



### 'MALAMA', AN EARLY FALL AVOCADO

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Fig. 1. 'Malama' tree.

'Malama' is a new, high quality, fall-ripening avocado (*Persea americana* L.) cultivar developed by the Department of Horticulture, University of Hawaii.

#### Origin

'Malama' is a Guatemalan race hybrid seedling grown from an open-pollinated seedling of unknown origin at the Malama-Ki experimental farm. It was designated Mal R2T1 in 1981, referring to the location where it was selected. Scionwood has been made available for testing.

#### Description

Trees of the 'Malama' avocado tend to be spreading, especially when carrying a heavy crop (Fig. 1). Leaves are light green when young, turning darker green when mature. Trees are compact with strong branches and wide crotches. The usual ripening period at Malama-Ki is October. The flowers are "B" type.



Fig. 2. 'Malama' fruit.

Fruits are obovate with smooth, leathery skin that turns purple at maturity (Fig. 2). Fruit weight averages 1.1 to 1.5 lb (500 to 700 g). The skin is pliable and peels easily from the flesh. Fruits are thick fleshed, with the seed making up 20 to 25 percent of the fruit weight. Fruits are tolerant of methyl bromide fumigation and appear resistant to stem end rot and anthracnose. The flesh is bright yellow, shading to green next to the skin. The flavor of the flesh is rich and nutty, and the oil content is more than 20 percent. The texture of the flesh is smooth and without fiber.

#### Availability

Scionwood is available in limited quantities from the Beaumont Research Center, Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station, Hilo, HI 96720.