

## October 2018 – Events and Announcements

### Dear Growers and Friends,

Oh boy, it's been hot! Be sure to stay well-hydrated, protected under shade as much as possible, and use sunscreen. We typically harvest every three weeks, but it sure seems that coffee is ripening faster with all this sun and periodic rain. In the lower elevations, some farmers may either be finished with their harvest, or very close to finishing. If so, don't forget to do your strip-picking!

Click here for information on coffee farm field sanitation (<https://bit.ly/2nqo7gh>) and click the following link to watch a video about the end-of-season strip-pick (<https://bit.ly/2Rq554K>).

According to research and the "Growing Coffee in Hawaii" booklet (<https://bit.ly/2tmDiJn>), coffee cherry removes more nitrogen and potassium from the tree and soil, than any other nutrient during harvest – although, we cannot forget that all macro and micronutrients are important for tree health. While it's still raining from time to time, you might see if a boost of energy is needed to replenish your soils and refuel your coffee trees. If it's not raining in your area, please don't fertilize, unless fertigating. For coffee, typically, the cooler winter months are a period of rest for the trees and is a time when the trees (with appropriate maturity) set themselves up for flowering in the spring.

### Macadamia Nut:

In Hawaii, macadamia nuts typically drop 8-9 months of the year from July to March. The main harvest period extends from August through January. Nuts should be harvested at least every four weeks when the weather is rainy and less often in dry weather. Frequent harvesting helps prevent losses from mold, germination, and pig or rat damage, as well as the continued reproduction of unwanted mac nut pests.

At the mill, processors sort out kernels with insect defects from tropical nut borer, cryptophlebia, and stinkbug, in addition to mold and physiological defects resulting from immaturity, graying and hollow centers.

Learn more about macadamia production at: <http://ctahrmacadamia.weebly.com/>  
Download a macadamia kernel disorder poster [here](https://bit.ly/2NRnvZJ) (<https://bit.ly/2NRnvZJ>).

### Mac Nut Growers Field Day:

On October 20, 2018, the Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association will host a Growers Field Day at Island Harvest (53-4073 Pratt Road, Kapaau) on the Big Island. This FREE field day will begin at 10 AM, and will include a tour of the Island Harvest operation in North Kohala in addition to demonstrations of their 1) optical sorter, 2) mechanical harvesters, and 3) compost tea.

For additional information, contact : KAPAAU54548@GMAIL.COM

Event flyer: <https://bit.ly/2P6tri6>

### Please welcome Dr. Robert Cating!

Dr. Cating was recently hired and will serve as the Ornamental and Floriculture Extension Agent. His position is located in Hilo at the Komohana Research and Extension Center. If you would like to send a welcome or have questions regarding commercial ornamental and floriculture plants or industries in Hawaii, please contact Dr. Cating at (808) 969-8256 or [rcating@hawaii.edu](mailto:rcating@hawaii.edu).



-Andrea

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

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## **Recovering from Farm Disaster\*:A Workshop on Understanding Crop Insurance**

Wednesday, October 3, 2018

5:00 – 6:30 pm

Kona Cooperative Extension Office

79-7381 Mamalahoa Highway

Kealahou, HI 96750

Do you have a coffee, tropical fruit or nut crop insurance policy and have questions about it? Don't have a policy, but Interested in understanding more about crop insurance in Hawaii?

Come and learn about managing your risks by attending this FREE workshop on crop insurance for Hawaii growers. For more information and to RSVP please visit: [bit.ly/2PTdtca](http://bit.ly/2PTdtca)

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## **Banana Macropropagation Workshop - Kona**

Friday, November 2, 2018

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Kona Cooperative Extension Service Conference Room and Research Station

79-7381 Mamalahoa Hwy.

Kealahou, HI 96750

Participants are welcome to bring in samples for BBTv testing (limit 1 per participant)

UH CTAHR's Kona and Oahu Cooperative Extension and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture welcome you learn how to propagate healthy disease-free banana plants using macropropagation techniques.

This field day will cover:

- Propagation of clean banana plants through macropropagation techniques
- Identification and management of Banana Bunchy Top Virus (BBTV)
- A demonstration on rapid BBTv detection using AmplifyRP® Acceler8® test kits
- Participants are welcome to bring in samples for testing (limit 1 per participant)

Speakers:

Jensen Uyeda (O'ahu County Extension)

Andrea Kawabata

To register, visit <http://bit.ly/BananaMacro> or contact Gina at (808) 322-4892 to reserve your seat. Based on a first come, first serve basis. 30 participant limit.

This co-sponsored workshop is a free event and all commercial farmers are welcomed.

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## **Hawaii County Farm Service Agency is Accepting Emergency Conservation Program Applications**

Aloha!

Any who needs help to clean up or restore your farm from Hurricane Lane, please call 933-8381, ext2 to sign up for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP). The signup period is September 21, 2018 to October 23, 2018. You must be a commercial farmer or rancher.

ECP provides cost share assistance for the following categories:

EC1 Debris Removal  
EC2 Grading and Shaping  
EC3 Fence Restoration  
EC4 Conservation Structures (Diversions, Pipelines, Installed Drainage Systems, etc)

For more information, go to: <http://bit.ly/2NcvRdj>

Have a great day!  
lester

Lester Ueda  
County Executive Director  
USDA, Farm Service Agency  
Phone: 808.933-8341 Fax: 1.855.356.9492  
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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### **East Hawaii Community Briefings: Federal Disaster Dislocated Worker Grant**

Are you a public, not-for-profit, or private for-profit business that reduced work hours and/or staff, or shut down as a result of the May 2018 Kilauea eruption?

Are you an individual currently under- or unemployed due to your employer reducing work hours as a result of the May 2018 Kilauea eruption?

If you answered “yes” to either question, you may be eligible for FREE employment relief through a US Department of Labor (USDOL) Disaster Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG). This program offers workforce funding to qualified Hawaii Island businesses willing and able to employ eligible individual dislocated workers.

On Thursday, September 27, 2018, Kayla Rosenfeld, Statewide Rapid Response Coordinator, will brief the Volcano, Pahoa and Hilo communities on the grant. Ms. Rosenfeld will explain the grant provisions, eligibility requirements, permitted grant activity, and permitted worksites. The Thursday, September 27, 2018 briefings are scheduled as follows:

Volcano Village, Cooper Center, 19-4030 Wright Road, Volcano 9:00 – 11:00am  
Pahoa Community Center, Kauhale Road, Pahoa 1:00 – 3:00pm  
Aupuni Conference Room, 101 Pauahi Street, Suite 1, Hilo 5:00 – 7:00pm

\* A question and answer session will follow each briefing.

For more information about the Disaster Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG) briefings, contact the American Job Center Hawaii at [ajchuser@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:ajchuser@hawaiicounty.gov) or (808) 935-6527.

To learn more about the Workforce Development Council, visit <http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/>.

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### **Breadfruit Consumer Survey**

Aloha,

My name is Amber and I am a graduate student in the Tropical Plant and Soil Science department at UH Manoa. I am conducting a short survey to complement thesis research which looks at the nutritional composition of breadfruit grown specifically in Hawai'i, and how the composition of the fruit may be influenced by environmental factors (which are highly unique among our islands). The purpose of this survey is to gain a better understanding of breadfruit's role in the diet of people in Hawai'i, and how we interact with it. Your contribution adds great value to my research and, more

importantly, the wealth of knowledge we are gathering for this long-lived indigenous crop.

Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YRR8LPF>

I'd greatly appreciate your participation and passing it along to your colleagues, friends, and family. Participation is completely voluntary, and all information provided by the participant is kept confidential with access only by myself and Dr. Noa Lincoln, my committee chair. If there are any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me ([amberau@hawaii.edu](mailto:amberau@hawaii.edu), 808-372-6281).

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Amber Au Needham  
(808)372-6281  
Graduate Assistant  
Tropical Plant & Soil Science, CTAHR  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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### **ADSC: Unable to test for Nitrogen and Total Carbon**

The equipment to test for Nitrogen and Total Carbon are broken, but being fixed, so until further notice the following tests will be unavailable: **S3, S4, T1, T3**

We will make an updated post when the equipment is operational. Mahalo.

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### **Call for Cocoa of Excellence Submissions**

Aloha Members of Hawaii Cacao to Chocolate community,

This week, Hawaii Cacao Foundation (HCF) just received the Cocoa of Excellence competition guidelines for national organizing committees. Hawaii did quite well last year. Attached is a pdf of requirements from HCF explaining how it will handle this year's submissions and a xlsx file to enter information about the sample you submit to HCF to be send to the Cocoa of Excellence.

If you do not plan to submit a sample please disregard this email. However please forward to anyone who might want to enter the competition.

Skip

H.C. "Skip" Bittenbender, Ph.D.  
Retired Extension Specialist for Cacao, Coffee and Kava

For the announcement flyer, go to: <http://bit.ly/2RcxuuO>

For the submission form, go to: <http://bit.ly/2NYDRDY>

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### **State of Hawaii - GEMS Solar Hot Water Program for Farmers and Worker Housing - Statewide**

The Green Energy Money Saver (GEM\$) On-Bill Program is an innovative financing program for homeowners and renters offered exclusively by the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority that features:

- NO upfront costs

- Immediate bill savings
- Elimination of credit barriers
- Obligation tied to the utility meter (not a person)
- Payments conveniently made on your monthly electric utility bill.

This State program enables families to save energy with no money down. All one needs is to show one years HELCO bill without a disconnect notice. The cost of the system is paid back through a program called on-bill-repayment which guarantees savings of at least 10%. The energy savings of the solar hot water from the electric bill is used to pay back the cost of the system

Part of the program is directed to agricultural families in Hawaii and this covers the cost of putting solar hot waters on farm houses or on worker housing. For more information about the program, view the flyer or visit, [gems.hawaii.gov/participate-now/for-homeowners/](http://gems.hawaii.gov/participate-now/for-homeowners/).

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### **2017 Census of Agriculture Thank You**

Dear USDA NASS Census of Agriculture Partners,

#### Thank You for your Partnership

It's a wrap! As of July 31, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service concluded data collection for the 2017 Census of Agriculture. We at NASS now have a lot more work ahead of us to prepare for the February 2019 data release. We truly look forward to providing an up-to-date, comprehensive picture of agriculture today. Census data help all of us work smarter on behalf of farmers and ranchers.

But our first order of business is to thank you for your efforts to help spread the word and encourage response over the last year. We are grateful for your partnership. Your efforts are vital to our success, and our success plays a part in the success of farmers and ranchers everywhere.

#### Thank U.S. Farmers and Ranchers

We also want to take the next few weeks to thank farmers and ranchers for participating in the 2017 Census of Agriculture. In addition to our efforts, we hope you will be willing to help extend the thank you. We've created a press release, ads and web banners for you to use in your personal presentations, newsletters, e-mails, websites, social media, etc. Look for them on the Partner Tools page of the AgCensus website (<https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/Partners/>)

#### The Census of Agriculture Website is Moving – Get a Sneak Peek!

**You spoke and we listened.** We are merging the census of agriculture website into the NASS website. This change provides the following customer-focused improvements:

- A consistent look and feel across a single website, making navigation and finding data easier.
- Improved search capabilities for census of agriculture information.
- Responsive design for census content so that it is now accessible from many devices, i.e. mobile phone, tablet, etc.

The merged website will roll out to the public on October 1, 2018. But we'd like to give you a sneak peek and the chance to give us your feedback ahead of the official launch. Check it out here: [www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](http://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus) (it's not linked anywhere so you need this URL). While you are looking around, if you come across issues of concern – broken links, misspellings, formatting issues, or anything else – please send us a quick note so we can make the needed change before we go fully live on October 1. E-mail your comments to [nass@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass@nass.usda.gov).

#### Upcoming Census-Related Programs

On a related note, the census of agriculture will be conducted this winter in Puerto Rico and other U.S. territories. At the same time, we are full steam ahead this winter on Census Special Studies like the Irrigation and Aquaculture surveys.

Stay tuned for more information on those surveys and other useful Partner Tools.

Again, thank you very much for your support!

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### **USDA Hawaii County Farm Service Agency Updates - September 2018**

For the newsletter, go to <http://bit.ly/2O33qzG>

This issue includes the following:

- FSA Hawaii & Pacific Basin State Committee
- Federal Grants 101 Workshop
- Hawaii County Eligible for Emergency Loans Following Presidential Disaster Declaration
- Maintaining Good Credit History

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### **USDA Hawaii and Pacific Basin Farm Service Agency Updates - September 2018**

For the newsletter, visit: <http://bit.ly/2DP5qeg>

This issue includes the following:

- Eligibility for Elections for the 2018 County Committee
- USDA Launches Trade Mitigation Programs
- Maintaining Good Credit History
- Hawaii County eligible for Emergency Loans Following Presidential Disaster Declaration
- September 2018 Interest Rates
- December 1st -- NAP Deadline
- FSA Hawaii & Pacific Basin State Committee
- Sign Up Today for Text Alerts from FSA
- Hawaii County Mailing Address Update

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### **P&A Coffee Newsletter - Confidential**

To view the newsletter, go to <http://bit.ly/2Nm2kSG>

In this issue:

- Coke Innovates and Launches Coffee Beverage in Brazil
- New Genetic Material to Fight Leaf Miner
- Pinhalense Launches New Harvesters for Conilon
- Climate is Concern for Future Crop
- Melitta Enters E-Commerce in Brazil
- Outlook: Low Prices, Economic Sustainability and Poverty: Is There a Way Out? (Page 3)
- Machine of The Month: Beating The Market with Micro-Lots (Page 4)