



# *Ka Lono Pua*

*"The Flower News"*

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Oahu County

Cooperative Extension Service

## Save Energy – Save \$

Lately we have been hearing a lot about global warming and how CO<sub>2</sub> is causing a greenhouse effect. Reducing our CO<sub>2</sub> output has become a major goal of many of the developed countries including the U.S. One of the ways they plan to do this is by encouraging energy conservation.

The U.S. has been creating incentives for people and companies to conserve energy by giving tax deductions and credits. If you prepared your own income tax forms this year you might have run across some of them.

In Hawaii one of our main energy uses is transportation. As more energy conserving vehicles become available it may make good economic sense to take advantage of those tax incentives and replace older models with vehicles that get better fuel efficiency. One good place to look for information is the U.S. Department of Energy's web site at: <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/>.

And of course with tax incentives go the big savings in fuel costs and the feeling you are doing something good for the environment. Talk to your tax professional to see what would work for you.

## In This Issue...

- ◆ New Publications from CTAHR
- ◆ Organic Growing Opportunities
- ◆ Benefits of Silicon

## Future Happenings

- \* May 26 Wahiawa Pineapple Festival
- May 28 Memorial Day
- Jun 14-16 Super Floral Show, Salt Lake City, Utah (207) 842-5508, [www.superfloralshow.com](http://www.superfloralshow.com)
- Jun 17 Father's Day
- Jun 20-23 Southeast Greenhouse Conference Greenville, S.C., (800) 453-3070 <http://www.sgcts.org/>
- Jul 14-17 OFA Short Course, Greater Columbus, Ohio, (614) 487-1117 <http://www.ofa.org/index2.html> ofa@ofanet.org
- July 24-26 Pen Allied Nursery Trade Show (PANTS) Atlantic City, NJ (800) 898-4211 or [www.pina.com](http://www.pina.com)
- Aug 9 – 11 SNA 2007 ... The World's Showcase of Horticulture, Atlanta GA, (770)953-3311 <http://www.sna.org/>
- Aug 23–25 Farwest Show, Portland, Oregon (800) 342-6401 [www.farwestshow.com](http://www.farwestshow.com)
- \* Sep 9-12 Grower Talks' Greenhouse Experience & Pest Management Conf., Cleveland, Ohio. <http://www.ballpublishing.com>

\* See Newsletter for details.

# Recent Publications from CTAHR

The publications listed below by their subject category are now available for downloading from the CTAHR free publications Web page, <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/freepubs>. Printed copies, when available, are circulated to Hawaii libraries and CES offices.

## Food Safety and Technology

Reducing risk of getting a foodborne illness from fresh produce, Aurora Saulo, FST-21, 1 p.

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/FST-21.pdf>

Salmonella in Foods, Aurora Saulo, FST-24, 2 p.

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/FST-24.pdf>

## Landscape

Color basics for landscapes, Mel Wong, L-18, 3 p. Web only

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/L-18.pdf>

## Palms for Hawaii landscapes

Mel Wong, L-19, 16 p. Web only

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/L-19.pdf>

## Ornamentals and Flowers

Hawaiian ti, Kent Kobayashi, John Griffis, Andrew Kawabata, Glenn Sako, OF-33, 14 p.

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/OF-33.pdf>

## Resource Management

The Potential for Green Roofs in Hawaii, Andy Kaufman, Linda Cox, Tomoaki Miura, Dawn Easterday, RM-15, 16 p.

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/RM-15.pdf>

## New Plants for Hawaii

'Maggie Inouye' and 'Mini Gem' anthuriums, 'Leahi' and 'New Era' anthuriums, 'Centennial' anthurium, Heidi Kuehnle, Tessie Amore, H. Kamemoto, John Kunisaki, Joanne Lichty, Janice Uchida, NPH-A-9, 10, 11, @2 p.

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/NPH-A-9.pdf>

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/NPH-A-10.pdf>

<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/NPH-A-11.pdf>

Tea (*Camellia sinensis*), a new crop for Hawaii, Dwight Sato, brochure

[http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/tea\\_04\\_07.pdf](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/tea_04_07.pdf)

## Floriculture IPM Web Site

Rutgers Cooperative Extension Service produces a publication called Floriculture IPM Notes eight times a year. The most recent edition has some great tables of insecticides, miticides and fungicides. The tables list the mode of action groups for the pesticides. This information is critical for avoiding pest resistance to various pesticides.

The publication also has photos and information about a variety of pests found in the Northeastern greenhouses this season. Many are also found in our Hawaii nurseries. Check it out at:

<http://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/fipmnotes/2007/fipmnotes17-03.pdf>

## Wahiawa Pineapple Festival

Saturday, May 26, 2007  
Wahiawa District Park on California Ave.  
Parade starts at 9 a.m.  
Events & Activities 10 a.m – 4 p.m.

Taste the rich history of pineapple in Hawaii. There will be special pineapple-themed dishes from restaurants including Alan Wong's, Roy's, Ola at Turtle Bay and the Poke Stop and appearances by their celebrity chefs.

Event highlights include:

- Free narrated trolley tours of the Wahiawa area
- Live entertainment by the Na Hoku Hanohano Awards winner Holunape from 11 am to 1 pm
- Pineapple-themed recipe contest for baked goods and main dishes
- Arts, crafts and food booths
- Prize giveaways
- Old plantation games and rides for the kids

For more information visit  
<http://www.hawaiipineapplefestival.com/>  
or call 227-8229 or e-mail [hma@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:hma@hawaii.rr.com).

## Roses Win Top Prize

All-America Rose Selections (AARS) named Dream Come True and Mardi Gras its 2008 winning varieties. AARS winners are judged for 2 years and tested against 15 criteria, including ease of maintenance and disease resistance. Dream Come True, introduced by Weeks Roses, produces yellow flowers blushed with ruby-red tips and a mild tea fragrance. Mardi Gras, introduced by Jackson & Perkins Wholesale Inc., produces yellow flowers with bright-pink and orange undertones and a moderate peppery perfume.

- Weekly NMPRO e-mail for March 27, 2007

## Silicon Use for Growers

Modern greenhouse production methods have often eliminated conventional earth as a growth medium and, with that, eliminated silicon, a mineral naturally found in soil.

Greenhouse growers might do well to add silicon back in their nutrient applications, irrigation or potting mixes, according to Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists. That's because a growing body of research suggests that silicon boosts yields and protects plants from toxicity and fungal diseases.

Over the past three years, horticulturist Jonathan Frantz and plant pathologist Jim Locke with the ARS Greenhouse Production Research Group in Toledo, Ohio have studied silicon uptake in a variety of ornamentals, including begonia, carnation, geranium, impatiens, marigold, orchid, pansy, petunia, snapdragon, verbena and zinnia.

X-ray analysis has shown that some of these plants—such as New Guinea impatiens, marigold and zinnia—accumulate silicon in significant concentrations in unique cells in their leaves. The scientists also tested some of these plants to see if silicon imparts resistance to two widespread pathogenic fungi, gray mold and powdery mildew. They found that it helps reduce symptoms of powdery mildew in zinnia but has no effect on species such as begonia and geranium, which do not accumulate silicon.

The scientists will continue to use similar tests to see if silicon accumulates in the leaves of other ornamental crops and test those crops for silicon-induced resistance to insect pests. Such knowledge about plants' silicon use will help breeders choose promising lines for creating new varieties of flowers and ornamental plants that will need fewer pesticide applications.

To read more about their research see:  
<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/may07/plants0507.htm>

## CTAHR Organic Farming Workshop Survey

The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources recently completed a statewide series of introductory organic agriculture workshops. We need your help to design future organic training programs to serve you better. Please take a moment to fill out our short, 11-question on-line survey at:  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/organic/>

This survey will be used to design an upcoming series of more "in-depth" workshops focused on specific topics related to organic agriculture. By completing this survey, you will help us to insure that these future workshops are as relevant as possible to your needs. The on-line survey will close on May 31st, 2007.

For information about the Organic Agriculture Extension Program contact: Dr. Ted Radovich  
Phone: (808) 956-7909 E-mail:  
[theodore@hawaii.edu](mailto:theodore@hawaii.edu).

## Learn How To Grow Ornamentals Organically

Speaking of growing organically, a full-day track on growing organically is being planned for this fall's Grower Talks' Greenhouse Experience and Pest Management Conference. The Plug Connection and their organics division, Organiks, will cooperate to put together six sessions that will take participants through all the steps of growing certified organic plants. It will range from the USDA requirements to the organic inputs required, to crop culture and marketing. Joe Messer, the new president of Organiks, is helping to work out the details. If you're even remotely interested in organic production, this is an opportunity to become informed. The sessions are slated for Tuesday, September 11.

The Greenhouse Experience will focus on the latest science and trends for producing and marketing bedding plant crops. It will be held September 9 – 12 in Cleveland, Ohio. For more details see: <http://www.ballpublishing.com/>

## Whole Foods Market Coming to Hawaii

Whole Foods Market (WFM) is planning to open up several new stores in Hawaii in 2008, doubling the total natural food retail space in Hawaii. Their policy is to try to have at least 20 % of their goods locally sourced.

This is a chance for organic flower growers to get in on the ground floor. WFM has been helping farmers and growers all over the US with expertise, financial aid, and marketing tools to improve and grow their businesses.

WFM is now the world's leading retailer of natural and organic foods, with 194 stores in North America and the U.K. They are uniquely mission driven: They are highly selective about what they sell and are committed to sustainable agriculture.

They strive to offer the highest quality, least processed, most flavorful and naturally preserved foods. The first group of buyers will be coming over to Hawaii 6/3 - 6/6/07. For more information check out their website at:  
<http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/>

If you are interested in meeting or talking with WFM or their representative, contact Franz Weber, Hawaii Operations and Sales  
UNFI – Pacific at: PO Box 247, Kealahou, HI 96750, or tel (808) 322-6633, fax (808) 322-6636 or [fweber@unfi.com](mailto:fweber@unfi.com) or via their website at:  
[www.unfiw.com](http://www.unfiw.com)

## **“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](mailto:mersino@hawaii.edu).

Mahalo!

Edwin F. Mersino  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture Program

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Judge each day not by the harvest you reap, but  
the seeds you plant.

## **If Dogs Could Teach**

If a dog was the teacher you would learn stuff like:

- When it’s in your best interest, practice obedience.
- Let others know when they’ve invaded your territory.
- Run, romp, and play daily.
- Thrive on attention and let people touch you.
- Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- No matter how often you’re scolded, don’t buy into the guilt thing and pout...run right back and make friends.
- Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.
- Be Loyal. Never pretend to be something you’re not.
- When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.

- Author Unknown.