

Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter

Volume 7-1, July 2023

Dear Growers and Friends,

For those on the Big Island, the UH-HILO analytical lab is accepting soil and plant tissue samples for analysis. Please contact the lab directly and see some additional notes/instructions for sample submissions at <https://www.hawaiicoffeeed.com/leafandsoil.html>.

For UH-HILO analytical lab submissions:

- Complete the Sample Submission Form (Excel).
- Complete the Soil (and Tissue) Submission Form (pdf) for agriculture samples.
- When completing the above form:
 - For plant tissue samples, circle Y (yes) for Total Carbon and Nitrogen AND Plant Tissue (B, Ca, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, P, Zn).
 - For soil samples, circle Y (yes) for extractable nutrients (Ca, Mg, K, Na) AND Modified Truog.
- Email the completed form to analytic@hawaii.edu or submit with your samples.
- Maintain a copy of your forms for reference and for any follow-ups with the lab.

-Andrea

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

Nutrien Ag Solutions 2023 Educational Seminar - CEU's available

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Hilo Hawaiian Hotel

Moku'ola Rooms 1 & 2

Registration: 7:00 a.m.

Program: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (pupu session to 6:00 p.m.)

- Grower Invitation Registration & Hotel - <https://go.hawaii.edu/CCX>
- Program - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XCv>
- Nutrien 2023 Seminar CEU Info - <https://go.hawaii.edu/pCX>

\$45.00 Seminar Fee (cost per person, incl. a.m. refreshments, lunch buffet, light pupus following the seminar)

**** MUST send in your Registration Forms and Payments by Monday, July 10, 2023. ****

If you would like to pre-register with a credit card, please email form to Ken.ogawa@nutrien.com or aaron.pruett@nutrien.com

If registering by check, make payable to: Nutrien Ag Solutions and mail to:

**Nutrien Ag Solutions
888 Kalaniana'ole Avenue**

Hilo, HI 96720
Attn: Ken Ogawa/Nutrien Educational Seminar

If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-960-3802 or Aaron at 808-209-6350. E-mail at ken.ogawa@nutrien.com or aaron.pruett@nutrien.com

Again, on behalf of all of us at Nutrien ag Solutions, we would like to thank you in advance for your support and for allowing us to be a partner in your Agricultural/Horticultural operations.

Ken Ogawa
Nutrien Ag Solutions

Save the Date - Maui Seed to Cup - July 16, 2023

Sunday, July 16, 2023
Maui Tropical Plantation
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Invasive Pest Conference (August 9-10, 2023)

August 9-10, 2023

Pikake Room, Blaisdell Center, Honolulu

Please join us for an in-person Invasive Pest Conference on August 9-10, 2023 at Blaisdell Center, Honolulu. This conference will feature presentations on a diversity of invasive pests ranging from invasive weeds, agricultural and landscape pests, and other topics including climate change, and biological control presented by CTAHR research, extension faculty, and other partner agencies.

Keynote Speaker: Philip Andreozzi, United States Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Coordinator, Washington D.C.

Please register at Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/433LL0z>

GoFarm Kauai: Open House and AgCurious

Aloha,

We are recruiting for our next GoFarm cohort on Kaua'i and would love your help to reach potential farmers. We are hosting an Open House on July 1 and our AgCurious webinar on September 7. More details are shared below and on our website at www.gofarmhawaii.org.

Thanks for your support!

Mahalo,
GoFarm Hawaii

Open House: July 1 @ 3pm

Visit our farm site while in session to see student plots, chat with students, and learn about our training program from the GoFarm Kaua'i coach. Register here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XWk>.

AgCurious Online Webinar: September 7 @ 5:30pm

The first step to learn more about our beginning farmer training program and how to apply. Register here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XWX>. (Attendance is required to apply for AgXposure/AgXcel.)

AgXposure: October 5 - November 2

Learn from local farms and get exposure to farm work (Wednesday evenings (online) and Saturdays).

AgXcel: November 16 - June 1

Learn farm production and business skills from our coaching team during Thursday evening (online) and Saturday field classes. Plant, manage, and market your own 7-week CSA vegetable production at our farm site in Lihue.

More info available at <https://gofarmhawaii.org/agcurious-faqs/>

Environmental Health Specialist III and IV - Hilo, Hawaii Island

Recruitment Number 23-0371

This vacancy is with the **Department of Health** in **Hilo**.

**THIS JOB POSTING WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 25 APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED.
PLEASE APPLY IMMEDIATELY AS THIS RECRUITMENT MAY CLOSE AT ANY TIME.**

Level III - \$4,337 to \$5,282 per month (SR-20, Step C to H)

Level IV - \$4,692 to \$5,712 per month (SR-22, Step C to H)

Note: Hiring rates will be based on availability of funds, the applicant's qualifications, and other relevant factors.

Duties Summary Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) positions perform professional work involving the protection and promotion of public health and the environment by ensuring compliance with Federal and State laws, rules and regulations related to the elimination and/or prevention of environmental health, environmental impact, and occupational health hazards.

For more information or to apply visit - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XWy>

Rep. Jill Tokuda Introduces the Grow Your Own Food Act to Increase Quality & Quantity of Locally Grown Food

Today, Representative Jill Tokuda announced the recent introduction of the *Grow Your Own Food Act* to expand the Micro-Grants for Food Security Program. The program assists agricultural departments in eligible states and territories to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food in food insecure communities through small-scale gardening, herding, and livestock operations in food insecure communities in areas of the United States that have significant levels of food insecurity and import a significant quantity of foods.

The *Grow Your Own Food Act* would amend the Agriculture Improvement Act to:

- Increase program funding from \$10 million to \$30 million.
- Increase the size of the awards by \$5,000. Individual grants would be increased to \$10,000 and organization grants to \$20,000.
- Double the amount of funds states and territories can use to administer the grant to 6 percent from 3 percent.
- Exempt funds from income relating to federal programs (SNAP, housing subsidies) and clarifies that grants are not taxable income.

At a time of rising hunger and food insecurity, it's critical for the federal government to take additional measures to support local producers, farmers, and help those who put food on our tables. This is especially important for rural and remote areas like Hawai'i, where food costs are higher and access is impacted by barge and air transport delays," **said Representative Jill Tokuda**. "When I toured the Second Congressional District holding listening sessions about the Farm Bill, I heard from many communities that they want to be able to produce more to help take care of their own—they just need a little help. This bill will do just that, giving them the resources and capacity to increase the amount of locally grown food to feed Hawai'i's people."

"The Micro-Grants for Food Security Program continues to be a game changer for Hawai'i families who want to increase their food security," **said Sharon Hurd, chairperson of the Hawai'i Board of Agriculture**. "This grant program received an overwhelming response in the last round with more than 7,400 applicants and the projects that we were able to fund included the purchasing of seed, vertical gardens and planters, compost, refrigeration units, fencing and more. Congresswoman Tokuda's proposed amendment to increase the appropriation will mean many more families will be able to grow their own food."

"The Micro-Grants for Food Security Program is an innovative and highly acclaimed initiative that tackles food insecurity by providing funding to bolster local food production. Congresswoman Tokuda's proposal to increase the program's authorization to \$30 million will be of significant benefit, particularly to the Native Hawaiian community, **said Kūhiō Lewis, CEO of Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement**. "Research indicates that 27 percent of Native Hawaiians experience food insecurity, surpassing the state average of 22 percent. The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement extends a heartfelt mahalo to Congresswoman Tokuda for her zealous advocacy on behalf of the most vulnerable members of our community."

"In order to be more climate resilient, U.S. islands need locally grown agriculture programs to become less dependent on expensive imports, become more self-reliant, and ensure consistent access to food,

especially during and after natural disasters. Because of their unique geography and populations, islands are the ideal place for small-scale agricultural investments and innovation. The Climate Strong Islands Network (CSIN) applauds Representatives Jill Tokuda (D-HI) and Stacey Plaskett (D-USVI) for their attention to the Micro-Grants for Food Security Program and supports increasing the authorization from \$10 million to \$30 million amongst other necessary improvements. Increased investments to the Micro-Grants for Food Security program support a transition to traditional food systems that increases island food security while simultaneously adding new sectors to island economies.” -**Climate Strong Islands Network**

Mahalo for Attending the HCA 28th Annual Conference!

Aloha HCA Members, Supporter and Friends,

Thank you to those who joined us for the HCA’s 28th Annual Conference, Trade Show and Statewide Cupping Competition on Kauai island last week!

Thanks to you and your support we have hosted yet another fantastic event and we couldn't be happier!

The conference was a tremendous success! The overall mood was positive and upbeat, despite the challenges facing our industry. We were especially pleased to see so many new faces from across our industry that represented a broader spectrum than just growers and processors. Our workshops, seminars, presentations, and vendor displays were specifically relevant to the challenges facing our industry. The teamwork of the organizers was evident from start to finish. Many mahalos to everyone involved!

Our 14th annual statewide cupping competition evaluated 68 entries and the results are published here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/LCX>. Congratulations to all the competitors!

Our first ever HCA Café Collective Late Art Throwdown Competition was also a smashing success with a standing-room only crowd that spilled out the door.

Feedback Surveys

Our team worked hard to bring you the best event possible. To help us plan our next conference, please follow the links below to various surveys that will help us improve. Your feedback is vitally important to a successful event!

- **Attendee** - <https://go.hawaii.edu/eCX>
 - **Sponsor** - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XCz>
 - **Exhibitor** - <https://go.hawaii.edu/uCX>
 - **Presenter** - <https://go.hawaii.edu/XCZ>
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HAWAII FARMERS UNION UNITED (HFUU) National Soil Health Day! - AND MUCH MORE

Signup for HFUU's newsletters - <https://go.hawaii.edu/nWX>

In this issue:

- Soil Health: The building blocks of our future
 - Agroforestry Workshop Part I
 - Farmer, Rancher, Fisher, Gardener &/or Local Food Supporter -
You can all support HFUU by becoming a member and making sure your voice is heard!
 - Spotlight Maui Film Festival
 - Statewide Events
 - Resources
 - Ag News
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