

Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter

Volume 12: December 2019

Dear Growers and Friends,

We would like to extend our warmest aloha and mahalo to you, our support staff, partners, colleagues, collaborators, and funding agencies for making 2019 a year filled with opportunities and achievement. We have had an incredible year providing outreach to farmers and the community as well as learning from those we interact with in every facet of extension, research and farming. We thank you for your time, support, feedback, assistance, teachings, and kind words of encouragement received throughout the year. Last, but not least, our deep appreciation goes out to our amazing donors and volunteers who are so generous in giving from the heart. Thank you for helping us make overcoming challenges, possible.

We are very proud to share with you, our accomplishments of the past year. In 2019, we...

- Hosted, co-hosted and participated in 33 outreach events including hands-on workshops, field days, seminars, conferences and expos.
- Directly educated over 850 growers and participants during these workshops and field day events.
- Informed and increased awareness of more than 15,000 attendees at public and industry conferences and expos of our research and Extension projects.
- Published, presented and contributed to seven Extension publications, posters and industry presentations.
- Continue collaborations with California, Puerto Rico and Brazil researchers and coffee growers to increase awareness of CBB, CBB IPM, coffee root-knot nematode, and other pests affecting Hawaii coffee farms, cultural practices, as well as coffee leaf rust and pests not yet found in the state.
- Conducted 63 on-site farm visits to diagnose coffee and other orchard crop problems and provide farm management guidance.
- Continue to conduct applied research and educational projects on topics such as CBB control, coffee root-knot nematode, coffee quality, pruning, pesticides and its safe use, grafting, rootstock germplasm, banana macropropagation, cacao propagation, little fire ant, and coffee, citrus and lychee variety trials at the Kona Research Station and collaborating farms.
- Directed, co-directed or collaborated on eight grant-funded projects totaling \$293,046 in support of Hawaii growers. Mahalo CTAHR, USDA ARS, TASC and NIFA, and HDOA for your financial backing!
- Applied for five grants as co-PI and collaborator totaling over \$4.5 million and spanning nationwide to research and extend technologies to US coffee and Hawaii specialty crop growers, in addition to investigating bee and soil health.

As 2020 quickly approaches, we hope you will consider investing in the future of coffee, avocado, macadamia nut, citrus and other Hawaii-grown specialty crops, by donating to the Friends of the Kona Extension Office and Research Station foundation account. With your generous donation, we will continue to provide important and useful information from our humble center. Your contribution is tax-deductible and will stay in Hawaii to benefit coffee and orchard crop growers who learn from projects and outreach events provided by Kona's Cooperative Extension and Research Station - faculty and staff. If you would like to donate, please contact Andrea (andreak@hawaii.edu or 808-322-4892) or visit <https://bit.ly/2hjZk7K>.

Thank you for your support of our Extension program! On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Kona Cooperative Extension and Research Station, we wish you a safe and joyous holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Sincerely,
Andrea and Matt

UH CTAHR Cooperative Extension Offices was closed on the following days:

Wednesday, December 25th, in observance of Christmas
Wednesday, January 1st, in observance of New Year's Day

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

How to Write a Business Plan

Would you ever start on a journey not knowing where you were going?

You'd need a map or at least a plan on how to get where you want to go. That's what a Business Plan is for your business. It's to layout the how and where you are going to go with your business, with words and numbers. Business Plans will help you focus your vision, communicate it to lenders and other business partners, and test drive it for any flaws you need to correct.

Learn how to:

- develop a mission
- outline a marketing plan
- project your sales and expenses
- plan your staffing

All in the format of a Business Plan: a map guiding you to business success.

Overwhelming? Maybe. One foot in front of the other; you'll get there.

Wednesday, December 4, 2019

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

(Registration 8:45 AM)

Hale Iako, Suite 119

NELHA (OTEC) Campus

(next to Kona International Airport)

73-970 Makako Bay Drive

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Fee: \$20

Register now at <http://bit.ly/2DECXFI>

November 2019 ROD Newsletter

Research Updates

- Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) is now found on Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i, Maui and O'ahu. ROD is comprised of 2 pathogens, *C. huliokia* and *C. lukuohia*. *C. huliokia* is the less aggressive strain and is found on all 4 islands. The more virulent strain, *C. lukuohia* is only found on Hawai'i Island and Kaua'i. Researchers believe that *C. huliokia* may have been present in the islands for some time but had gone unnoticed. Since *C. lukuohia* has caused so much damage across Hawai'i Island, teams have been doing extensive surveys of all main Hawaiian Islands in search of this pathogen. To help stop the spread of this disease, we can all help by sanitizing shoes and gear.
- Nikko Bjontegard, a PIPES University of Hawai'i at Hilo Intern (Pacific Internship Programs for Exploring Sciences) under the mentorship of Kyle Roy (USGS), Kelly Jaenecke (HCSU), and Bob Peck (HCSU) presented her summer research project at the 2019 PIPES symposium, "Assessing the Efficacy of *Ceratocystis* Decontamination Methods to Decrease the Spread Of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death." She found that the use of 5%, 10%, and 20% Clorox Bleach were not consistently effective decontamination methods for destroying *Ceratocystis lukuohia* spores embedded in ambrosia beetle frass, whereas 50%, 70%, and 90% Isopropyl alcohol were all effective decontaminants. She was also able to culture *C. lukuohia* from soil brushed off of boots after hiking in a ROD-infested area. Contaminated frass is believed to be one of the main transportation methods of ROD. Currently, this study is being replicated and expanded to include the test of ethanol as a ROD decontaminant and will be documented in a peer-reviewed journal. Bleach solutions can become ineffective in the presence of organic material, highlighting the need to make sure tools and boots are properly cleaned. Bleach also degrades very quickly, and a fresh solution should be made every week. Because it is easy to miss a tiny piece of frass that may be loaded with viable *Ceratocystis* spores, it is very important to decontaminate your gear if you have been in a ROD area.

Management Tips

- Currently there is no cure for ROD, but that doesn't mean we can't do anything to help. Prevention is still paramount and can happen in many ways, from voicing support for better biosecurity (because there are worse things that can come into the state, including virulent strains of myrtle

rust) and changing our behaviors to protect 'ōhi'a -practicing good sanitation, avoiding injuring 'ōhi'a trees (hiking, pruning, land-clearing, etc.), understanding what to do if you see a suspect tree, and understanding what to do if the tree is confirmed infected with ROD.

Island Outreach Updates

- **Kaua'i:** In the past few months, Kaua'i's outreach efforts included bio-sanitation trainings for tour operators and the Hawaii Department of Transportation, presentations with middle-school students, several workshops on how to grow 'ōhi'a in backyards and collecting 'ōhi'a seeds for conservation, and the distribution of 143 bio-sanitation kits (sponsored by Hawaii Tourism Authority). In partnership with the Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay, National Tropical Botanical Garden, and Kauai Invasive Species committee, 100 'ōhi'a seedlings were handed out at Kaua'i's first Great 'Ōhi'a Giveaway in October. On November 2, 703 people turned out for our annual Arbor Day celebration.
- **O'ahu:** Over the course of the last 3 months the Statewide Outreach Coordinator has conducted ROD outreach at 19 events, workshops, classroom visits, and conferences reaching over 970 people. Outreach was conducted on Maui, O'ahu, Kaua'i and New Zealand. Efforts included: bio-sanitation trainings for Hawaii Department of Transportation, Maui County Fair, Biosecurity conference in Tauranga, NZ, ROD seed-banking workshop, and Kaua'i Arbor Day events. Decontamination kits are now available on O'ahu so feel free to contact (ambyr@hawaii.edu) for your free kit. Kit includes a boot brush, alcohol bottle, spray top, and a tote bag.
- **Maui:** During the last few months Maui outreach specialists conducted outreach at several events and held presentations around the island. Staff spoke to over 450 people at events such as the Maui Fair, Arbor Day, and the Maui Green and Beautiful event. Decontamination kits are now available on Maui so contact the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) for your free kit and help to stop the spread of ROD on Maui.
- **Hawai'i Island:** The 3rd annual 'Ōhi'a Love Fest in Hilo was a blast thanks to all of our partners and volunteering community members. More than 1,400 people attended. The Extension Forester, J.B. Friday, and KUPU intern, Stephanie Pasco, held the fort as ROD Education Specialist Corie Yanger was on maternity leave. In the past few months, they held talk-story sessions, hosted information tables, and conducted presentations reaching community members, youth groups, and State highway and roads workers.

Upcoming Event - 'Ōhi'a Seed Banking Workshop

This workshop is part of the Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) Seed Banking Initiative, which is expanding capacity for collection and banking of 'ōhi'a seeds across all islands in response to the ROD crisis. It is free and open to anyone who wants to learn how to properly collect, handle, and process 'ōhi'a seeds, without doing harm to trees or forests, using methods that protect seed viability and ensure conservation value for future generations.

Hilo – Nov. 22, 2019

9am – 12pm or 1:30pm – 4:30pm

Institute for Pacific Island Forestry (Large conference room)

60 Nowelo St., Hilo, HI 96720

Kamuela – Nov 23, 2019

1:30pm – 4:30pm
Kahilu Town Hall
Punawaiola Building
67-1187 Lindsey Rd.
Kamuela, HI 96743

Meet Our People

Corie Yanger
ROD Outreach Specialist
U.H. CTAHR - Cooperative Extension

Corie was born and raised on O‘ahu, then spent 11 years living in Madison, Wisconsin before settling in Volcano on Hawai‘i Island in 2006. She holds a B.S. in Biological Aspects of Conservation from the University of Wisconsin -Madison and a M.S. in Tropical Conservation Biology & Environmental Science from the University of Hawai‘i (UH) at Hilo. Corie found her passion for seeing native ecosystems thrive as a technician for Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park’s Native Plant Restoration Program and the National Park Service’s Inventory & Monitoring Program. In 2016, she joined the Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death (ROD) team as the ROD Education & Outreach Specialist for Hawai‘i Island working through UH’s Cooperative Extension. She loves the variety of her work, from sharing updates with community members to creating educational programs, collaborating with partners, developing messages, maintaining the ROD website, mentoring interns, and hosting events like ‘Ōhi‘a Love Fest. Having spent years exploring and restoring, hiking, camping, botanizing, and living in ‘ōhi‘a forests, she is honored to be a part of the effort to combat ROD and to work alongside so many dedicated colleagues and partners.

2018 Hawaii Crop & Livestock Loss Report

Natural disasters and weather events damaged and destroyed Hawaii’s farms in 2018, according to a recent survey conducted by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), in cooperation with the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA). Multiple agricultural products, from cattle to macadamia nuts, were impacted. The Hawaii Crop & Livestock Loss survey was conducted during the fall of 2019 to determine the number of animals lost and acres destroyed and/or damaged by disasters or weather events in the previous year. NASS mailed the survey questionnaire and then did phone follow-up to a sample size of 750 farms, which included farmers in all of Hawaii’s counties. This was the first year this survey was conducted. Results from the survey include:

- 3,894 Hawaii farm acres were damaged and/or destroyed by natural disasters and/or weather conditions in 2018.
- Cattle losses in 2018 totaled 2,178 head.

To view the PDF version of the report visit <http://bit.ly/2rQa1aM>

HCA: The World Aeropress Competition in London, Kona Coffee Cultural Festival and the HCA 2020 Conference

To view the full newsletter visit <http://bit.ly/337Qobb>
In this issue:

- Hawai'i goes to the World Aeropress Competition in London!
 - Kona Coffee Cultural Festival Recap
 - Kona Coffee Cultural Festival Latte Art Throwdown and Barista Training
 - Hawaii Coffee Association 2020 Annual Conference
-

World Coffee Research & Promecafe launch manuals of best practice for coffee seed producers and nursery managers

World Coffee Research and Promecafe have launched two manuals of best practice for coffee seed producers and nursery managers.

The manuals are the latest in World Coffee Research's (WCR's) effort to broaden awareness of what it describes as a hidden crisis in the coffee sector – a lack of competent systems to deliver high-quality, healthy planting material to coffee farmers.

Globally, most coffee seedlings are weak, low yielding, and prone to disease, WCR said.

The manuals are available to download free at <http://bit.ly/2qhsOv3>

The guides are available in both English and Spanish.

*****Not all practices may be suitable and conducive to Hawaii's conditions*****

YB's Request to PUC for General Rate Increase

YB is seeking a rate hike equivalent to **34.27%** for 2020. If granted, it may contribute to significant economic impacts on the neighbor islands. The deadline to intervene is November 27, 2019.

View the PUC Order at <http://bit.ly/2qm2ekC>

2018 Irrigation and Water Management Data Now Available

There were 231,474 farms with 55.9 million irrigated acres, which included 83.4 million acre-feet of water applied in the United States, according to the 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey results, published today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). In

2013, the irrigation survey results showed that there were 229,237 farms with 55.3 million irrigated acres, which included 88.5 million acre-feet of water. The results show that though the number of farms irrigating and the amount of land irrigated increased slightly between 2013 and 2018, the total amount of water used for irrigation declined.

“The 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey, formerly titled the Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey, expands on the data collected in the 2017 Census of Agriculture,” said NASS Administrator Hubert Hamer. “This report offers detailed, comprehensive, up-to-date information specific to the agriculture industry’s use and management of water supplies.”

Data highlights from the 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey include:

- The total amount of water used in 2018 was 83.4 million acre-feet, down 5.8 percent from 2013.
- The average acre feet applied was 1.5, which compares with 1.6 in the 2013 irrigation survey. (An acre foot is the amount of water required to cover one acre to a depth of one foot.)
- The largest portion of irrigated farmland acres in the United States was dedicated to cropland – including grain and oilseed crops, vegetables, nursery and greenhouse, and hay crops.
- Farmers irrigated 51.5 million acres of harvested cropland acres in the open in 2018.
- Ground water from on-farm wells accounted for 50 percent of irrigation water applied to acres in the open; the average well depth in 2018 was 235 feet.
- The irrigation results show more irrigated acres with sprinkler systems than gravity irrigation.
- Five states accounted for around one-half of the irrigated acres and water applied – California, Nebraska, Arkansas, Texas, and Idaho.
- Equipment, in general, is one of the leading irrigation expenditures with farmers and ranchers spending more than \$2 billion on irrigation equipment, facilities, land improvements and computer technology in 2018; energy costs for pumping well and surface water amounted to \$2.4 billion.
- Irrigated area of horticulture under protection was 1.53 billion square feet in 2018. This compares with 1.41 billion square feet in 2013.
- Irrigated horticulture grown in the open was 581,936 acres in 2018. This compares with 524,227 acres in 2013.

The 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey followed up with approximately 35,000 producers who indicated in the 2017 Census of Agriculture that they irrigate. Producers provided information on water sources and amount of water used; acres irrigated by type of system; irrigation and yield by crop; and system investments and energy costs.

“The 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey results provide valuable information that farmers, ranchers, policymakers, and others can use to make agriculture water use more efficient,” said Hamer. “In making decisions about their operations and their communities, producers and policymakers can learn about the use of improved technology, efficient ways to irrigate, and ways to reduce irrigation-related expenses.”

To access the results of the 2018 Irrigation and Water Management Survey, visit www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus

Tax Implications For Machinery Trade-ins

Farmers and ranchers typically have significant investments in machinery and equipment. They use these tools to till their fields, plant and harvest their crops, dig trenches, feed their animals, transport their livestock to various places, etc. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) establishes rules for recovering the costs of purchasing machinery and equipment (commonly called depreciation), selling such assets (capital gains or losses), and trading one piece of equipment for another "like-kind" piece of equipment.

However, the rules changed with the passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). The TCJA eliminated like-kind exchange treatment for personal property in tax years after 2017, possibly triggering a taxable event. In most cases, a farmer trading an old piece of equipment for like-kind property will now result in a taxable gain or loss for selling the old tractor and an increased basis in the newly acquired asset. . .

To read the rest of the newsletter visit <http://bit.ly/33OTkts>

December 2019 - The Independent Voice

View the full newsletter at <http://bit.ly/2P8AJDh>

In this issue:

- A Continued Call for Support
 - Action Needed
 - Don't Prune Now
 - The Invasive Species Inspection Fee
 - Maintaining Organic Matter in the Soil
 - Save These Dates: January 26, May 9/10
 - EXPO 2020 - Expanded!
 - KCFA is looking for a Social Media Guru
 - Coffee Flower Buds Self-Protecting
 - Recipe: Mocha Macadamia Nut Cookies
-

Help Deter Agricultural Theft



HELP DETER AGRICULTURAL THEFT



Chapter 145, Part II, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Ownership and Movement of Agricultural Commodities

REQUIRES PROOF OF OWNERSHIP – It's the LAW! (see reverse side)

If you sell any amount of an agricultural commodity that is to be marketed for commercial purposes; or transport agricultural commodities weighing more than 200 pounds or the value is \$100.00 or more, an OWNERSHIP AND MOVEMENT CERTIFICATE is required.

WHAT IS REQUIRED ON THE OWNERSHIP AND MOVEMENT CERTIFICATE?

An Invoice, Receipt, Bill of Lading or similar document can serve the purpose of the certificate, provided that it contains the following information:

1. The name, resident address and telephone number of the seller, and the license plate number of the vehicle used to deliver the agricultural commodity to the buyer
2. The name of the farm owner and address of origin
3. The name of the buyer or consignee and destination
4. Signature of the seller and, upon sale, the signature of the buyer or consignee

The buyer or consignee must verify the seller's identity by having the seller present a valid government issued photo identification card or license. If the commodity is valued at \$300.00 or more, the seller shall also provide the buyer with a photocopy of the identification card or license.

No prospective buyer or consignee shall purchase an agricultural commodity if the seller does not provide a copy of the Ownership and Movement Certificate and verification as required, and shall report an attempted sale which does not meet the above requirements to the police.


Two copies of the certificate must accompany the shipment and one copy is to be retained by the person completing the certificate.

The Ownership and Movement Certification requirements DO NOT apply to the retail sale of an agricultural commodity to the final consumer.

WHY IS THIS REQUIRED?

Proof of ownership is the first step in establishing a paper trail to help deter agricultural theft. If an inspector or law enforcement officer has probable cause to believe agricultural commodities are in unlawful possession, the inspector or law enforcement officer may request proof of ownership of the commodities, which could lead to the seizure of agricultural commodities and criminal penalties.

PROTECT YOURSELF

For more information, contact the Hawaii Department of Agriculture
Dealer Licensing Unit at (808) 832-0700 or FAX at (808) 832-0683 

8/12

Click on the flyer above for the full pdf version.

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) 2020 Sign Up ends December 1st



United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for 2019 and Subsequent Years

FACT SHEET
October 2019

Overview

The Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting.

Who Is Eligible?

Eligible Producers

An eligible producer is a landowner, tenant or sharecropper who shares in the risk of producing an eligible crop and is entitled to an ownership share of that crop. An individual's or entity's average adjusted gross income (AGI) cannot exceed \$900,000 to be eligible for NAP payments. Also, NAP payments received, directly or indirectly, will be attributed to the applicable individual or entity and limited to \$125,000 per crop year, per individual or entity for crops with basic (catastrophic) coverage. Any NAP payments received directly or indirectly for crops with additional (buy-up) coverage, will be attributed to the applicable individual or entity and limited to \$300,000 per crop year, per individual or entity. (To learn more, visit fsa.usda.gov/limits.)



Eligible Crops

Eligible crops must be commercially produced agricultural commodities for which crop insurance is not available and be any of the following:

- Crops grown for food;
- Crops planted and grown for livestock consumption, such as grain and forage crops, including native forage;
- Crops grown for fiber, such as cotton and flax (except trees);
- Crops grown in a controlled environment, such as mushrooms and floriculture;
- Specialty crops, such as honey and maple sap;
- Sea oats and sea grass;
- Sweet sorghum and biomass sorghum;
- Industrial crops, including crops used in manufacturing or grown as a feedstock for renewable biofuel, renewable electricity or biobased products;
- Value loss crops, such as aquaculture, Christmas trees, ginseng, ornamental nursery and turf-grass sod, and
- Seed crops where the propagation stock is produced for sale as seed stock for other eligible NAP crop production.

Producers should contact a crop insurance agent for questions regarding insurability of a crop in their county. For further information on whether a crop is eligible for NAP coverage, producers should contact the FSA county office where their farm records are maintained.

2018
FARM
BILL