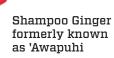


WHAT'S IN A NAME



Photos: Forest & Kim Starr

here's been a surge of professionals and consumers over the past 10 years actively seeking to utilize native plants for their homes and landscaping projects. Most folks are aware and comfortable using the tried and true fifteen or so native and canoe plants like Naupaka, Hala, Pohinahina, Ti, Ohi'a, Kukui, 'A'alii, Hapu'u, 'Uki'uki, Koa, 'Akia, Kalo, Koki'o, Maile, Milo, and 'Ilie'e. Plus often these are the only native plants

available if they are available at nurseries and consumer big boxes like Home Depot or Lowes.

Unfortunately there are many nonnative plants over the years that have been given Hawaiian names. This has lead to years of confusion among both consumers and landscape professionals. It's time to call these plants by their common names.

Here's some of the commonly used nonnative plants with Hawaiian names.

LOCAL NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	NATIVE HABITAT
Pakalana	Telosma cordata	Chinese violet	India
Kiawe	Prosopis pallida	Mesquite	U.S. Southwest
Loulu	Pritchardia pacifica	Fiji Fan Palm	Fiji
Puakinikini	Fagraea berteroana	Australian Gardenia	Other pacific islands
Pikake	Jasminum sambac	Arab Jasmine	Saudi Arabia
Ali'ipoe	Canna indica	Indian Shot	Tropical America
Wai'wi	Psidium cattleianum	Strawberry Guava	Brazil
Koa Haole	Leucaena leucocephala	White Leadtree	Mexico, Guatemala
'Awapuhi	Zingiber zerumbet	Shampoo Ginger	India and the Malay Peninsula
Laua'e	Phymatosorus grossus	Musk Fern	Parts of Oceania and tropical Asia, not a canoe plant
Liliko'i	Passiflora edulis f. flavicarpa	Yellow Passionfruit	Amazon region in Brazil
Maile Pilau	Paederia foetida	Stinkvine	East Asia
Hawaiian Wood Rose	Merremia tuberosa	Woodrose	Mexico and Central America
Kahili Ginger	Hedychium gardnerianum	Himalayan Ginger	Himalaya
'Awapuhi melemele	Hedychium flavescens	Yellow Ginger	Himalaya
Prince Kuhio Vine	Ipomoea horsfalliae	Cardinal Creeper	West Indies native
Ni'oi or Hawaiian Chili Pepper	Capsicum annuum	Chili Pepper	North America and South America
Ka'u orange	Citrus sinensis	Orange Tree	Southeast Asia
'Ohai ali'i	Caesalpinia pulcherrima	Dwarf Poinciana	Tropics and Subtropics of the Americas
Kikania	Xanthium strumarium var. canadense	Cocklebur	North America
Kukunaokala	Rhizophora mangle	Red Mangrove	Tropical America
Pua melia	Plumeria species	Frangipani, Plumeria	Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and South America
Lokelani	Rosa chinensis	Rose	Southwest China

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Musk Fern formerly known as Laua'e

Take the time today to share this list with your design, webmaster and nursery staff and make sure today is the last day that your business is adding to the confusion of what's native and not. Start using the correct common names. Change your website, drawings, publications, specifications, catalog, and plant tags. Don't speak them again and definitely don't give another nonnative plant a Hawaiian name. Let's fix this once and for all. We can do this!

Chris Dacus is a landscape architect and arborist for the Hawaii Department of Transportation and the president of LICH.

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