable.

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I generally avoid temptation  
unless I can't resist it.

- Mae West

## Flagship™ Coming Soon

A new broad-spectrum, systemic insecticide – thiamethoxam – is coming to the marketplace soon – hopefully, before the end of the year. In December 1998 the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) granted Novartis (now merged with Zeneca to form Syngenta) a patent for seed treatment uses of the new compound. The patent extended exclusive rights to Novartis (Syngenta) for all uses of thiamethoxam.

By granting a compound patent, the PTO confirmed that thiamethoxam belongs to a unique new class of chemistry – neonicotinoid, subclass thianicotinyl.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registrations for thiamethoxam have included its use as a seed treatment on cotton, wheat, canola and sorghum. Additional foliar and in-furrow uses for cucurbit crops, fruiting and leafy vegetables, cole crops, potatoes, cotton, tobacco, pome fruits, and turf and ornamentals are also being registered. The new compound will be marketed under the brand names of Actara™, Adage™, Flagship™, Helix™, Meridian™, and Platinum™. Flagship™ will be the label for ornamentals.

Thiamethoxam was first synthesized in 1991 and it has been extensively studied and tested. The EPA has granted thiamethoxam an expedited review schedule because of its "organophosphate alternative" classification. It is a highly effective neonicotinoid class insecticide that offers control of many insects including: thrips, aphids, Colorado potato beetles, seed corn larvae, Hessian fly, white fly, flea beetles, leafhoppers, grubs, chinch bugs, fire ants and wireworms.

At one point Bayer AG and Syngenta AG had an intellectual property dispute that ended up in the courts. In January of last year they reached an agreement on various proceedings in the USA, Europe and Japan. Under the terms of the agreement, Syngenta paid Bayer \$120 million in

return for full access to crop protection and related markets worldwide.

Thiamethoxam is similar to imidacloprid (Marathon) which is a chloronicotinyl. FMC and Valent are also working on nicotinyl insecticides. Because these chemicals are quickly absorbed by the plants and confer activity over time, they tend to be safer on beneficial insects that do not ingest the plant parts. They are especially effective on chewing and sucking insects that attack flowers such as aphids, whiteflies, mealybugs, and thrips.

Foliar application rates of Flagship 25 WG will be at 2 – 8 oz/100 gallons depending on the pest being controlled. There is a limit of 8 oz./ acre that can be used.

The January 30, 2003 edition of Michigan State University's "Greenhouse Alert" has a good article on other "New Insecticide Products for the Greenhouse". Although it focuses on greenhouse insecticides and miticides – not shadehouses – it has some useful information. See: <http://www.ipm.msu.edu/grnhouse03/G01-04-03.htm#1> or call our office for a copy.

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A mother took her six kids to school on opening day. The principal asked how old they were, and she replied, "These two are six, these two are eight and these two are ten."

"That's amazing," said the principal. "Do you get two every time?"

"No," the mother answered. "Sometimes we don't get any."

-Marilyn and Hy Gardner

New CTAHR Publications Include Lei Flower Book

Growing plants for Hawaiian lei; 85 plants for gardens, conservation, and business
J. Hollyer et al. 263 pp. color

Weeds of Hawaii's pastures and natural areas:
An identification and management guide
P. Motooka, L. Castro, D. Nelson, G. Nagai, and
L. Ching. 184 pp. color

Information and order forms for "For Sale"
publications can be found at: <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/ctahr2001/PIO/ForSalePubs.html>
or by calling the local CES office or the
Publications and Information Office publication
request line at (808) 956-7046.

Free CTAHR Publications

The publications listed are now available for
downloading from the CTAHR free publications
Web page at www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/freepubs or
by calling our office at 622-4185.

Economic Issues -> An update on the economic
role of Hawaii's landscape services, L. Cox EI-5
4 pp. <http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/EI-5.pdf>

Home Garden -> Growing hydroponic
cucumbers in a plastic trash container, B. Kratky
HG-43 3 pp. <http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/HG-43.pdf>

Insect Pests -> Integrated pest management for
the home garden: Insect identification and
control, R. Ebesu IP-13 11 pp.
<http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/IP-13.pdf>

Ornamentals and Flowers -> Native Hawaiian
plants for landscaping, conservation, and
reforestation, H. Bornhorst and F. Rauch OF-30
19 pp. RES-142 revised format for Web viewing:
<http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/O>

[F-30.pdf](#) Printed copies of RES-142 are for sale
from PIO.

Pesticide Risk Reduction Education -> Dagiti
pagannurutan ti USDA iti pannakaidulin dagiti
rekord ti agas (pesticide) (Ilocano translation,
USDA pesticide recordkeeping requirements,
brochure with accompanying form), S. Swift
<http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PREIlocano.pdf>

Plant Disease -> Burrowing nematode on
anthurium: recognizing symptoms,
understanding the pathogen, and preventing
disease, J. Uchida, B. Sipes, and C. Kadooka
PD-24 11 pp. color
<http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-24.pdf>

"Ka Lono Pua" Goes Electronic

If you would like to receive "Ka Lono Pua" by e-mail, contact us so we can add your address to our listings. If you don't have e-mail or we don't know what it is, you will continue to receive a regular copy of "Ka Lono Pua."

If you have any questions or suggestions, give me a call at 622-4185, Tuesdays and Thursdays or e-mail me at mersino@hawaii.edu.

Mahalo!

Edwin F. Mersino
County Extension Agent
Agriculture Program

If you see a bandwagon, it's too late.

-Sir James Goldsmith

- ❑ What is happening to the Carbaryl (Sevin) registration?
- ❑ What are the latest CTAHR publications?
- ❑ Where can I learn about coqui frogs and controlling them?
- ❑ Why is EPA fining growers?
- ❑ What are some of the Ag happenings coming soon?

The answer to these and many other questions can be found inside.