



# *Ka Lono Pua*

*"The Flower News"*

Vol. XVI, No. 2, May 2009

Cooperative Extension Service

Oahu County

## Keep a Watchful Eye

Every year in Hawaii there are new insects, weed and plant disease introductions that attack commercial crops as well as plants in landscapes and natural areas. Often times they go unnoticed for long periods by local, state and federal officials. It is very difficult if not impossible to eradicate these pests once they spread out across the islands. And the state has spent millions of dollars trying to control some of these invasive pests.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) maintains a web site that lists new pest advisories of new pests and diseases that have become established in Hawaii. Each advisory gives a photograph and description of the pest, where it was found, the hosts it attacks as well as other relevant information. You can access the advisories on the internet at:  
<http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/pi/ppc/NPA>

If you should see a new insect pest, weed or plant disease contact the HDOA or the nearest County Extension Office or you can call the state toll-free Pest Hotline at 643-PEST (7378).

## In This Issue...

- ◆ Stimulus for Small Businesses
- ◆ New Publications from CTAHR
- ◆ Easy Does It New All-American Rose
- ◆ New CTAHR Faculty.....and more

## Future Happenings

- May 15-16 Endangered Species Day
- May 25 Memorial Day
- Jun 9-12 Super Floral Show, Atlanta (207) 842-5500  
[www.superfloralshow.com](http://www.superfloralshow.com)
- Jun 11 King Kamehameha Day Holiday
- June 18-20 Southeast Greenhouse Conf., Greenville, S.C. (614) 487-1117  
[www.sgcts.org](http://www.sgcts.org)
- Jun 21 Father's Day
- Jul 3 (Fri) Independence Day Holiday
- Jul 6 – 9 5<sup>th</sup> Internat. Sym. on the Family Zingiberaceae, Xishuangbanna, China, <http://ginger2009.xtbg.ac.cn>
- Jul 11 – 14 Ohio Florists Association Short Course, Columbus, OH. (614) 487-1117 See: [www.ofa.org](http://www.ofa.org)
- Jul 28-30 Penn Allied Nursery Trade Show (PANTS) Philadelphia. (800) 898-3411 See [www.plna.com](http://www.plna.com)
- Aug 13-16 Nursery/Landscape Expo, Dallas, TX See: [www.nursery-landscape.org](http://www.nursery-landscape.org).
- Aug 21 Statehood Day

# New Publications from CTAHR

## Free Publications

The publications listed below by their subject category are now available for downloading from the CTAHR free publications webpage, <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/freepubs>

### Economic Issues:

Industry analysis: Identifying research and extension priorities for Hawaii's avocado, banana, citrus, and specialty fruits, Mike Nagao, EI-17, 14 p.  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/EI-17.pdf>

### Landscape:

Green plants for Hawaii's tropical landscapes  
Mel Wong, L-22, 31 p., Web only  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/L-21.pdf>

Salt and wind tolerance of landscape plants for Hawaii [revised], Mel Wong  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/L-13.pdf>

### Ornamentals and Flowers:

Care of potted poinsettias, Jayme Grzebik, Ed Mersino, OF-44, 2 p.  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/OF-44.pdf>

### Plant Disease:

Rusts of Acacia koa: *Altelocauda digitata* (gall rust) (PD-63) Scot Nelson, Web only  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-63.pdf>

Bacterial leaf blight of aglaonema (PD-64), Scot Nelson  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-64.pdf>

Bacterial leaf blight of fishtail palm (PD-65), Scot Nelson  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-65.pdf>

Shot hole of 'awa (PD-66), Scot Nelson  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-66.pdf>

Landscape disease problems in Hawaii (PD-67), Scot Nelson  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/PD-67.pdf>

## Previously Published, Newly Posted

### Insect Pests

Guide to insect and mite pests of tea in Hawaii  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/IP-28.pdf>  
Printed copies can still be purchased; go to [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/forsale/teapest\\_order.pdf](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/forsale/teapest_order.pdf)

### Resource Management:

Hawaiian ecosystems and culture; Why growing plants for lei helps to preserve Hawaii's natural and cultural heritage, Nani Anderson-Fung, Kepa Maly, RM-16, 32 p. Web only  
This is an excerpt from Growing Plants for Hawaiian Lei.  
<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/RM-16.pdf>

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They say that when a man holds a woman's hand before marriage, it is love; after marriage it is self-defense.

A happy marriage is a matter of give and take; the husband gives and the wife takes.

# Stimulus Benefits for Small Business

In February Congress passed and President Obama signed The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The so called stimulus bill has some major provisions of interest to small businesses. Below are some of them that may apply to agricultural businesses. To read more about these and other provisions go to page 3 of the Senate Finance, House Ways and Means Committees summary at: [waysandmeans.house.gov/media/pdf/111/arra.pdf](http://waysandmeans.house.gov/media/pdf/111/arra.pdf)

“Extension of Bonus Depreciation” allows businesses to take accelerated deductions for the cost of equipment such as tractors, wind turbines, solar panels, computers, other machinery and vehicles. These are normally depreciated over a number of years which depends on the type of equipment. The bonus depreciation allows for half of the cost to be recovered in the first year. Qualifying capital equipment expenditures must be made in 2009 and the equipment must be put into service by Jan 1, 2010. This accelerated deduction which was allowed in 2008 was extended through 2009. This is beneficial if a business has a positive taxable income. For those running at a loss may receive no immediate benefit.

“5-Year Carryback of Net Operating Losses for Small Businesses” temporarily expands the “carry-back” period for 2008 net operating losses from two years to five. This means you can carry losses from 2008 back to tax bills from the previous five years as well as into the future.

“Incentives to Hire Unemployed Veterans and Disconnected Youth” allows businesses to claim a work opportunity tax credit equal to 40 percent of the first \$6,000 of wages paid to employees of one of nine targeted groups. This bill creates two new targeted groups of prospective employees: unemployed veterans; and disconnected youth. Veterans must have been discharged from active duty in the last five years and received unemployment compensation for at least 4 weeks in the previous year before being hired. The disconnected youth must be between the

ages of 16 and 25 and have not been regularly employed or attended school in the past 6 months.

“Small Business Capital Gains” raises the percentage of gain an individual may exclude from taxable income, from the sale of certain small business stock, from 50 to 75 percent. This provision is limited to individual investments and not the investments of a corporation. The non-excluded portion of the capital gain is taxed at the lesser of ordinary income rates or 28 %, instead of the lower capital gains rates for individuals.

“Sales Tax Deduction for Vehicle Purchases” provides all taxpayers with a deduction for State and local sales and excise taxes paid on the purchase of new cars, light truck, recreational vehicles, and motorcycles through 2009.

“Extension of Enhanced Small Business Expensing” helps small businesses quickly recover the cost of certain capital expenses. They may elect to write-off the cost of these expenses in the year of acquisition in lieu of depreciating them over time. Last year, Congress temporarily increased the amount that small businesses could write-off for capital expenditures incurred in 2008 to from \$125,000 to \$250,000 and increased the phase-out threshold from \$500,000 to \$800,000. This bill extends these temporary increases for capital expenditures incurred in 2009.

“Removal of Dollar Limitations on Certain Energy Credits” repeals the individual dollar caps. Under current law, businesses are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified small wind energy property (capped at \$4,000). Individuals are allowed to claim a thirty percent (30%) tax credit for qualified solar water heating property (capped at \$2,000). It also extends a credit businesses may take for electricity produced by wind energy, through 2012, and for electricity produced by other renewable resources, through 2013.

## Organic Arsenicals Agreement

EPA has reached an agreement in principle with the major manufacturers of the organic arsenicals MSMA, DSMA, CAMA, and cacodylic acid and its sodium salt. This voluntary agreement steadily removes all organic arsenical pesticide uses, except the use of MSMA on cotton, from the market and implements new restrictions to better protect drinking water resources. Phasing out these uses is expected to accelerate the transition to new, lower risk herbicides.

Under the agreement, many uses, including use on residential lawns, will be canceled by the end of this year. For products used on cotton and products phased out after 2009, new use restrictions and mitigation measures will be added to increase protections to water resources.

\* By the end of 2009, many existing uses will be phased out and canceled including use on residential lawns, forestry, non-bearing fruit and nut trees, and citrus orchards.

\* Over the next 4 years, uses on golf courses, sod farms, and highway rights of way will be phased out, promoting transition to alternatives.

In the Agency's 2006 Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED), EPA concluded that all uses of the organic arsenicals were ineligible for reregistration. Following application, these pesticides convert over time to a more toxic form in soil, inorganic arsenic, and potentially contaminate drinking water through soil runoff. At that time, EPA believed that inorganic arsenic also could enter the human food supply through the meat and milk of animals fed cotton by-products treated with MSMA. In completing the RED, EPA determined that the aggregate dietary risks from food and drinking water combined did not meet the food safety standard.

During the last two years, stakeholders have submitted additional data indicating that no residues of inorganic arsenic are likely to remain in the meat and milk of animals fed cotton by-products that have been grown in fields treated

with MSMA, or in food crops that are rotated with cotton that has been treated with MSMA. Cotton growers also have documented the increasing spread of Palmer amaranth or pigweed, a glyphosate-resistant and economically significant pest, which only MSMA controls at present.

In light of this new information, the agreement allows for reregistration of MSMA use on cotton, contingent on the development of confirmatory data. The Agency is also rescheduling the Registration Review of MSMA to begin in 2013. At that time, MSMA's risks and benefits will be reevaluated considering any new toxicity information and the availability of new, lower-risk herbicides that should be entering the market.

EPA has amended the 2006 Organic Arsenicals RED to reflect the provisions of the agreement. Public comment opportunities will be provided when EPA publishes Federal Register notices announcing the Agency's receipt of registrants' requests for voluntary cancellation of uses.

For more information see:  
[http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/organic\\_arsenicals\\_fs.html](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/organic_arsenicals_fs.html)

For additional information, please contact Tom Myers, Office of Pesticide Programs, (703) 308-8589.

- Feb 10 and May 6, 2009 EPA Program Updates

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...skate to where the puck is going to be, not where it has been.

- Wayne Gretzky

I'm opposed to millionaires, but it would be dangerous to offer me the position.

- Mark Twain

## Re-Use Hawaii Opens New Facility

Re-use Hawai'i, a nonprofit group specializing in recycling and reusing construction material, has moved to a new warehouse location at 30 Forrest Ave., in Kakaako. They are just behind the John A. Burns School of medicine, on the other side of the Kaka'ako Waterfront Park from their previous location. They are now open Monday-Friday, 7am-3pm.

Re-Use Hawaii deconstructs buildings slated for demolition. It then sells the metal, wood and other recyclable materials at its warehouse. You can check out their website at:  
<http://www.reusehawaii.org/welcome.html>

## New Faculty Joins CTAHR Ohana

Dr. Kheng Tuan Cheah has joined the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) as a specialist in nursery management in the Tropical Plant and Soil Science Department. Before joining CTAHR, she did consulting and training on plant tissue culture and transformation for Hawaii Biotechnology and Plant Tissue Culture Center, Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council, and Vetiver Systems Hawaii.

Dr. Cheah was also the former director for transgenic research at Vector Tobacco Co. in North Carolina, a senior scientist at Genesis Research & Development Corporation in New Zealand, a professor of genetics at North Carolina State University, and a professor of stress physiology at Purdue University. She also has extensive international experience in commercial industries.

## Easy Does It wins AARS title for 2010

All-America Rose Selections (AARS) has chosen a single rose to symbolize the best in the country. The new winning rose for 2010 – Easy Does It – features mango orange, peach pink and ripe apricot flowers and glossy green foliage. The seemingly free-flowing swirling shades of sunset show up in fragrant clusters atop a rounded, bushy plant. Easy Does It was hybridized by Harkness New Roses of England and introduced by Weeks Roses. To be chosen as an AARS winner, this new rose thrived during 2 years of comprehensive testing in 23 gardens nationwide. In fact, this rose flourished in 15 categories including the ability to resist disease, overall beauty and general ease of maintenance.

- NM&P Weekly E-Mail  
March 17, 2009

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If you would like an e-version of “Ka Lono Pua” send an e-mail message to [mersino@hawaii.edu](mailto:mersino@hawaii.edu). If you have any questions or suggestions, give me a call at 622-4185, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Edwin F. Mersino  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture Program

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If we did all the things we are capable of doing, we would literally astonish ourselves.

- Thomas Edison

Do the right thing. It will gratify some people and astonish the rest.

- Mark Twain

- Which herbicides are being taken off the market?
- What are some of the benefits of the stimulus bill for business?
- What is the latest All-American Rose Selection?
- Who is the newest Extension Specialist at CTAHR?
- Where can you go to report new pests?

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