

Dear Growers and Friends,

New Publication - Grafted Coffee Increases Yield and Survivability - <https://bit.ly/2XAmhID>



Abstract: Kona coffee root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogyne konaensis*) cause severe declines in ‘Kona Typica’ arabica coffee (*Coffea arabica*) trees in Hawaii. Defoliation and destruction of the root system result in significant yield losses and can kill the host. Grafting with other coffee (*Coffea*) species that exhibit tolerance to kona coffee root-knot nematodes is a viable solution for mitigating damage in the field. An infested field was established in 2006 with ‘Kona Typica’ scions grafted on seven accessions of promising rootstock and nongrafted ‘Kona Typica’ as the control. Four grafted trees of each accession were planted per plot with

four repetitions. Yield data were assessed for the 2016–17, 2017–18, and 2018–19 seasons. Three liberica coffee (*Coffea liberica*) accessions [‘Arnoldiana’ (‘Arnoldiana’ 1 and ‘Arnoldiana’ 2), ‘Dewevrei’, and ‘Fukunaga’ 1], demonstrated higher yields of coffee cherry compared with nongrafted ‘Kona Typica’ in the 2016–17 season. In the 2017–18 and 2018–19 seasons, five accessions of liberica and ‘Nemaya’ robusta coffee (*Coffea canephora*) exhibited higher cherry yields than ‘Kona Typica’. Plant vigor was greater in trees grafted on ‘Arnoldiana’ and ‘Fukunaga’ compared with other accessions and nongrafted ‘Kona Typica’, with taller trees, higher vertical branches, thicker trunk circumferences, and overall better health. After 13 years in the field, nongrafted ‘Kona Typica’ showed the highest mortality, with 81% of trees lost. Liberica rootstocks performed consistently well in the presence of kona coffee root-knot nematodes [CRKN], with the healthiest trees, highest yields, and least mortality of the coffee species evaluated.

**Report Queensland Longhorn Beetle Sightings in Hawaii to
USDA ARS**

<https://arcg.is/0W8bf1>

There's also the **643pest.org** website and mobile app available to report invasive species throughout the state.



Hawaii Avocado Association's Website Launched

<https://www.hawaiiavocadoassociation.com>

Hawaii Coffee Association Webinars

Save the Date! Hawaii Coffee Association is hosting a webinar on June 24th and 25th designed to provide insights into the current state of Hawaii's and the global coffee industry, and to offer information to help them cope with the current conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. I will join to provide a CTAHR update.

-Andrea

UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Offices was closed on the following days:
Thursday, June 11th, in observance of King Kamehameha Day

Visit <https://www.hawaiicoffeeed.com/events-and-announcements> for additional information on the following events, announcements and more.

ADSC: Closed for Remodeling

Last day to receive samples is June 10... no exceptions!

The Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center (ADSC) will be closed from Wednesday, June 10, through Monday, July 13. The ADSC, located in Sherman Laboratory, is entering a major phase of HVAC construction work. Currently the entire second floor is sealed off with a ventilation system, along with a chute and dumpster for construction debris.

Please note: The last day for the ADSC to receive samples is Wednesday, June 10, 2020, and no exceptions will be made. The office will not handle any samples received after this date. The ADSC will tentatively reopen on Monday, July 13, 2020. During the closure and construction, the UH Seed Laboratory may not be able to receive and fill seed orders.

CTAHR's Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center is a service unit that conducts analyses and diagnostic tests for the people and businesses of Hawai'i:

- plant disease analyses
- feed and forage analyses
- insect identification analyses
- chemical analyses of soils
- chemical analyses of plant tissue
- chemical analyses of water and nutrient solutions.
- Note: pesticide residue analysis is conducted by CTAHR's Dept. of Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering.

For questions, please contact Darren Park at darrenp@hawaii.edu

Hawaii Island ADSC can still accept insect, nematode and disease samples

ExpoSeason Coffee Workshops

#ExpoSeason offers multiple hands-on learning opportunities for different skillsets within coffee, designed for discussion and engagement with expert instructors.

Read more about ExpoSeason's workshops and lectures at <https://bit.ly/3cZhoPC>

Roasting Styles Exploration

- Friday, May 29, 2020
- 7:00 am
- Register at <https://bit.ly/2XkHNkl>

Occam's Razor: Controlling Variables for Better Coffee Brewing

- Friday, June 5, 2020
- 10:00 am
- Register at <https://bit.ly/36sbpka>

The Science Behind the Flavor Wheel

- Friday, June 12, 2020
 - 7:00 am
 - Register at <https://bit.ly/2yviDr0>
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CAFF: Take Steps Now to Prepare for Coronavirus Assistance

Since the COVID-19 crisis hit, CAFF has been working hard with our allies at the state and national levels, urging our government to not only provide relief for the agricultural industry, but to make sure these funds reach *family* farms, smaller-scale businesses, local food systems and historically underserved communities. While we've already seen proof of inequitable distribution of federal funds, we still

encourage all impacted farmers to pursue the CFAP funds below as well as other government relief. Meanwhile, we at CAFF will keep fighting on your behalf.

Take Steps Now to Prepare for Coronavirus Assistance

The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) will provide direct support based on losses for agriculture producers where prices and market supply chains have been significantly impacted and will assist eligible producers facing additional adjustment and marketing costs resulting from lost demand and short-term oversupply for the 2020 marketing year caused by COVID-19.

CFAP will provide assistance to most farms that have experienced at least a five percent loss and will be available to farms regardless of size. USDA is still working on the final details of the actual payment rates and those details will be determined and included as part of the rule-making process.

Once the rule making process is complete, the application period will be open and subject to the eligibility and payment limit criteria described in the rule.

As part of applying for the program, you'll need to contact the Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office to schedule an appointment: <https://bit.ly/36slRYH>

Your local FSA staff will work with you to apply for the program, and through forms asking for this type of information:

- Contact
- Personal, including your Tax Identification Number
- Farming operating structure
- Adjusted Gross Income to ensure eligibility
- Direct deposit to enable payment

Please do not send any personal information to USDA without first initiating contact through a phone call. They take your privacy and security of your information very seriously. If you are an existing customer, this information is likely on file at your local Service Center.

What Can You Do Now?

While the application process has not started, you can start gathering / understanding your farm's recent sales and inventory. FSA has streamlined the signup process to not require an acreage report at the time of application and a USDA farm number may not be immediately needed.

How Will USDA Accept Applications?

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. Once the application period opens, call your FSA county office to schedule an appointment.

Information on CFAP can be found at farmers.gov/CFAP

COVID-19 Stimulus Bill: What It Means for States

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) provides an estimated \$2 trillion stimulus package to battle the harmful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. A few highlights of what's included in the package:

- Creates a \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund for state, local and tribal governments. See estimated state allocations courtesy of Federal Funds Information for States: <https://bit.ly/2XnApoh>
- \$30 billion for an Education Stabilization Fund for states, school districts and institutions of higher education for costs related to the coronavirus.
- \$45 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund for the immediate needs of state, local, tribal and territorial governments to protect citizens and help them respond and recover from the overwhelming effects of COVID-19.
- \$1.4 billion for deployments of the National Guard. This level of funding will sustain up to 20,000 members of the National Guard, under the direction of the governors of each state, for the next six months in order to support state and local response efforts.
- An additional \$4.3 billion, thorough the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to support federal, state and local public health agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.
- Requires the Department of Homeland Security to extend the Real ID deadline for full implementation by states from Oct. 1, 2020, to no earlier than Sept. 30, 2021. DHS subsequently announced that the new deadline would be Oct. 1, 2021: <https://bit.ly/2AUKOQX>
- \$25 billion for transit systems. To see specific funding amounts determined by the Federal Transit Administration which are now available for use visit <https://bit.ly/2zmSMSr>. These funds are being distributed through existing formulas including the Urbanized Area Formula Grants, Formula Grants for Rural Areas, State of Good Repair Formula Grants and Growing and High-Density States Formula Grants using fiscal year 2020 apportionment formulas.
- \$400 million in election security grants to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus in the 2020 federal election cycle. States must provide an accounting to the Election Assistance Commission of how the funds were spent within 20 days of any 2020 election.
- Expands unemployment insurance from three to four months, and provides temporary unemployment compensation of \$600 per week, which is in addition to and the same time as regular state and federal UI benefits.
- Establishes a \$500 billion lending fund for businesses, cities and states.
- Provides a \$1,200 direct payment to many Americans and \$500 for each dependent child.

Visit <https://bit.ly/36opuyN> to continue reading.

USDA Supports Specialty Crops Producers with Direct Payments for Losses Due to COVID-19

Are you a specialty crop producer whose operation has been directly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic? The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program provides direct relief to producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19.

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue announced the Coronavirus Food Assistance program on April 17, 2020. Beginning May 26, USDA's Farm Service Agency will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses. Learn more at farmers.gov/cfap

Eligible Specialty Crops Producers of specialty crops are eligible for CFAP payments in the following three categories:

1. Had crops that suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic,
 2. Had produce shipped but subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, and
 3. Had shipments that did not leave the farm or mature crops that remained unharvested.
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USDA Announces Details of Direct Assistance to Farmers through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today announced details of the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which will provide up to \$16 billion in direct payments to deliver relief to America's farmers and ranchers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to this direct support to farmers and ranchers, USDA's Farmers to Families Food Box program (<https://bit.ly/2LO5Lz8>) is partnering with regional and local distributors, whose workforces have been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service entities, to purchase \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy, and meat and deliver boxes to Americans in need.

Beginning May 26, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses.

May 20 COVID-19 Update from U.S. Rep. Tulsi Gabbard

USDA CFAP Goes Live on May 26, Learn How to Complete the Application Today

Beginning May 26, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will be accepting applications from agricultural producers who have suffered losses due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) will provide direct relief to producers who faced price declines and additional marketing costs due to COVID-19. You can learn more about the program on the USDA's CFAP webpage (<https://bit.ly/3bR19ml>). In order to help prepare people for the application, the USDA also released a video tutorial for people on how to complete the application and use the payment calculator (<https://bit.ly/2LQQNZd>).

FSA Outreach Focus

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will broaden the use of the Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) loan provision, normally used in the wake of natural disasters, to allow farmers with USDA farm loans who are affected by COVID-19, and are determined eligible, to have their next payment set aside. In some cases, FSA may also set aside a second payment for farmers who have already had one payment set aside because of a prior designated disaster.

FSA direct loan borrowers will receive a letter with the details of the expanded Disaster Set-Aside authorities, which includes the possible set-aside of annual operating loans, as well as explanations of the additional loan servicing options that are available. To discuss or request a loan payment Set-Aside, borrowers should call or email the farm loan staff at their local FSA county office.

The set-aside payment's due date is moved to the final maturity date of the loan or extended up to twelve months in the case of an annual operating loan. Any principal set-aside will continue to accrue interest until it is repaid. This aims to improve the borrower's cashflow in the current production cycle. FSA previously announced it was relaxing the loan-making process and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need (<https://bit.ly/2ARq9Nz>). Direct loan

applicants and borrowers are encouraged to contact their local FSA county office to discuss loan making and servicing flexibilities and other needs or concerns. Customers participating in FSA's guaranteed loan programs are encouraged to contact their lender. Information on these flexibilities, and office contact information, can be found on farmers.gov/coronavirus.

FSA will be accepting most forms and applications by facsimile or electronic signature. Some services are also available online to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and certain program applications and payments. Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

USDA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only, and field work will continue with appropriate social distancing. While program delivery staff will continue to come into the office, they will be working with producers by phone and using online tools whenever possible. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with the FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency are required to call their Service Center to schedule a phone appointment. More information can be found at www.farmers.gov/coronavirus.

FSA Expands Set-Aside Loan Provision for Customers Impacted by COVID-19

WASHINGTON, May 21, 2020– USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will broaden the use of the Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) loan provision, normally used in the wake of natural disasters, to allow farmers with USDA farm loans who are affected by COVID-19, and are determined eligible, to have their next payment set aside. In some cases, FSA may also set aside a second payment for farmers who have already had one payment set aside because of a prior designated disaster.

"This immediate change of the Set-Aside provision can provide some welcome financial relief to borrowers during this current crisis," said FSA Administrator Richard Fordyce. "FSA recognizes that some customers may need this option to improve their cash flow circumstances in response to the COVID-19 outbreak."

R&D Innovation and/or COVID-19 Economic Recovery Grants

R&D is requesting proposals for its Innovation Grant and/or COVID-19 Grant Program for fiscal year 2020-2021.

The intent of the program is to support research, programs and projects that advance innovation or support economic recovery from the COVID-19 emergency in R&D's program areas: economic development, tourism, agriculture, creative economy, energy, and sustainable development in Hawaii County.

- Award range: \$5,000 to \$25,000.
- Matching Funds: R&D's matching funds requirement is waived due to the COVID-19 economic crisis.
- Proposal Deadline: Proposals must be received by R&D in its Hilo or Kailua-Kona offices by 4:30 p.m. HST on Monday, June, 2020.

- Eligible applicants: Educational institutions, state or county agencies, not-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Hawaii, or non-profit agencies exempt from federal income tax by the Internal Revenue Service. In the case of a non-profit organization, members of its governing board shall have served without compensation and have no material conflict of interest. See the RFP for full requirements.
- Award Determination: Estimated date of award announcements, August 1, 2020.

Go to R&D's Innovation Grant Web page (<https://bit.ly/3geNWHO>) to for full details and to download the Request for Proposals and Application Package.

O'ahu RC&D May News and Updates

Help Hawai'i's Women Farmers & Ranchers Keep Growing!

- Women-operated farms, ranches and agribusinesses are growing in Hawaii and can accomplish even more with your help. Many have dropped everything to respond to the increasing demand for locally-sourced produce and proteins attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, and now they need extra time or funding to transition their operations for long-term stability. In June, Oahu RC&D will launch a mini-grant program to fund critical improvements that increase the capacity of women farmers and ranchers to feed our island community. Thus far, we have secured \$5,000 from the Women's Fund of Hawai'i and our goal is to match this amount with donations from individuals like you. 100% of the donations made to this campaign will be disbursed to women farmers through the mini-grant program.

You can help women farmers and ranchers grow by donating today! - <https://bit.ly/2zqCU18>

Taking out the Trash! Streambank Restoration

- Cooperators with the Waimānalo Watershed REstoration Project have been able to remove truckloads of trash from the streambanks included in their restoration project. With trash removed and properly disposed of, the risk of waste pollution to nearby waterways is reduced and soil quality can be improved. A job well done by Yogarden and their team of volunteers!

Go Farm Hawaii: Looking for the AgCurious

- Learn about the GoFarm Hawai'i beginning farmer training program
- How you can apply for the next cohort on the North Shore
- Wednesday, June 10 (via Zoom)
- 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
- Register today at www.GoFarmHawaii.org

USDA Announces Cooperative Agreements for Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction

- USDA is making \$900,000 available for local governments to host a Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CCFWR) pilot project for fiscal year 2020. The cooperative agreements

will support projects that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.

- USDA will accept applications on Grants.gov until midnight June 26, 2020
- The agreements are offered through USDA's Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production
- Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/2zmsAr7>

Opportunities

- Hawai'i Ulu Co-op
 - The Hawai'i Ulu Cooperative is hiring for part- and full-time agricultural processor and supervisor positions to begin work immediately at its flagship aggregation and processing facility in South Kona, Hawai'i Island
 - Pay starts at \$13-16/hr
 - Email info@eatbreadfruit.com with resume and cover letter to apply
 - Visit the co-op website for job descriptions and more information about the organization and current employment opportunities - <https://bit.ly/36oDTuV>
 - GoFarm Hawai'i
 - Are you a skilled farmer or agricultural worker with experience to share? Help students turn an empty plot of land into food that they can share with the community!
 - Join the GoFarm Hawai'i team as a part-time Farm coach to teach and coordinate the AgTechnician Program at the Waiawa Correctional Facility on O'ahu. Position offers benefits. Pay negotiable.
 - Contact GoFarm at: info@gofarmhawaii.org by May 30, 2020 for details!
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