# Maui Gardening

Summer 2013

Newsletter Of The Maui Master Gardeners

Vol. 5 Issue 2



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# MAUI FAIR Time to start your plants!

The Maui Master Gardeners will have a booth at the Maui Fair to be held at the War Memorial Gymnasium in Wailuku. This is the biggest fund raising event of the year for us through sales of the plants our MG members contribute.

Each Master Gardener is asked to raise a minimum of 10 plants to be sold at our booth. We'd like to have these plants in 4" to 6"pots. The pots and potting soil will be supplied for you and can be picked up at the Kahului Extension office. PLEASE everyone, PARTICIPATE! It would be a good idea to start your plants as soon as possible, especially slow growers. Snip a piece from your favorite plant that grows well by cuttings. Some cuttings start better in water while others need to be dipped in a root stimulator and put in potting mix with cinders or vermiculite. Check the MG library for the best procedure. Please use lightweight potting mix such as "Sunshine Mix #4." Please do not use soil from your gardens.

We have found that the following plants sell well: fragrant flowering plants such as gardenia, pikake, geranium, plumeria (rooted or not). Other good sellers: bromeliads (esp. pink quills or other *Tillandsia*), *Otocanthus* (Brazilian snapdragon), succulents, Hawaiian rose, native plants/shrubs/trees, day lilies, begonias, *Alamandas* (golden trumpet), anthurium, papaya (3 in a pot), daisies, coleus, taro, ti (esp. large green, unusual & colorful (rooted or not), cuphea (cigar flower). Herbs & veggie starts sell well, along with fruits such as lemons and limes. Master Gardeners sell only healthy, pest free plants. Please monitor plants for pests and diseases throughout the growing period.

Please **DO NOT contribute invasive plants** such as: Australian umbrella tree, schefflera, ficus trees, African tulip tree, Brazilian pepper tree, ivy, or philodendron. If you are unsure, please check to see if it is considered invasive here: <a href="http://www.plantpono.org/">http://www.plantpono.org/</a>. Label your plants with the following information: Common name, Latin name, shade or sun preference, and color of flowers or leaves. Tape this info to the plant pot. If helpful, provide a photo of the plant, especially for unpotted ti and plumeria cuts.

Later this summer, we will give you more details about volunteering at the Fair and when to drop off your plants.

Help contribute vibrant and healthy plants!
The more we sell, the more we can accomplish next year using the proceeds.

**Happy planting!** 

# Master Gardener Hours Logging

## Thanks to Lance Mohler

By clicking below,

Master Gardener

volunteers can log

hours via the

internet... H o o r a y!

Click Here To Log Hours



#### Cooperative Extension Service

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

University of Hawaii CES 310 Kaahumanu Ave.

Bldg. 214

Kahului, Maui, HI 96732 (808) 244-3242 Ext 229

# Maui County Fair

**Volunteers Needed** 

October 2nd to 6th

Details and shift availability coming after Labor Day

Contact Lori Unfus unfus74@gmail.com

## Congratulations to our 2013

# Master Gardener Interns and Recertified Master Gardeners!

On June 21, 2013, we held our annual Master Gardener graduation ceremony at the Saeng's Thai Cuisine in Wailuku. We have 30 new interns in the program and 28 veteran Master Gardeners were recertified. We are grateful to you for your commitment to volunteer in your community. CTAHR is lucky to have such dedicated volunteers to provide research-based information to the gardening public. Mahalo!

2013 Master Gardener Interns	Recertified Master Gardeners		
Dawitt Abraha	Susan Beall		
Donnie Becker	Tama Brandeburg		
Carole Berthiaume	Karen Bretharte		
Melanie Boudar	Linda Briske		
Rick Cornell	Eric Demaria		
Sandy Davis	BK Griesemer		
Michelle Drewyer	Kathy Harman		
Eleanor Dudley	Thomas Hunter		
Brett Fahnestock	Francis Kane		
Jeanette Fontanive	Charlotte Kennedy		
Terri Fortuna	Geraldine Lim		
Tamara Horcajo	Mary JoMasters		
Marlowe Hyer	Susi Mastroianni		
Donna Mann	Laura McLean		
Sara Maxwell	Pamela Miller		
Karen McGinnis	Lance Mohler		
Elise Mebel	Kathy O'Brien		
Ken Molina	Raymond Racette		
Gwen Morinaga-Kama	Joe Rozic		
Theo Morrison	Kiki Russell		
Alan Muniz	Simon Russell		
Anna Ramires	Susie Saunders		
Scott Shapiro	Maryetta Sciuto		
John Sughrue	Merry Tamashiro		
Becky Sydney	Don Turner		
Johnny Kahakaloha	Lori Unfus		
Linda Tauber	Christine Wooding		
Flora Wong	Dixie Youts		
Larry Yonashiro			
Patty Yonashiro			

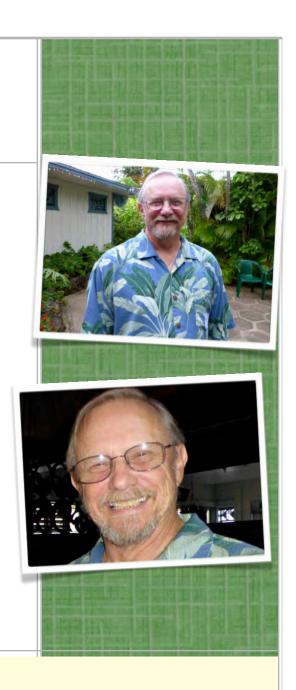
## Outstanding 2012 Master Gardener

#### **By Lorraine Brooks**

Lance Mohler (class of 2010), was named **Outstanding Maui Master** Gardener for 2012. The Maui Master Gardener program did not have a coordinator from July 1, 2011 until February 1, 2012. Lance provided leadership for the program so I would have a program to manage when I arrived. He was in contact with me before my arrival providing me with important information so I could hit the ground running.

Once I arrived, he was instrumental in ensuring

that there was a smooth transition. He trained me in procedures, educated me in what were the most common plant pests in Maui (whiteflies and hibiscus erineum mite), and helped organize volunteer opportunities. He helped me develop and teach our Plant Doctor classes. He continues to be available to help organize and manage events, teach workshops and Master Gardener trainings, advise Master Gardeners on the helpdesk, and provide me with support at all times. Mahalo Lance!



### **CES Garden Updates**

Susi Mastroianni has taken the lead on getting the orchard under control with pruning and fertilizing. In the process, she has instructed Master Gardeners on pruning techniques. Her assistants include Johnny Kahakaloha, Jeanette Fontanive, Donna Mann, and Marlowe Hyer. Merry Tamashiro has provided help with cleanup as well.

Thank you to Merry Tamashiro, Tom Hunter, and Kathy Harman for cleaning up the herb garden behind CSB!

The ground has been broken for the gazebo. Merry Tamashiro and Kathy Harman, along with Merry's nephew worked hard to dig the holes for the footings. Susi Mastroianni allowed Merry to use her digger tool to speed along the process. Eric Demaria has begun to stain the wood for the gazebo. He has been taking the wood to his shop and staining it there. Mahalo to all of them and mahalo to those who have donated funds to purchase materials!

## Meet Kathy O'Brien

Fruit Fly Crusader & Goddess Extraordinaire

Click to read story
<a href="http://tinyurl.com/mh4908s">http://tinyurl.com/mh4908s</a>



# Message from Lorraine Brooks



#### 2013 - 2014 Maui Master Gardener Advisory Board

Welcome to our new Maui Master Gardener Advisory Board members, Michelle Drewyer, Scott Shapiro, and Becky Sydney! It will be great to have input from all of our classes from 2009 - 2013. Our other members Include Susan Beall, Karen Bretharte, Eric Demaria, Tom Hunter, Charlotte Kennedy, Mary Jo Masters, Lance Mohler, Simon Russell, Susie Saunders, Maryetta Sciuto, Merry Tamashiro, Lori Unfus, and Chris Wooding. We elected our Board officers at our July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President: Eric Demaria

Vice President: Chris Wooding Secretary: Charlotte Kennedy Treasurer: Mary Jo Masters

Thank you to our officers for agreeing to serve! A special mahalo to our outgoing Board President, Lance Mohler. He served a 3-year term so we could have continuity on the Board so soon after my arrival to Maui. I can't thank Lance enough for all of his hard work and dedication to our program!



## The Statewide Master Gardener newsletter now available.

To subscribe, follow this link:

http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/UHMG/Maui/MGs-only.asp



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Lance Mohler

Don Turner

Lorraine Brooks

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Mary Jo Masters

#### **Submissions:**

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maryjo@bestmedia.com



### GARDENING CLASSES

In the fall, we would like to begin gardening classes for the general public (Master Gardeners are welcome also). If you are interested in teaching a class, let Lorraine know at <a href="mailto:brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu">brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu</a>. Among the classes we teach are gardening in Hawaii, pruning, worm composting, good bugs, bad bugs, plant nutrition, and orchid care. In some cases, presentations have already been developed. If you have other ideas for classes, please let us know.

#### Speakers Bureau

We often receive calls from organizations to come speak to their groups. If you would like to be on our Speakers Bureau list please contact Lorraine at <a href="mailto:brooksL@ctahr.hawaii.edu">brooksL@ctahr.hawaii.edu</a>. Please indicate what subjects you would feel comfortable presenting.

## Fruit Fly Instructors Wanted





We are looking for Master Gardener volunteers who would like to teach hands-on fruit fly management classes. In most cases, the classes are team-taught monthly either at the CSB classroom or onsite in locations such as Hāli'imaile Community Garden and Napili Community Garden. We have been asked to teach fruit fly management at UHMC SLIM Community Garden as well as at local schools. If you are interested in becoming part of the fruit fly management team, please contact Lorraine at <a href="mailto:brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu">brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu</a> or 244-3242, ext. 229.

#### **Junior Master Gardener Program**

Are you interested in working with youth? Here is an opportunity to work on a hybrid program between Master Gardeners and 4-H. The Junior Master Gardener program is an internationally recognized program with fully developed curriculum.



There is information on the program and the curriculum at <a href="http://www.jmgkids.us/">http://www.jmgkids.us/</a>. If you are interested in working on this program, please contact Lorraine at <a href="mailto:brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu">brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu</a> or 244-3242, ext. 229.

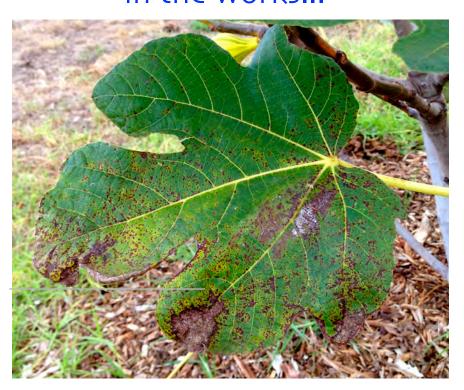
## West Maui Water Shed Campaign

We are beginning to discuss collaboration with the West Maui Watershed Campaign. There are several possibilities here including providing "ask the expert" answers for their website. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lorraine at brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu.

#### **School Gardens**

We are collaborating with Mālama Maui Nui (formerly Community Work Day), SLIM, Maui School Garden Network, and Grow Some Good to provide education at school gardens throughout Maui. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lorraine at brooksl@ctahr.hawaii.edu

# PLANT DOCTOR CLASSES in the works...



Plant Doctor classes will be offered very soon to help with helpdesk skills. Six classes with a practical exam on the seventh week to gain Plant Doctor certification. Classes to be offered:

- 1. Common Causes of Plant Problems
- 2. Diagnosing Plant Problems
- 3. Integrated Pest Management
- 4. Insects and Other Pests
- 5. Biotic Plant Diseases
- 6. Abiotic Plant Diseases

If you are interested in taking or teaching the classes, please contact Lance Mohler at <a href="mohlercl@yahoo.com">mohlercl@yahoo.com</a>. Please indicate whether or not you are planning on attending or teaching the series or just individual classes and what days and times you are available to attend or teach.

Plant doctor classes are a great way for everyone to become more effective on the help desk.



### Job Offer

### **Agricultural Research Technician III (SR-11)** Maui

Job Title: AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH TECHNICIAN III (SR-11) - MAUI

Closing Date/Time: Continuous

Salary: \$2,403.00 Monthly

Job Type: Various

Location: State of Hawaii Executive Branch

Print Job Information Apply

Recruitment Information Benefits

Supplemental Questions

Recruitment Number 213151 - Kula, Maui Employment Only,

A continuous recruitment may be closed at any time. The notice of the last day to file applications will be posted on the Civil Service Hawaii State Government Jobs page of our website.

#### **Duties Summary:**

Performs a variety of functions in the conduct of agricultural research and operations; and performs other related duties as assigned,

#### **Minimum Qualification Requirements:**

To qualify, you must meet all of the following requirements:

General Experience: One year of work experience in the operation of a farm or related agricultural laboratory or industry which provided exposure to basic agricultural/farm activities. This experience must demonstrate that the applicant possesses knowledge of basic farming methods, routine agricultural work operations and processes; and the ability to use standard agricultural tools and equipment, perform manual and repetitive work, read, understand and follow oral and written instructions, and perform arithmetic computations.

Examples of qualifying General Experience are: planting and harvesting pineapples, controlling weeds among growing crops, caring for plants in a nursery (watering, weeding, fertilizing, transplanting): or participating in laboratory studies of plant diseases.

Specialized Experience: One year of non-professional or technical work experience performing agricultural activities in situations involving recordation, comparison, evaluation, experimentation and drawing of conclusions from data; and which provides the applicant with knowledge of precision research work methods. This experience must demonstrate that the applicant possesses the ability to perform arithmetic calculations, record data and recognize diseased plants; and knowledge of experimental design requirements and farming methods in the form of two or more of the following: crop propagation; care of farm animals and poultry; safety precautions and use of fertilizers, insecticides or herbicides; care and use of pastures; care of farm tools and equipment.

License: A valid driver's license is required.

Substitutions Allowed: Relevant substitutions as described in the Minimum Qualification Requirements, will apply.

Special Requirements: This position requires that applicants obtain medical clearance, training and fit-testing to use a respirator within six months from the date of hire.

The information provided above represents a summary of the complete Minimum Qualification Requirements. To view the Requirements in their entirety, please CLICK HERE.

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#### Other Information:

#### TESTING INFORMATION

The examination for this recruitment will be conducted on an unassembled basis where the examination score is based on an evaluation and rating of your education and experience. It is therefore important that your employment application provide a clear and detailed description of the duties and responsibilities of each position you held.

CLICK HERE for further information about Equal Employment Opportunity, the Merit Civil Service System, Citizenship and other requirements. Reasonable Accommodation, Veterans Preference, Examination Requirements, and the State Recruiting Office's Levels of Review.

**CLICK HERE** 

http://tinyurl.com/lb6nn4o

**CLICK HERE** 

### Featured Pest

### by Lance Mohler

## Torpedo Bugs

While scouting my Ti plants after a recent wind storm, I came across a pale green insect covered with a white powdery dust, about 1/10 inch (2.4 mm) long with white, waxy filaments extending from the last two abdominal segments. The configuration of the filaments reminded me of an artist's paint brush. These are the characteristics of early stage *Siphanta* acuta nymphs; plant hoppers that are members of the suborder Homoptera and commonly known as Torpedo Bugs.

Originally from Australia, this pest came to Hawaii sometime before 1898 and is now present on all major islands. Like most soft bodied, piercing, sucking insects such as aphids, mealybugs and scales, plant hoppers produce honeydew. Honeydew tends to attract ants and trap black sooty mold spores. Heavy black sooty mold infestation decreases photosynthesis, often causes disfigurement of the host and decreases vigor making the host susceptible to disease.

Torpedo bugs undergo five nymph stages, called instars, which are each separated by molts. Molting usually occurs at night or in the early morning. Young nymphs generally feed on leaves. Older nymphs prefer stems. Adult torpedo bugs are vivid green and generally slightly larger than one inch. They are triangular in shape with pink eyes and a pointed head. They look like leaves or plant spines when resting on the tree trunk. The forewings, called tegmina, cover the body like the sides of a sloping roof when the insect is at rest. Veins in the outer wings mimic the veins of a leaf.

Torpedo bugs have several predators and parasites. A parasitoid wasp, *Aphanomerus* pusillus, introduced in 1904, is an effective torpedo bug controller by laying eggs in the pests' eggs. Another wasp, *Chrysopa* microphya, preys on nymphs. Several coccinellid beetles feed on torpedo bug eggs. In wet areas, adults are susceptible to a parasitic fungus that will eradicate the pest.





#### Kanani Herb Garden

I'm the property manager of a residential condo complex in Wailea. When I'm not busy working with the residents or taking care of the pool and recreation center, I can be found brainstorming and implementing new ideas for our extensive landscaping. We have slightly more than 8 acres of land with 38 homes and my job is to create a lush environment for the owners and guests to enjoy.

We had a large barren area in the middle of our property requiring new groundcover. Initially we chose to plant rosemary because of its beautiful aesthetics and aroma. Many of the residents were excited when they discovered this area as they were able to pick the herb for cooking. My manager informed me that herb gardens are not permitted on the property for health reasons due to possible pesticide contamination. Knowing this, I chose to switch from chemical pesticides to horticultural oil for environmental and health reasons and to enhance the quality of the plants. Despite the objection from my manager, we proceeded to plant additional herbs, including parsley, basil, chives, oregano and sage. My landscapers and I kept this new garden a secret until it was healthy and ready for picking.

One morning when our landscaping committee performed a walk-through of the property, my manager noticed the new herb garden thriving and asked why it was planted. I facetiously replied, "its just ground cover." But because I switched the property to an environmentally friendly and organic pesticide, she now visits on her free time to pick herbs from our garden for cooking! I used the knowledge from my master gardening class to design the garden and maintain it properly. In doing so, I was able to win over my manager and add more amenities for the residents, which I know they appreciate. Many residents use the garden daily and the word is spreading in Wailea – other communities are considering adding herb gardens too!

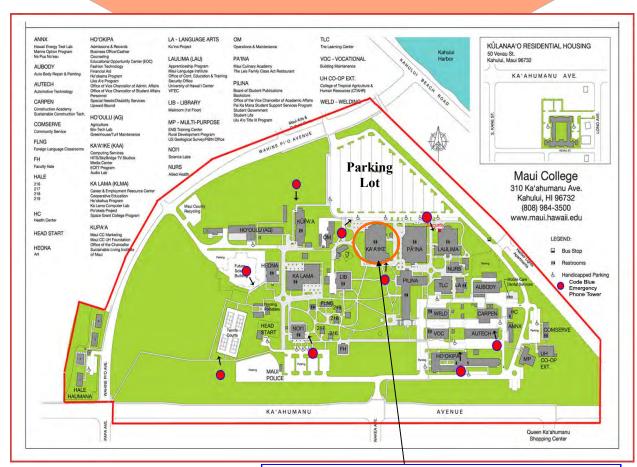
## Free

#### FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP # 715

Maui College –Ka'a'ike Room #105 C,D,E 310 Ka'ahumanu Avenue Kahului, Maui August 5 & 6, 2013

For Registration, contact: John Nakashima RS Food Safety Consultative and Education Program 1582 Kamehameha Ave. Hilo, Hawaii 96720

808-933-0931 • john.nakashima@doh.hawaii.gov



Ka'aike Building Room #105 C,D,E Food Safety Workshop August 5 & 6, 2013

## Maui Master Gardener Calendar

The calendar can be found at <a href="https://calendar.google.com">https://calendar.google.com</a>

Log In: mauimg@ctahr.hawaii.edu

Password: ••••••

## August 2013

	mg@ctahr.hawaii.edu, Contacts' birthdays and events, US Holidays					Aug 2013 (Hawaii Time)		
Sun	0.0	Mon 29	Tue 30	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
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