



## University of Hawai'i Master Gardener Program

### Meet Dr. Cynthia Nazario-Leary

*Urban Horticulture, UH-CTAHR, TPSS, Maui-CES*



Dr. Cynthia Nazario-Leary has 14 years of educational and leadership experience in horticulture and natural resource management in Hawaii. She received her B.S. in Landscape Contracting from The Pennsylvania State University. Her passion for community service and ethnobotany led her to Hawai'i to study propagation methods of breadfruit and receive a M.S. in Horticulture from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She continued her studies at the University of Hawai'i to complete a doctorate in Natural Resources & Environmental Management, where she researched the development of an understory native plant agroforestry system.

Dr. Nazario-Leary moved to Maui in 2009 where she later directed the New Farmers Network in the Agriculture & Natural Resources program at UH Maui College; connecting emerging farmers with land and other agricul-

tural opportunities and resources. In addition to the New Farmers Network, Dr. Nazario-Leary taught courses in horticultural principles and tree pruning for UHMC and classes on native plants and landscape design for the Master Gardener program at the Cooperative Extension Service.

Dr. Nazario-Leary recently completed the Hawaii Agricultural Leadership Program where she gained first-hand knowledge of successful agricultural enterprises across the State of Hawai'i. Dr. Nazario-Leary has also extended her expertise and service to Maui Nui Botanical Gardens where she serves as President of the Board of Directors. She currently resides in Kula with her husband Dr. James Leary and their two children. She can be contacted at 808-244-3242, ext. 229 or [cnazario@hawaii.edu](mailto:cnazario@hawaii.edu).