



# *Ka Lono Pua*

*"The Flower News"*

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Cooperative Extension Service, Oahu County

## **A Time to Learn**

For many flower growers October is a time to get ready for the oncoming holidays. For some Thanksgiving and Christmas are the main events while others look further ahead to the spring floral holidays of Valentine's Day, Easter, Mothers' Day and Memorial Day.

This October growers have a number of opportunities to invest in themselves by attending one or more of the coming conferences. On Oahu growers can learn more about the broader agricultural industry by attending the Ag Conference. More focused information will be distributed at the second day sponsored by the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council. Also on Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> the Hawaii Farm Bureau Fed. will hold their annual convention.

The following week the MidPac Conference and the Hawaii Orchid Growers Association Conference will be held back to back in Hilo.

This edition is dedicated to these conferences. If you have any questions or need more information, contact our office at 622-4185.

Although they take time from your farms and nurseries, conferences are a great place to learn how to improve and grow your business. Take advantage of them,

and

**don't forget to vote Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>!**

## **Future Happenings**

- Oct 7 Hawaii Internat. Air Cargo Sym.,  
Honolulu [www.aircargo.hawaii.com](http://www.aircargo.hawaii.com)
- Oct 7-10 Honolulu Orchid Show, NBC
- Oct 14-16 International Floral Expo, Tokyo  
[www.ifex.jp](http://www.ifex.jp)
- Oct 21-23 Agriculture Conference, Hilton  
Hawaiian Village, Honolulu  
[www.agconference.org](http://www.agconference.org)
- Oct 25-28 Hawaii MidPac Horticultural  
Conference and Trade Show  
Exposition, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel,  
Hilo (808) 969-2088 [www.hena.org](http://www.hena.org)
- Oct 27-29 Internat. Conf. On Pesticide  
Application for Drift Management,  
Big Island, Kona Waikoloa  
<http://pep.wsu.edu/Drift04/>
- Oct 29-31 Hawaii Orchid Growers Association  
Conference, Hilo  
[www.hawaiiorchidgrowers.com](http://www.hawaiiorchidgrowers.com)
- Nov 2 Election Day
- Nov 2-5 Association of Specialty Cut Flower  
Growers National Conference and  
Trade Show, Radisson Hotel,  
Orlando, Fla. (440) 774-2887;  
[ascfg@oberlin.net](mailto:ascfg@oberlin.net)
- Nov 7 Arbor Day. Free trees at 7:00 a.m.  
at P.C. UGC, HECO sites in  
Waianae, Honolulu and Kailua.
- Nov 11 Veteran's Day

## **Ag Conference 2004: Changing Times – Enhancing Your Assets**

The annual Hawaii Agriculture Conference 2004 will take place Oct. 21-22 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort. Two of the three main sessions will look at this issue: "Ag Tourism: A Practical Look From the Practitioners," and "Harvesting Travel Dollars From the Farm." The other one will be called "Ag Theft: Everybody's Business."

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation will concurrently have its annual meeting, and a full-day seminar by the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council also will take place during the conference. This third annual all-industry agriculture conference, "Changing Times: Enhancing Your Assets," features a trade show and industry workshops.

Conference hosts are: the Agricultural Leadership Foundation, the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. Conference Partners are: U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency and Hawaii Tropical Flower Council. Information on the conference has been posted at [www.agconference.org](http://www.agconference.org).

## **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Hawaii MIDPAC Horticultural Expo**

The Hawaii Export Nursery Association (HENA) will hold its annual Expo October 26-28, 2004 in Hilo. The conference features the MIDPAC Conference on the 26th, nursery tours on the 27th and a trade show that opens in the evening on the 27th and continues on the 28th. On Friday they will hold their annual golf tournament. For more information and registration forms for the Expo see: <http://www.hena.org/>.

## **7th Annual HOGA Conference**

The 2004 HOGA Conference will be held on October 29-31, 2004 in Hilo, Hawaii, the orchid capital of Hawaii. We are planning a gala Friday evening social and auction at an exclusive retreat adjacent to the famed Hawaii Volcano National Park. This is an event not to be missed for it's exotic cuisine, wine and non-stop live auction of exquisite orchids and unexpected treats! The tour of nurseries is an annual sold out affair, taking you to the hidden jewels of Hawaii orchid culture to satisfy commercial buyers and growers as well as orchidists of varied interests. The Conference this year will feature main stream speakers from across the mainland US and the far east. For more information and registration forms go to:  
<http://www.hawaiiorchidgrowers.org/conference/>.

### **“Ka Lono Pua” Goes Electronic**

If you are still receiving a hard copy of “Ka Lono Pua” and would like to only receive this e-mail version give our office a call.

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](mailto:mersino@hawaii.edu).

Mahalo!

Edwin F. Mersino  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture Program

I'm so depressed and I can't get any dates," the 300-pound man told his minister. "I've tried everything to lose weight."

"I think I can help," said the minister. "Be dressed and ready to go tomorrow at 8 a.m."

Next morning, a beautiful woman in a skintight exercise suit knocked on the man's door. "If you can catch me, you can have me," she said, as she took off. He huffed and he puffed after her.

This routine went on every day for the next five months. The man lost 115 pounds and felt confident that he would catch the woman the next day. That morning he whipped open his front door and found a 300-pound woman in a jogging suit waiting for him. "The minister said to tell you," she began, "that if I can catch you, I can have you."

- Allan C. Boyer