

December 2016 – Events and Announcements

Dear Growers and Friends,

On behalf of the Kona Research and Extension Center, HAPPY HOLIDAYS! We are especially grateful for Hawaii's farmers, producers, industry organizations and stakeholders and would like to say THANK YOU to all who have and continue to provide support to Hawaii's local agricultural industries, research, and Cooperative Extension. Your funding, sponsorship, donations of materials and supplies, volunteerism, and organization of events and activities as a host-or co-host is very much appreciated. We wish you a safe and joyous holiday season.

For Macadamia Nut Growers:

Grafting publication

Dr. Alyssa Cho and I recently revamped and published, "Grafting Macadamia Trees in Hawaii". You can download and view it at: http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/F_N-47.pdf

Macadamia nut felted coccid (MFC)

MFC (*Eriococcus ironsidei*) is a scale insect pest of macadamia in Hawaii. At high populations, these insects can cause branch and tree decline and death. MFC populations tend to be aggregated (clumped), rather than evenly dispersed throughout an orchard. The variety '344' appears more favorable to this pest and growers have observed more branch and tree mortality on this variety than others.

Research has shown that MFC populations **peak** during the first half of the year and that this increase appears to correlate with drier weather. If not done yet, please visually monitor your trees for live MFC crawlers (young) and adults, as well as MFC that have been killed by natural enemies like ladybird beetles and tiny parasitoid wasps. If predators are assisting in MFC control, you may see a ragged or neat, round hole on the MFC body. Double-sided sticky tape placed around the trunk or lower branches, will trap crawlers, and can also be used as a monitoring device.

MFC **adults** can be controlled with Saf-T-Side® (insecticidal oil) or TriTek™ (organic insecticidal oil) and, while **crawlers** can be controlled with Centaur® (insect growth regulator) and Applaud® (insecticide). It is best to monitor, treat for, and control MFC **before** their population escalates to the point of branch and tree death. Good spray coverage is important for effective control.

Below are resources for additional MFC and mac nut information (with photos):

- HDOA's MFC Pest Advisory: <https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/files/2013/01/npa05-01-MFC.pdf>
- MFC Information: <https://sites.google.com/site/mfcbiocontrol/home/macadamia-felted-coccid>
- Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association: <http://www.hawaiimacnut.org/>
- CTAHR Informational Macadamia Site : <http://ctahrmacadamia.weebly.com/>

Questions? Contact your nearest [UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Office](#).

- **Hilo:** Komohana Research and Extension Center; 875 Komohana St., Hilo, HI, 96720; 808-981-5199
- **Kamuela:** Kamuela Extension Office ; 67-5189 Kamamalu Rd., Kamuela, HI, 96743; 808-887-6183
- **Kona:** Kona Research & Extension Ctr.; 79-7381 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI, 96750; 808-322-4892

For Coffee Growers:

Coffee berry borer integrated pest management workshops for new farmers and separate classes for established farmers will begin in January. Class dates and times will be available soon.

Please remember to strip pick, process and/or destroy all remaining coffee berries and raisins at the end of your harvest season and before pruning. If left, CBB from these berries will emerge and damage your next year's crop.

-Andrea

UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Offices will be closed on the following days:

Monday, December 26th, in observance of Christmas

Monday, January 2nd, 2017, in observance of New Year's Day

Andrea will be away from the office from Dec. 5th to the 9th and will return on Dec. 12. If you have an urgent inquiry, please contact Dr. Ted Feitshans (Hawaii County Administrator) at 808-969-8209 or feitshan@hawaii.edu.

Visit <http://hawaiicoffee.weebly.com/events-and-announcements.html> for additional information on the following events, announcements and more.

Hawaii Farm Bureau - Sustainable Agriculture Workshop and Field Trip - Hilo

Educational Workshop - Various Topics on Sustainable Agriculture

Thursday, December 1, 2016

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Komohana Research Extension Center

875 Komohana Street, Room D-202

Hilo, HI, 96720

Free workshop. Chili dinner provided.

5:00 pm - Randy Cabral, President of Hawaii Farm Bureau: Introduction and Benefits of Joining the Farm Bureau

5:30 pm - Jim and Nathan Trump, Macadamia Nut Farmer: Macadamia Nut Farm Natural Farming

6:00 pm - Mike Dupont, CTAHR Extension Agent: Deep/Dry Litter System for Piggeries

6:30 pm - Zach Mermel, Olaa Design Group : Waste Equals Food-Creating Value from Byproducts

7:00 pm - Open Forum/Discussion

Field Trip

Saturday, December 3, 2016

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Details will be provided at workshop.

For more information, view the flyer at <http://bit.ly/2gBOn3g>

Agricultural Water Testing Workshop - Hilo

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

8:30 am - 10:30 am

Komohana Research & Extension Center

875 Komohana Street, Room D-202

Hilo, HI 96720

Under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Rule, testing will be required for agricultural water applied to produce when it:

- is used to make agricultural teas,
- directly contacts the harvestable portion of the crop prior to harvest or during or after harvest;
- directly contacts food or contact surfaces,
- is used for hand washing during and after harvest, and

- is used for sprout irrigation water.

Join Lynn Nakamura-Tengan and CTAHR's Farm Food Safety Team to learn more about **testing your agricultural water**. Registration is required. Please contact Sharon Motomura at smotomur@hawaii.edu or at 808-969-8250 to reserve your seat. To view the flyer, go to <http://bit.ly/2gGIKxG>.

Hawaii County - Little Fire Ant Voucher Program - Workshop - Hilo and Kona

HILO

3rd Wednesday of each month, November 16, 2016 through April 19, 2017

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

and

2nd Saturday of each month, January 14, 2017 through March 11, 2017

10:00 am - 12:30 pm

Aupuni Center - Conference Room

101 Pauahi Street

Hilo, HI 96720

KONA

1st Wednesday of each month, December 7, 2016 through April 5, 2017

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Kona Cooperative Extension Service - Conference Room

79-7381 Mamalahoa Highway

Kealahou, HI 96750

The County of Hawai'i has launched a Little Fire Ant (LFA) voucher program to encourage residents to attend training workshops and reduce the initial costs for selected ant bait toxicants and hand spreaders. A limited supply of vouchers will be available to adults age 18 and over who have attended and completed a LFA Workshop. Free LFA Workshops hosted by the Department of Research and Development and led by the Hawai'i Ant Lab will be held at the Aupuni Center Conference Room in Hilo, and at the Kona Extension Office in Kealahou. Workshops are open to anyone interested in learning more about the Little Fire Ant's biology, habits, life cycle, and appropriate control measures. Seating is limited and registration is required.

For more information, visit <http://www.hawaiicounty.gov/rd-agriculture>.

To register for a class, go to <http://bit.ly/2fTK40a> for Hilo and <http://bit.ly/2eYWIvx> for Kona.

Community Seed Library - Little Fire Ant Awareness Meeting - Kona

Saturday, January 28, 2017

Starts at 10:00 am

Kailua Kona Public Library

75-138 Hualalai Road

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

The Community Seed Library sponsored by Friends of the Libraries, Kona (F.O.L.K.) presents a Little Fire Ant Awareness Meeting.

PEST ANT ALERT: Little Fire Ants (LFA) have been identified by Hawai'i Ant Lab in multiple samples from Kailua-Kona, prompting this program.

A representative from the Hawai'i Ant Lab (HAL) will present an informational session including a question and answer

session on LFA. HAL will cover ant biology and methods for control. Understanding LFA biology can help the community control the ant problem.

For more information, click the flyer. Questions, contact Heather Forester at 808-315-5656.

HDOA CBB Pesticide Subsidy Program

Do you have original receipts for BotaniGard & Mycotrol between 7/1/15 and 6/30/16?

Apply for the HDOA CBB Pesticide Subsidy at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HDOAcbbPesticideSubsidyProgram>

Reimbursement for this time frame is 75% of your out of pocket costs, up to \$600 per acre and up to \$9,000 per farm. For example, if you have receipts for \$280 for BotaniGard ES, you may be eligible for a \$210 reimbursement.

Farmers are saying the process is easy! **Check it out – call 808-323-7578 or email hdoa.cbb@hawaii.gov if you want a copy of the questions, a paper application, or with any questions.** To view the CBB Pesticide Subsidy Program, go to <http://bit.ly/2gT6OAv>.

Coffee Thefts Reported

From KCFA's November Newsletter - by Cecelia Smith

On Tuesday October 25, 6 bags of picked cherry were stolen from a farm, 1.5 miles up Bruner/Filipino Clubhouse Road. The week before, a farmer on the same road reported that his drying coffee was stolen off his decks. Thefts need to be reported to the police. Be alert and careful.

Extension of Current Green Coffee Grade Standards

Excerpt from *KCFA's November Newsletter - Legislative Committee*

Effective July 1, 2014, Hawaii green coffee grade standards set forth in the Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR 4-143) were amended to increase the maximum defects for the "Prime" grade from 15% to 20% and to reduce the defect count for "pinholes" from 1/5 to 1/10 of a defect. The reason for this change was to assist coffee farmers in meeting green coffee grade standards while Coffee Berry Borer (CBB) mitigation programs are developed. Since 2014 these revised standards have permitted substantial quantities of additional coffee to be marketed as "Kona Coffee" with significant economic benefit to Kona farmers. However, the amended grade standards were put in place for a limited 3-year period and, unless extended, they will [would] expire on July 1, 2017.

On October 18, the Board of Agriculture unanimously approved the proposed amendments and the HDOA is proceeding to formalize the incorporation of an extension through 7/1/2020 into the regulations.

Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association - 2017 Membership

The Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association (HMNA) is now collecting membership dues for 2017.

If you are an existing member, please renew by the end of January 2017. If you are interested in becoming a member, you are welcome to attend a meeting and get to know a little more about the organization.

Our primary goal is to support and promote the macadamia industry in Hawaii and we welcome growers, processors,

marketers and affiliated businesses to join.

For more information on HMNA membership, view the pamphlet at <http://bit.ly/2fzQdBe> or visit <http://www.hawaiimacnut.org/>.

HMNA Monthly Meetings

3rd Tuesday of the month

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Komohana Research & Extension Center

875 Komohana Street, Hilo, HI, 96720

CTAHR Notes

Go to <http://bit.ly/2fzQtAs> to check out CTAHR Notes: Issue 285, November 9, 2016.

Go to <http://bit.ly/2gFI37s> to check out Issue 287 November 30, 2016.

Kona SWCD Fall 2016 Newsletter

For the newsletter, go to <http://bit.ly/2fKo5bh>. In this issue:

- WHEA Wins 2016 County Conservation Awareness Contest
- Forest Restoration, What Does It Take?
- The Little Fire Ant, What Do You Know
- Financial Assistance for FY 2016 Wildlife Habitat
- History's Corner
- Soil Facts
- FSA News

HDOA News Release

Here is a link to a news release on the appointment of Dr. John McHugh as HDOA's Plant Industry Division administrator: <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/blog/main/nr-mchugh/>