

Acacia koa in Hawai'i: Facing the Future

2016 KOA SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS INTRODUCTION

The Tropical Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center (TropHTIRC) hosted the “*Acacia koa* in Hawai'i: Facing the Future” Symposium 2016. The focus of the symposium was to convey the current state of scientific knowledge in management and ecology of *Acacia koa* with the purpose of informing present and future management under a changing environment. This event featured recent scientific and management advancement of *Acacia koa*.

The “*Acacia koa* in Hawai'i: Facing the Future” Symposium 2016 took place at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (Room 301) on October 5th, 2016 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, followed by a reception at the Hilo Yacht Club.

Attended by approximately eighty people, the symposium featured 16 speakers, presenting on four themes: Commercial Forestry, Silviculture, Tree Improvement, and Ecology and Ecophysiology. Speakers included local and national foresters, scientists, researchers, conservationists, and graduate students. Attendees included local and national scientists, managers and landowners. In addition to the invited talks, the symposium included a moderated panel discussion focused on commercial forestry.

The symposium provided an opportunity for networking and collaboration among stakeholders and was a platform for the presentation of emerging koa-related research. Informational posters featuring the work of speakers and attendees were available for viewing and discussion during the breaks between sessions.

This event was hosted by Tropical Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center (TropHTIRC). Sponsors included: Akaka Foundation for Tropical Forests, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, County of Hawai'i Department of Research and Development, Hawai'i Forest Industry Association, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources and Division of Forestry and Wildlife, USDA Forest Service, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The following proceedings provide a summary of each of the presentations.