

# *Ka Lono Pua*

*"The Flower News"*

Vol. VI, No. 2, May 1999

Oahu County

Cooperative Extension Service

## Fairs, Plant Sales and Conferences

When people say that nothing is happening in the ornamental agriculture industry, they must be too busy growing plants and flowers to attend or participate in the variety of events that are planned.

Coming in the next few months are a number of annual plant sales like the ones at Foster Gardens and Lyon Arboretum. This year a new plant sale and summer garden fair is planned at the Pearl City Urban Garden Center. Check inside for more information. If you haven't participated in these events, attend just to see what others are growing and what the buyers are snatching up.

Besides all the conferences and trade shows held across the U.S. and internationally this year, there will be two in Hawaii in late September. The Oregon Association of Nurserymen (OAN) will hold a conference on Maui and the Hawaii Export Nurserymen Association (HENA) with the Hawaii Tropical Flower Council will hold a conference and trade show in Hilo. Call the OAN office at (800) 342-6401 and HENA at (808) 969-2088 for information.

## In This Issue...

- ◆ New CTAHR Orchid Publication
- ◆ Pesticide Applicator Training Courses
- ◆ Summer Garden Fair and Plant Sale
- ◆ Dendrobium Winifred Ogata ...and more

## Future Happenings

May 1	Lei Day Foster Garden Plant Sale
May 8	Orchid Show for Mom & Koko Marina Show, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
May 9	Mother's Day
May 31	Memorial Day
Jun 5	Summer Garden Fair & Plant Sale, Pearl City Urban Garden Center
Jun 11	Kamehameha Day
Jun 11-13	Aiea Orchid Show, Aiea H.S.
Jun 20	Father's Day
Jun 21	Deadline for Early Bird Registration for Ore. Assoc. Nurserymen Conf.
Jul 5	Independence Day Holiday
Jul 9-10	Hawaii Kai Orchid Show
Jul 10-14	Ohio Florists' Association Short Course, Columbus, Ohio
Aug 6-8	TAN-MISSLARK Trade Show and Conference, Dallas TX
Aug 20	Admission Day
Aug 28	Lyon Arboretum Plant Sale, NBC
Aug. 27-29	Farwest Show, Portland, OR Oregon Association of Nurserymen

## Pesticide Applicator Training Classes

The Pesticide Applicators Training (PAT) is an in-depth 16.5-hour training course. The course is open to people who want to prepare for the examination for restricted-use pesticide certification or to be better informed about handling pesticides properly. Five meetings make up each course. The registration fee is \$100 and includes a study packet. Registration for the courses is limited to 25 people. The courses may be postponed if less than 10 people have registered.

The next two courses are scheduled for: Kauai on May 10 - 12 and Maui on June 1 - 3. An Oahu course is being planned for sometime this summer. Information about PAT courses can be found on the internet at: <http://pestworld.stjohn.hawaii.edu/epp.html>

Information for the study packets for ornamental and turf pest control can be found at: <http://pestworld.stjohn.hawaii.edu/studypackets/pcom3.html>

Announcements about future courses will be published in the "Ka Lono Pua" and the bi-monthly newsletter "The Pesticide Label." If you would like to receive "The Pesticide Label" and currently do not, call Charlie Nagamine at 956-6007.

~~~~~

The man told his doctor that he wasn't able to do all the things around the house that he used to do. When the examination was complete, he said, "Now, Doc, I can take it. Tell me in plain English what is wrong with me."

"Well, in plain English," the doctor replied, "you're just lazy."

"Okay," said the man. "Now give me the medical term so I can tell my wife."

-Herschel H. Hobbs in *Open Windows*

## Poinsettia Whitefly Infestations

Dean Krauskopf, Mich. St. Univ. extension agent talked with poinsettia growers last year who said they encountered spotty whitefly infestations just before shipping despite having applied Marathon. In one case, the insects had infested weeds under benches. In other cases, Krauskopf suspects pots were missed during application or Marathon was applied too early. He advises applications 10-12 weeks before shipping.

GMPRO greEn-MAIL, for April 20, 1999

## Spinosad Agreement

Dow AgroSciences LLC and Integrated Genomics Inc. announced a multi-year research and licensing agreement to improve yields of spinosad, an insect control agent derived through fermentation. Spinosad controls a variety of insect pests, including caterpillars, thrips, flies, drywood termites, and some beetles. It is the active ingredient in a number of Dow's products including Conserve, which is used for ornamental insect control.

Under the terms of the agreement, Integrated Genomics will determine the complete DNA sequence of the bacterium that produces spinosad, and predict the capabilities of that bacterium. This information will supplement Dow AgroSciences' on-going efforts to improve the spinosad production process. Dow AgroSciences will also license Integrated Genomics' bio-information computer tools, including a genome analysis system, and biochemical and genomic databases.

Hopefully, these improvements in the efficiency and manufacturing of the spinosad products will help bring their prices down.

The Bowditch Group Electronic AgBiotech Newsletter 171 9 April 1999

# Urban Garden Center's Summer Garden Fair and Plant Sale

The Urban Garden Center and the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources will present a

**Summer Garden Fair and Plant Sale on:  
Saturday, June 5, 1999 from  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The fair will feature the 1999 All American Selection Gold Medal Award winners – *Zinnia augustifolia* cv. Profusion Cherry and *Zinnia augustifolia* cv. Profusion Orange. These cultivars have single 2 – 2.5 inch flowers and make perfect choices for borders and mass plantings. Both bloom all summer and are heat tolerant. Also featured will be the 1999 Cut Flower of the Year – *Zinnia elegans* cv. Blue Point Series.

In addition to these three cultivars, there will be a huge selection of plants, ornamentals, flowering annuals, perennials, roses, orchids, anthuriums, bromeliads, ferns, cacti, succulents, fruit trees, native Hawaiian plants, herbs, palms, and taro plants and hulis for sale.

Fresh produce, U.H. released vegetable and sweet basil seeds, and plant books will also be for sale. A limited supply of compost will be given away free.

There will be activities for the kids, a "harvest your own vegetables" sale and garden tours. The Urban Garden Center has collections of turf grasses, herbs, plumerias, ground covers, fruit trees, vegetables and a hedge maze. You can also see the latest addition of the vine collection and visit the "idea" garden. If you have a sick plant bring it to the Plant Clinic to learn what is causing the problem and how to solve it.

Educational classes and demonstrations will be conducted on fruit trees, vegetables, turf, herbs, tree trimming and irrigation systems. There will be a food booth and other surprises.

For more information contact Karen Nakagawa, Publicity chairperson, UGC at 595-6708. See the reverse for a map and directions to the Pearl City Urban Garden Center.

## 97 Census Info

The 1997 USDA Census of Agriculture is now available. Floriculture operations have increased in number in 5 years from 25,477 to 27,832. The production area for floral crops under cover rose from 656 million to 772 million sq. ft. Floriculture sales are now \$4.9 billion up from \$3.5 billion in 1992.

In the state, an interesting phenomenon has occurred. The amount of farm acreage has decreased 9% from 1992 to 1997, but there has been an increase of 4% in the number of farms. That means Hawaii's farms are getting smaller.

The number of farms making less than \$10,000 has dropped 2%, while those making more than

\$10,000 has increased 10%. Does that mean farmers are making more in 1997? On Oahu, the net cash returns have gone from \$23,000 in 1992 to \$34,000 in 1997. Certainly a good sign. The average age of farmers in Hawaii in 1997 is 55 up from 53.8 in 1992.

For more information on the agricultural census, growers can explore the USDA web site at: <http://www.nass.usda.gov/census/census97/volume1/vol1pubs.htm>.

## Workshop Offered on Aquatic Ornamentals

Freshwater Ornamental Project workshops are scheduled for May 6-7, beginning at 8 a.m., at the Windward Community College. The free workshops are sponsored by Hawaii Sea Grant, the USDA Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture and the State's Aquaculture Development Program.

Sea Grant Extension Agents Brian Cole and Rich Bailey will serve as presenters. Hands-on demonstrations will take place and workshop handouts will be provided. Participants are urged to bring their own lunch, as well as a change of clothes.

For more information, or to register for the workshops call Cole at 235-7329 or Bailey at 956-2873.

## **Organic Farming and Neem Website**

Organic enthusiasts will love this website from the Neem Foundation in India designed to promote the informed use of neem on the farm. The authors explain why the active ingredients work and how to extract them from seeds or leaves. A sample follows:

" Neem products work by intervening at several stages of the insect's life. They may not kill the pest instantaneously but incapacitate it in several ways. Neem very subtly employs effects such as repellency, feeding and ovipositional deterrence, growth inhibition, mating disruptions, chemo-sterilization, etc. These are now considered far more desirable than a quick knock-down in integrated pest management programs as they reduce the risk of exposing pests' natural enemies to poisoned food or starvation."

Access: [www.neemfoundation.org](http://www.neemfoundation.org).

## **Dendrobium Winifred Ogata, UH 1371 Released**

Drs. Kamemoto, Amore and Kuehnle have released a new Dendrobium cultivar to the industry. Dendrobium Winifred Ogata is a potted plant cultivar that is a cross of D Caesar 4N with D. Joanna Mesina 4N. The flowers of D. Winifred Ogata, UH 1371 are two-tone lavender flowers measuring 3.5" across. The half-life of the sprays is 85 days, and production peaks in October through January. Pods were delivered to the Dendrobium Orchid Growers Association of Hawaii (DOGAH) labs in the last part of April, 1999, so flasks will be available in the not too distant future.

## **Antidumping Duties Used for Promotion**

A settlement agreement has been reached between organizations representing U.S. and Colombia to end antidumping duties imposed on imported carnations, mini-carnations, pompons and chrysanthemums. Under the terms of the agreement, Colombian growers would voluntarily contribute to a promotional fund an amount roughly equivalent to the duty amount. Parties involved in the agreement negotiations included the Floral Trade Council, the Assoc. of Colombian Flower Exporters and the Colombia Flower Council. The U.S. Dept. of Justice and Commerce must approve the agreement. Colombian growers are expected to contribute between \$2.5 million-\$3 million annually to the floral promotional fund.

GMPRO greEn-MAIL, for April 20, 1999

~~~~~

People are more violently opposed to fur than leather because it's safer to harass rich women than motorcycle gangs.

– Carolyn Boselli

## In a Perfect world...

- ... a person should feel as good at 50 as he did at 17, and he would actually be as smart at 50 as he thought he was at 17.
- ... you could give away a baby bed without getting pregnant.
- ... forget-me-nots would stimulate the memory.
- ... doing what was good for you would be what you enjoyed doing the most.
- ... pro baseball players would complain about teachers being paid contracts worth millions of dollars.
- ... people would always have good reasons to be optimistic.
- ... you would never fumble, but if you did, you would recover the ball yourself.
- ... the mail would always be early, the check would always be in the mail, and it would be written for more than you expected.
- ... potato chips might have calories, but if you ate them with dip, the calories would be neutralized.
- ... if the guy from the government said to you, "I'm here to help," not only would he mean it, but he'd do it.
- ... first impressions wouldn't count for nearly as much as ultimate performance.
- ... winning might be a nice thing, but that would be about all.
- ... all people could expect to be accepted.
- ... ever once in a while at least, a kid who always closed the door softly would be told, "Go back and slam the door."

-John Gratton

## Goes Electronic

Because the cost of mailing out "Ka Lono Pua" is high in regards to printing, producing and posting, we are going to e-mail copies to those that we know have e-mail. E-mail is faster, too - if you check your mail regularly.

If you would like to continue to receive the hard copy in the future, please give me a call at 622-4185. If we do not hear from you, future editions will arrive by e-mail only.

Also if you would like to receive "Ka Lono Pua" by e-mail and haven't, contact us so we can add your e-mail 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."

Mahalo!

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). Check out our web site "Ask the Experts" at <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/~experts/>

Edwin F. Mersino  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture Program

**"Ka Lono Pua"**

- Where can you learn all about growing Dendrobiums?
- What can the latest USDA ag census tell you?
- When can you expect new pesticide training courses?
- How is Columbia going to promote flowers in the U.S.?
- What would a perfect world be like?

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