



Ka Lono Pua

"The Flower News"

Vol. XIV No. 1 February 2007

Oahu County

Cooperative Extension Service

Make a Clean Start

Happy New Year! The beginning of a new year is the ideal time to clean up your farms and nurseries. For most growers flower production is down so less time is needed for harvesting and marketing.

Now is the time to get rid of weeds in and around your growing areas and nurseries. Discard old, overgrown, diseased and insect infested plants. Clean up the areas under benches and around plants, removing fallen leaves and debris. Disinfect your benches, getting rid of weed seeds, algae and mosses.

Take care of those nagging safety issues – the fire alarm that hasn't been checked in years, the muddy holes everyone has to walk around, the rotting support beam in your shade house, and especially the broken latch on the pesticide cabinet.

Dispose of the debris that has cluttered your packing areas, farms and nurseries – the pile of now brittle plastic pots lying in the sun, the rotting lumber from your old benches, and the broken down equipment. It is time to make room for a new year with new opportunities.

In This Issue...

- ◆ Pesticide Ed Short Course Info
- ◆ Risk Management Seminar and Workshop
- ◆ Strategic/Business Plan Workshops

Future Happenings

- Jan 31-3 ANLA Management Clinic
Galt House, Louisville, Ky., (202)
789-2900 www.anla.org
- Feb 1 Strategic and Business Planning
Workshops 9 a.m – noon, Aiea (4
sessions also Feb 8, 16 and 21)
- Feb 3 Urban Garden Center Annual Plant
and Produce Sale, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Pearl City – free admission & prkg.
- Feb 6-8 Pennsylvania Landscape and
Nursery Conf., State College, Pa.,
(800) 898-3411
- Feb 8 DOGAH Meeting, 6:45 p.m. HDOA
Board Rm. Speaker: Dr. Bill Sakai
- Feb 19 President's Day Holiday
- * Feb 21-23 Pesticide Risk Reduction Education
Short Course, Honolulu
- Feb 22-24 Society of American Florists Pest
Management Conference
Portland, Ore., www.safnow.org
(800) 335-6521
- Mar 4-11 Philadelphia Flower Show, (215)
988-8800 www.theflowershow.com
- * Mar 14 Risk Management for Plant
- * Mar 20 Nursery's Seminar and Workshop
U.H. Manoa Campus

* See Newsletter for details.

**O'ahu Resource Conservation & Development &
University of Hawaii's AgIncubator
In coordination with FSA and NRCS**

Invite you to attend

**AgriBusiness Training
"Taking your AgriBusiness to the Next Level"**

Learn how to develop a Strategic Plan and Business Plan for your agribusiness regardless of your product, size, or how many years you have been in the business. IF you are looking to really take your agribusiness to the "Next Level", this is the training for you.

Session 1 (Thursday, Feb 1): Discovery and Strategic Planning

Session 2 (Thursday, Feb 8): Cost of Production, Forecasting

Session 3 (Friday, Feb 16): Marketing Plan, Break-Even Analysis

Session 4 (Wed., Feb 21): Technical Training as determined by the group

All Sessions are from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

HSPA Building, Room 160

99-193 Aiea Heights Drive,

Aiea, HI 96701

Please RSVP by January 19, 2007

\$50 for all 4 sessions

To register and for more information, please Matt Johnson at (808) 483-8600 EXT 113.

Registration is limited to 20 people.

Sponsored by USDA's Farm Service Agency, The Natural Resources Conservation Service and the University of Hawaii.

Pesticide Risk Reduction Education Short Course

Deadline for registration: January 19, 2007.

Date and Times:

February 21–23, 2007
Wednesday 12:30–4:00pm; and
Thursday 8:15am–4:00pm; and
Friday 8:15am–4:00pm.

Location: "The Gym" (National Guard Armory building), 22nd Ave. at Diamond Head Road, Honolulu

Fee: \$115

This in-depth 16-1/2-hour short course is about handling pesticides (including herbicides) in ways that will reduce risks to people and our environment. It will be conducted by an instructor from the Cooperative Extension Service, a part of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Instructor will require pagers and phones to be silent during class. Breaks are scheduled 50-60 minutes apart. Lunch breaks are 75 minutes.

Who Would Benefit?

This short course would benefit people who want to (1) be better informed about handling pesticides properly, or (2) prepare for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's certification exam for restricted use pesticides. The course supplements the study packet included with the registration fee.

Topics

The instructor will emphasize the study packet's "core" materials, which provide information common to all categories of certification. But "category-specific" topics such as pest life cycles and specialized equipment and calculations are covered only in the study packets, not in the short course. So people who plan to take a certification exam should read and

study the packet's "category-specific" materials.

Topics covered in the short course include:

- Types and formulations of pesticides
- Understanding pesticide labeling & MSDSs
- Laws and regulations about buying, storing, transporting, applying, disposal, employee protection
- Common pests' general identification features and life cycles
- Common application equipment
- Dilution and dosage calculations
- Pesticide movement and breakdown
- Groundwater protection
- Endangered species protection
- Carry-over, Resistance, Phytotoxicity
- Hazards to pesticide handlers
- Protective clothing and equipment
- Safe mixing, loading, and application practices
- Proper transport, storage, and disposal.

Registration

Enrollment at most training sites is limited to 25 people. A course may be cancelled if too few people have registered by the deadline listed for the training site.

The fee of \$115 includes classroom handouts and one complete packet of study material for the category you choose on your registration form. Before marking your choice on your registration form, find out which applicator category is right for you by consulting one of the pesticide education specialists at the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. Their phone numbers and office locations are shown on the registration form. (The fee for registration is \$90 if you already have a current study packet.)

Registration form: Get the form by contacting the Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center (ADSC) at: 956-6706 or the instructor - Charles Nagamine email: charlie@hpirs.stjohn.hawaii.edu. phone 956-6007, or via internet at: http://pestworld.stjohn.hawaii.edu/pat/Form_Reg_Order.pdf

Deadline: If your registration form and payment

will arrive after the deadline, contact the ADSC or the instructor to confirm seating availability and to request course registration information which includes your receipt, meeting room location, map, parking information, what to bring with you, and possibly, last-minute changes.

“Test Your Math Skills” (leaflet) Available Before Short Course Begins
You may download a copy of the leaflet, Test Your Math Skills or to contact the instructor for a free copy. It presents exercises and answers that will help trainees refresh basic math skills needed to understand the instructor's calculation examples. The exercises review (1) common fractions and their decimal number equivalents, (2) rounding off, (3) per cent (4) conversions between ** seconds and minutes ** ounces and pounds **fluid ounces, pints, and gallons **square feet and acres, (5) reading numbers in tables, and (6) calculating square feet of rectangular areas. These basic skills (and others) will help you answer some of the certification exam questions.

Trainees who find the exercises difficult will get more benefit from the short course if they seek tutoring before the course begins.

If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate, contact the Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center, telephone 956-6706, by January 19, 2007.

For more information contact Charles Nagamine, at 956-6007, fax 956-9675, email charlie@hpirs.stjohn.hawaii.edu, or mail: Pesticide Safety Education Program, PEPS Department, 3190 Maile Way Room 307, Honolulu, HI 96822. You can also contact the Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center at: 956-6706.

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“Luck is a matter of preparation meeting opportunity.”

- Oprah Winfrey

## FedEx to Raise Shipping Rates

FedEx will increase the net average shipping rate for FedEx Express by 3.5%, which is composed of a 5.5% average increase in standard list rates, offset by a 2% point reduction in its fuel surcharge. The company will also increase rates for FedEx Ground and FedEx Home Delivery by an average of 4.9%. The new rates was effective Jan. 1, 2007. The fuel surcharge also now will be levied on some transportation-based surcharges such as Residential and Delivery Area surcharge for domestic shipments. Additional changes will be made to other FedEx Express surcharges.

GMPRO greEn-MAIL, December 26, 2006

## New & Improved Web Site

The American Floral Endowment's (AFE) has redesigned their website. It will have a new tool to allow users to read about the latest research the AFE has supported. The site has information on the current projects funded by AFE as well as an archive of past research. The articles are arranged by publishing date and topic such as disease management, post production studies, or insect management. Users can also search for articles on specific subjects.

You can visit the redesigned site at:  
<http://www.endowment.org>

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After a quarrel, a wife said to her husband, "You know, I was a fool when I married you." And the husband replied, "Yes, dear, but I was in love and didn't notice it."

When a man opens the door of his car for his wife, you can be sure of one thing: either the car is new or the wife.

Red Palm Mite Invades Puerto Rico

On November 7, 2006, detections of the red palm mite, *Raoiella indica*, were confirmed by APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) in several areas on the eastern half of Puerto Rico. This is a pest of international quarantine significance and a direct threat to the ornamental palm and coconut industries in Puerto Rico, as well as a potential threat to these industries in Florida, Alabama, Arizona, California, Texas, and Hawaii.

Red palm mites are also reported to have new hosts, including bananas, plantains, and ginger.

APHIS PPQ has informed U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to heighten inspection vigilance of agricultural host plants during pre-departure passenger and cargo clearance of flights destined for mainland United States. In addition, PPQ has coordinated the formation of a technical working group of subject matter experts to identify methods and strategies for survey, detection, identification, and management of the red palm mite.

This pest originates from Asia and Africa. It was first detected in the Western Hemisphere on the Caribbean Island of Martinique in 2003, and has since spread to other islands including Dominica, Trinidad, and Guadeloupe. Wind currents and transport of infested plants and leaves are the mode of dispersion for this mite.

With the support of the Technical Working Group, PPQ will develop an action plan to respond to the threat posed by the red palm mite in Puerto Rico.

For additional photographs and information please see the following web-links:
<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/ento/r.indica.html>
<http://www.sel.barc.usda.gov/acari/PDF/TrinidadHandout.pdf>

Floriculture, Easter Lilly and Poinsettia Pest Info

For those that are growing ornamentals, an excellent source of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) information is the publication "Floriculture IPM Notes". It is published by Rutgers Cooperative Extension nine times a year. The latest issue has a good update on Easter Lilly pests and the use of Fascination on Poinsettias.

You can access the publication on-line at:
<http://www.rcrc.rutgers.edu/pubs/fipmnotes/2007/fipmnotes17-01.pdf> If you would like to check out past issues or search for articles on other subjects you can go to their main page at:
<http://www.rcrc.rutgers.edu/pubs/fipmnotes/default.asp>.

If you don't have internet access you can subscribe to the full color publication for an annual fee of \$40.00. Send a check payable to "Ornamentals IPM" to: Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Camden County, Attn: Agricultural Program, 152 Ohio Ave., Clementon, NJ 08021.

In reading this publication, keep in mind that the environment, growing conditions and regulations in New Jersey differ considerably from Hawaii's. So you must take that into consideration in following their recommendations.

Hawaii's Farm Workers Receive Highest Pay

According to the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service, Hawaii's workers receive the country's highest average agricultural wages at \$12.47 per hour. The next highest is Oregon's and Washington's at \$10.85. That is up 35 cents from 2005 average. There were 1.08 million hired farm workers in the United States, down 5% from the previous year.

2007 Risk Management Agency Plant Nursery Seminar and Workshop

Wednesday March 14 or Tuesday March 20
The final date will be determined soon.

University of Hawaii at Manoa Campus

Registration: Seminar: Free
Workshop: \$25 in advance, \$40 at the door
Registration deadline: February 28, 2007

Seminar: An Introduction to the RMA Nursery Insurance Programs. Nursery crops are one of the few crops in Hawaii that have crop insurance. This seminar will provide an overview of crop insurance, what is covered, how it works, what crop insurance means for nursery growers. It will also introduce AGR-Lite, a new product being developed for Hawaii.

Innovations in Nursery Management. An update on the development of a statewide umbrella organization for the floral and nursery industry, including issues on transportation to mainland markets. An overview of the Arizona Nursery industry. (tentative)

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Registration Cost: Free

Workshop: HI-AZ Nursery Break-Even Price & Profit Estimator. For potted plant growers. This is a hands-on training workshop on using this new, Excel-based product jointly developed by the University of Hawaii and University of Arizona. This spreadsheet is designed to help nursery managers estimate the per plant costs of their products and stock plants, as well as aid in management decisions such as “make or buy” and product break even analysis. Participants get a copy of the spreadsheet as part of their registration fee.

5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Registration Cost: \$25 in advance, \$40 at the door

Those attending both sessions should note that there is a very short break (30 min) basically to change rooms and allow speakers to set up. They might want to bring a snack.

For questions contact

Stuart T. Nakamoto at 956-8125 or e-mail: snakamo@hawaii.edu

Or

Ed Mersino at 622-4185 or e-mail mersino@hawaii.edu

Sponsors: Risk Management Agency, United States Department of Agriculture.

2007 Risk Management Agency Plant Nursery Seminars and Workshop

Registration Form

Date: Wednesday March 14 or Tuesday March 20. The final date will be determined soon.

Place: Oahu – U.H. Manoa

Seminar: Free Workshop: \$25

Name: _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Tel: _____ FAX: _____ e-mail: _____

Return this registration form with your payment payable to: RCUH 2166

Payment and form
should be sent to:

UH-CTAHR HNFAS
1955 East-West Road, AgSci 216
Honolulu, HI 96822
ATTN: S. Nakamoto

Registration deadline:
February 28, 2007

“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

Drive thy business! Let not it drive you.
- Benjamin Franklin

NATURAL PRODUCT EXPO WEST

HDOA's Market Development Branch and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism co-hosted a Hawaii pavilion at the Natural Product Expo West last year in Anaheim, CA. That is the nation's largest natural, organic and healthy products trade show.

More than 43,000 attendees visited more than 3,000 exhibits. Some of the Hawaii companies that participated included:

- Alembic International – Organic ginger root
- Big Island Processing – Noni juice sampling
- Kona Deep Sea Water – Desalinated deep seawater sampling
- Hawaii Taro Company – Taro burger sampling
- Hawaiian Natural Tea – Organic tea sampling

- Kona Blue Water Farms – Kona kampachi sampling cooked and fresh
- Kona Coffee Council – Kona coffee sampling
- Liko Lehua Products – Gourmet fruit spreads & sauces sampling
- Maui Excellent – Therapeutic bodycare & massage products samples
- Volcano Island Honey - Honey & drink sampling

The State (HDOA & DBEDT) has reserved 14 booths for next year's Natural Product Expo West which will be held March 8-11, 2007 in Anaheim, California. Invitations to participate will be coming soon. For more information, check out the website at:
<http://www.expowest.com>

E-News from HDOA April 19, 2006