



Ka Lono Pua

"The Flower News"

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Oahu County

Cooperative Extension Service,

Prepare for Emergencies

It is impossible to see and hear about the destruction done by Hurricane Katrina and the tsunami in Asia, without wondering how we would cope with such disasters. Although we have had our share of hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, fires, and even some man-made calamities; nothing on Oahu has been as widespread or long lasting in its effects.

Having experienced a category 5 typhoon (a Western Pacific hurricane), I have strong memories of the destruction and how it affected everyone's lives for a long time. Everyone must take responsibility for themselves and their families in preparing for the worst.

A good place to start is the front of the Oahu phone directory. There you will find 15 pages with information on survival kits, evacuations, various types of emergencies and maps of tsunami inundation zones. Another source of information can be found at the Central Pacific Hurricane Center web site at:

<http://www.prh.noaa.gov/cphc/pages/pr5.php>
Don't wait until it is too late, get ready today!

In This Issue...

- ◆ Buy Fresh, Buy Local Program
- ◆ Fed. Grants for Organic Certification
- ◆ Pesticide Fate Database Now Available
- ◆ HOGA Conference.....and more

Future Happenings

- Sept 28 – Oct 1 Society of American Florists, Las Vegas, Ritz-Carlton, Phone (703) 836-8700, Fax (703) 836-8705 www.safnow.org
- Sep 29 - Oct 1 Florida Nursery and Allied Trades Show, Orlando, FL (800) 375-3642, www.fngla.org.
- *Oct 6 How to be a Successful Farmers Market Vendor Workshop
- Oct 1-9 ANLA/WNGA 2005 Grower International Production Tour, Italy (202) 789-2900 www.anla.org
- *Oct 7-9 Hawaii Orchid Growers Conf., <http://www.hawaiiorchidgrowers.org/>, Hilo, Hawaii
- *Oct 11 What should I grow? Where do I sell it? Workshop
- Oct 16-19 4th National Small Farm Conference, Greensboro, N.C.
- *Oct 19 Conservation Planning Workshop 6-9 p.m. Registration: 483-8600 ext. 121
- Oct 20–22 Farm Bureau Convention, Maui
- Oct 25–27 MIDPAC Horticultural Expo, Hilo, HI, Phone (808) 969-2088, www.hena.org
- Oct 31 Halloween
- * See newsletter for details

Pesticide Fate Database Now Available on the Web

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is making available on the Web a database that provides information about what happens to pesticides after they are used in the environment. The database contains summary information on the physical and chemical properties and the environmental fate and transport of pesticides found in products registered in the United States.

It also contains information on degradates or breakdown products of these registered pesticides. Using a query-based system, the Pesticide Fate Database allows users to search, sort, and retrieve up-to-date pesticide fate and chemistry information derived from studies submitted by pesticide manufacturers in support of the registration/reregistration of their pesticide products. Some of the important information about pesticides in the current database include: 1) basic physical and chemical properties, 2) biotic and abiotic degradation half-lives in soil and water, 3) adsorption/desorption constants, and 4) bioconcentration factors in fish. For non-agricultural chemicals such as antifoulants and wood preservatives, the availability of the chemicals in water and leaching data are also included.

This information about pesticides can be used for assessing pesticide exposure for ecological risk assessments and drinking water exposure assessments. The database is currently populated with about 188 pesticide active ingredients and will be expanded to include more chemicals in the future. The Pesticide Fate Database and instructions for using this database can be found at the following address:
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/pfate/index.cfm> .

- EPA Pesticide Program Updates 08/19/05

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“Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures.”

- H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

## Bacterial Leafspot on Mums

We have been experiencing some hot and humid weather lately. It is the most conducive weather for garden mums to develop Bacterial leaf spot, which is caused by *Pseudomonas cichorii*. Heavy rains and overhead watering makes the disease more of a problem.

Large, black spots are one of the main symptoms. Often the spots begin at the leaf margin but may also randomly distributed. When the tissue is wet the spots are soft, but they become sunken and brittle when leaves dry. Cankers can develop on the stems when the bacterium moves through leaf petioles into the stems. Flower sepals become brown to black and several inches of the flower stems may die. Good sanitation is important in controlling the disease. Copper hydroxide sprays (i.e., Kocide 101 77 WP or Phyton 27) won't cure the disease, but they can limit spread to uninfected plants. Some cultivars are more susceptible than others. Growing cultivars that are not as susceptible is a good management practice.

## Conservation Planning Workshop

The Natural Resources Conservation Service and Oahu Soil and Water Conservation Districts are sponsoring a free Conservation and Planning Workshop for Farmers and Land Users. A conservation plan is a tool that helps farmers or land users manage their land profitability while protecting their natural resources and assisting them in complying with current and future environmental requirements.

Location to be determined based on registration.

Date: October 19, 2005

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m

To register and for more information call:

483-8600 ext. 121



The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) is partnering with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation (HFBF) and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) in a statewide effort to help increase demand for, consumption of, and familiarity with locally grown commodities. This joint effort, "Buy Fresh, Buy Local-Island Fresh," will revitalize and build upon the current Island Fresh marketing effort that was first introduced in 1986.

"Buy Fresh, Buy Local-Island Fresh" is designed to complement and enhance marketing/branding efforts that businesses have in place or are developing. We anticipate that interest in the campaign will encourage continued brand development.

An attractive promotional seasonality poster has been produced to help bring visibility and support to the campaign. You can see it, a "Buy Local Flyer" and other plethora of other information at:  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/sustainag/BFBL.asp>

The posters will be used primarily at public events such as the HFBF Farmers' Markets and the Taste of the Hawaiian Range Food and Agriculture Festival. They will also be shared with wholesalers and retailers to expand the campaign and ensure its sustainability.

The posters are through the HDOA Market Development Branch, CTAHR Cooperative Extension Offices, and CTAHR's Communication Services Office. To further publicize the campaign, other promotional items are planned, including bags embossed with the "Buy Fresh, Buy Local-Island Fresh" logo.

## Upcoming HFBF Marketing Workshops

How to be a Successful Farmers Market Vendor  
October 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Kapiolani Community College  
O'hia Rm 118

Learn about the rules of joining a farmers market plus tips on great displays, signage, customer service strategies and pricing to increase sales and profits.

What should I grow? Where do I sell it?  
October 11, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Kapiolani Community College  
O'hia Rm 118

Learn about hot products and how to test market new ones. Learn from a panel of restaurants, wholesalers, and retailers about what they look for when buying ag products.

## Can Thrips Damage Poinsettias?

Yes, thrips can feed on poinsettia leaves as well as within leaf buds, reports Leanne Pundt, Univ. of Conn. Extension IPM Specialist. Damage on leaves appears as white scarring. If the thrips attack the leaf buds they develop into distorted leaves. Thrips populations are higher during warm summer months and are starting to drop as we enter the cooler, wet season. Fortunately, poinsettias generally outgrow the damage by the time they are ready for sale. Poinsettias are not a favorite host for thrips. And they are not a host for impatiens necrotic spot virus which is spread by thrips.

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"Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you're the statue." - Roger C. Anderson

Federal Grants Available for Organic Certification

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has renewed a cooperative grant program with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) to continue a cost-sharing assistance program for certification of organic farmers and handlers. The \$40,000 grant, which is part of USDA's National Organic Program (NOP), extends the application period to September 30, 2008.

The NOP was established under the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) of 1990. It requires certification of organic farmers and those who handle agricultural products that are intended to be sold, labeled or represented as "100 percent organic," "organic," or "made with organic ingredients".

"Organic certification helps to assure foods that are marketed as organic meet consistent and uniform standards," said Sandra Lee Kunimoto, Chairperson of the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. "This grant program helps to encourage compliance with federal organic standards by helping to defray the cost of certification."

Under the grant program, organic producers and handlers may apply for reimbursement of up to 75 percent of the cost of organic certification by USDA accredited certifying agents. Cost-share assistance is limited to the amount of the grant and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and will be determined by either the application's postmarked date or date received, whichever is earlier. Grants are being limited to one per company during this grant period in order to assist as many organic operations as possible.

USDA previously awarded a \$40,000 grant for the same program from October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2004. During that period, 123 qualifying organic producers or handlers received reimbursements before funding was depleted. It is estimated that the actual reimbursement amounts for qualified applicants will range from about \$375 to a maximum of 500.

Hawaii experienced a 30% growth in organic certification during the last three years representing participation that is 10% higher than the global trend. Unfortunately, there was a noticeable decline in participation once the initial allocation was no longer available and the farmers cited cost as the reason.

Organic land care practices by nature minimize soil erosion, groundwater contamination, and encourage the use of fewer oil-dependent technologies, and would thus increase Hawaii's sustainability for the future.

Growers may obtain an application and instructions by contacting the Market Development Branch at 973-9595. For more information contact Larry Yamamoto, Economic Development Specialist at 973-9591 or e-mail: hdoa.md@hawaii.gov. Application forms may be downloaded from the HDOA's website at: http://www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/add_md_OrganicProducers.htm

Bamboo Stakes Now Require Fumigation

Effective Sept. 1, APHIS requires mandatory methyl bromide fumigation of bundled bamboo poles and garden stakes imported from various countries upon arrival in the U.S. This action is based on multiple quarantine pest interceptions, which included *Chlorophorus annularis* (tiger longhorned beetle) and *Niphoma* sp. Previously, bundled bamboo poles and garden stakes did not require methyl bromide fumigation if they were completely dyed. However, due to interceptions of multiple quarantine pests from dyed bamboo, it was determined that the dyeing process is not an effective treatment. Many shipments reported as dyed contained both dyed and non-dyed stakes.

- GMPRO greEn-MAIL, for September 6, 2005

Hawaii Orchid Growers 8th Conference

October 7 – 9, 2005 - Hilo

The annual gathering in Hilo of people in the orchid industry is expanded this year to a two-day conference featuring 30 speakers from across the country and the Philippines. A concurrent mini-trade show will showcase Hawaii's commercially available orchids and supporting industries will provide technical information. An open house day will give participants an opportunity to see how plants are prepared for export at nurseries and wholesale purchases can be made.

The conference and mini trade show will be held at the Hawaii Naniloa Hotel Friday and Saturday, October 7 & 8, and Nurseries Open House will be on Sunday, October 9. A banquet and plant auction will be held on Saturday evening at the Kilohana Room of the Hawaii Naniloa Hotel. This social event has become a major highlight for participants, a chance to enjoy the fellowship of business people and researchers while bidding for orchids, supplies and surprise items.

The keynote speaker is Debbie Hamrick, founder and former managing editor of *FloraCulture International* magazine, now an executive with the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation who will give three presentations: *Current Perspectives on the International Floral Trade*; *Opportunities for Expanded Exports of Hawaii Grown Potted Orchids*; and *Common Habits Of Successful Flower Growers & Shippers*.

Other featured speakers from out of state and their topics are *Creative Marketing Through Orchid Festivals* by Tom Purviance, Parkside Orchid Nursery in Pennsylvania; *Marketing Potted Flowering Orchids in the Eastern US* by Mitch Rabin, Living Colors Nursery in Florida; *New Innovations in the Potted Orchid Industry in South East Asia*, also *Exciting New Plant Introductions from the Philippines* by Rolita Spowart of V.S. Orchids, Philippines.

Marketing is a key issue for the orchid industry. A few of the topics on the schedule include: *Value Added Marketing to the Mass Market*, *Quality Certification: Branding Hawaii-grown Products*, *The Feasibility of Establishing E-Commerce for Ag Marketing in Hawaii*, *Panel on Marketing Cooperatively*, *Transportation Issues*, *Q-37 Update*, and *Effective Ordering & Marketing Strategies for Floral Retailers*.

Speakers from research organizations in Hawaii will present the current status of their work. A few of the topics include: *Bacterial Pathogens of Orchids*, *Supplemental Lighting in Young Orchid Plants*, *Disinfestation Protocols for Insects, Mites and Coqui Frogs for Potted Orchids*, *New Toxicants for Control of Orchid Snails and Slugs in Potted Orchids*, *Effects of Photoselective Shadecloths on Potted Orchids*, *The Potential for Chemical Growth Control in Orchids*, *Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council (HCEOC) Orchid Laboratory*, *Diagnosing Orchid Diseases*, *Ethylene Blocking Technology for Shipping Potted Orchids*.

The Conference and Trade Show are co-sponsored by the Hawaii Orchid Growers Association (HOGA), Hawaii County Department of Research & Development, and Hawaii State Department of Agriculture, with the support of the UH Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources. Don Eberly, President of HOGA and owner of Hawaii Tropicals Direct is Conference Chairman, and Ken Leonhardt of the UH Manoa is Program Chairman.

Registration for the two day conference, including meals is \$80, for the Saturday evening social, \$30 if registered by September 29. For more information, go to the HOGA website www.hawaiiorchidgrowers.org, or contact Ruth Iwata, 808-961-2043, iwatar002@hawaii.rr.com.

A Good Source for Nursery Information

The Cooperative Extension at Rutgers and Cornell Universities publishes “Greenhouse IPM Notes” 10 times a year. This publication has information on the current problems and methods of control for greenhouse growers in the U.S. northeast. Some of the information and the colorful photos are very useful to Hawaii’s growers.

The September edition has information on Cyclamen mites, Fusarium, Rhizoctonia and leafminers on mums, a Whitefly update and IPM in Kenya.

You can subscribe to the publication for a annual fee of \$50.00 or view it free online at: <http://rcewebserver.rutgers.edu/pubs/greenhouseipmnotes/>.

“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!

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