



## Anthurium 'Kauai'

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**A**nthurium 'Kauai', UH2111, is a new pale green cut-flower variety named in honor of Kaua'i, the Garden Isle, known for its lush green vegetation and beautiful, verdant cliffs along the Nā Pali Coast.

Anthurium 'Kauai' resulted from a cross made by A. Kuehnle in May 1999 between the white, heart-shaped Dutch variety 'Acropolis' and the green heart-shaped Hawaiian-bred 'Midori', in an effort to develop a light green heart-shaped variety for the Hawaiian industry. Seedling 1469-45 was selected and designated as selection UH2111 in September 2001 due to its unique color and excellent spathe shape.

Leaves were placed in tissue culture in June 2004 and responded readily. Microplants were then transferred to Waiākea Experiment Station and subsequently distributed to grower-cooperators in 2006.

'Kauai' has an attractive large heart-shaped yellow-green (RHSCC 145 C-D) spathe, up to almost 9" long and 7½" wide, with open to slightly overlapping lobes carried at 45–60° from the stem axis (Figure 1). The spadix when immature is pale yellow-green (RHSCC 153A) and turns yellow and then white as the spadix continues to mature. Yield averages 6.2 flowers per plant per year. Plants in cooperators' plots grew vigorously and produced large-sized flowers. However, if the plants became infected with burrowing nematode, plant vigor



Figure 1. Anthurium 'Kauai', UH2111.

declined, resulting in smaller spathes with shorter stems.

'Kauai' has a vase life of 57.6 days without benzyl adenine (BA) spray and, when sprayed, can last an average of 59 days. Thus, this variety does not require post-harvest treatment with BA for prolonged vase life. The attractive green spathe may develop dark green speckling as the flowers are held longer in vase. The coloration can intensify until the entire spathe is dark green.

During humid growing conditions, the spadix of 'Kauai' is susceptible to anthracnose (brown to black spots). Cooperators suggested early harvest to avoid the development of

anthracnose on the spadix.

Desirable characteristics of 'Kauai' are its large spathe, long vase life, and tolerance to bacterial blight. Packers at one cooperator preferred 'Kauai' over a similar-colored commercial variety, because the spathes of 'Kauai' did not bruise during packing. Potential weaknesses of 'Kauai' are susceptibility to burrowing nematode and anthracnose, as well as the occasional green splotching on the spathe. Descriptive details are summarized in Table 1.

Mother flasks of propagules triple-indexed for bacterial blight will be released to the Hawaii Anthurium Industry Association in 2015.

**Table 1. Characteristics of Anthurium 'Kauai', UH2111**

<b>Spathe</b>	
Size and shape	Heart-shaped spathe 7.5" long x 6.6" wide (up to 8.75" x 7.5" at one location)
Color	RHSCC group 145 C–D
Position	45 to 60 degrees from stem
<b>Spadix</b>	
Size	3.4" x 0.3"
Color	RHSCC group 153 A (yellow–green to yellow to white)
<b>Flower stem</b>	22" long x 0.3" wide
<b>Yield</b>	6.2 flowers per plant per year
<b>Leaf</b>	
Blade	12.0" long x 6.25" wide
Petiole	15.0" long x 0.4" wide
<b>Internode length</b>	Moderate
<b>Sucker production</b>	Good
<b>Disease tolerance</b>	Tolerant to bacterial blight Susceptible to anthracnose Susceptible to burrowing nematode
<b>Keeping quality (includes 3 days' simulated shipping)</b>	
No BA	57.6 days
BA spray	59 days

### Acknowledgements

The authors thank their advanced test cooperators for their continued support and input. This research was supported in part by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Hatch Project HAW00868-H and the USDA Federal Floriculture Research Grant managed by

the University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Reviewers Richard Manshardt and Kelvin Sewake are acknowledged for their helpful reviews of the publication.