

Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter

Volume 12, December 2020

Dear Growers and Friends,

With the importance of coffee leaf rust (CLR), please don't forget about coffee berry borer (CBB) management.

CBB:

Field sanitation and strip-picking (<https://bit.ly/3opjqy3>) are related proactive approaches that all coffee farmers in Hawaii should apply during the fruit production period and at the end of the harvest season. They are the MOST IMPORTANT CBB-control activities.

Strip-pick all remaining coffee (green, ripe, over-ripe, and raisined berries) at the end of harvest, before pruning, and again at the beginning of the next season to remove CBB breeding sites. A video about strip-picking can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/2VAV47S>.

Download and read the 2020 CBB IPM Recommendations at <https://bit.ly/36Cvnuc>.

Coffee Pruning:

Pruning recommendations are based on the best information we have available now, and things may change in the future as research is conducted. The main purposes of pruning are to generate new vegetative growth, increase light and airflow through the tree canopy, manipulate shade, and (generally) increase yield, by removing non-productive old verticals and laterals. According to Avelino et al. (2004), there are positive, negative, and variable effects of pruning with regard to CLR management (<https://bit.ly/3g8jbEz>). They go on to say that the immediate effect of pruning, is a reduction of the foliage area that may intercept spores, and the elimination of infectious lesions. Thus, pruning simultaneously reduces the amount of inoculum (CLR spores) available for dispersal and the probability of spore interception until new regrowth occurs.

Some level of CLR and CBB will continue to be present from one season to the next on infected/infested farms. As such, a goal for growers with CLR, is to keep the level under 5% incidence and with the lowest CBB infestation feasible, then maintain these low levels with recommended management practices.

PRIOR to pruning:

1. Strip-pick all coffee from the branches to kill CBB, and
2. Spray after strip-picking with approved fungicides to kill CLR spores and reduce their spread.

You may consider stump pruning in large blocks for CLR and CBB control. If maintaining a Kona-style pruning system, you may consider selective removal of laterals and verticals to assist with spray coverage and ease of spraying. Then, follow up with monitoring and spraying (as needed) for CLR and CBB. Find CLR spraying information here (<https://bit.ly/39G1IHW>) and CBB spraying information here (<https://bit.ly/39S4YL1>).

At CLR incidence levels greater than 5%, spraying, pruning, and leaf removal may be necessary to reduce CLR spore populations and severity levels (Pelli et al. 2014) (<https://bit.ly/3qp9ITq>). Do not move CLR-infected tree material off-farm, follow sanitation protocols (<https://bit.ly/3omfkXu>), and spray before

pruning to reduce CLR spread. Below are potential methods of disposal of plant materials colonized and infected by CLR:

- Burning
 - Apply for and abide by the regulations of your approved agricultural burning permit from the Department of Health's Clean Air Branch (<https://bit.ly/36HdURr>).
- Composting
 - Pile or chip and pile infected leaves and branches and cover the pile.
 - Secure the cover (over pile) to prevent live spores from being transferred back into the field.
 - Since branches may poke holes in the covering use a thick, non-porous material without holes or openings as a covering.
 - Keep the pile covered for at least 6 weeks.
- Solar heating
 - Collect infected leaves and enclose them in a non-porous bag.
 - If adding branches, use a thick, non-porous material to prevent branches from poking holes in the bag.
 - Leave the bag in direct sun for at least 6 weeks.

Once devoid of live CLR spores, plant materials can be returned to the farm as mulch or compost.

If you have any questions about CBB and CLR and their management, or CLR (%) incidence level, please don't hesitate to contact me by email (andreak@hawaii.edu) or text (415-604-1511). Provide me your name and phone number and I can call you back too.

Please stay safe and happy holidays!
-Andrea

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

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

Friday, December 25th, in observance of Christmas

Friday, January 1st, in observance of New Year's day

Remaining SBA Webinars for Nov & Dec

Wed, Dec. 2, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Diversification to be Resilient in Small Business

Learn about business strategies and goals for 2021 and why diversification is important to resiliency.

Guest speaker: Mink Center for Business & Leadership

Thur, Dec. 10, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Teambuilding for an Agile Workforce

Agility is an organization's ability to alter its direction or adjust to operate successfully. Learn ways to

develop a truly agile workforce to better face changing market conditions.
Guest speaker: Better Business Bureau

For more information or to register visit <https://bit.ly/2Joes5y>

Kuha'o Business Center: Free workshops & announcements

Moloka'i Farming Cost-Reimbursement Program

Deadline to apply is Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

Download a fillable application at <http://bit.ly/2Ib71KU>

Starting a Business in Hawaii

Wednesday, 12/2/2020 - 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM via Zoom

No cost but must pre-register, visit <https://bit.ly/36sgx9p>

Save the Date!

Join us for a live, virtual community meeting to learn about our proposed Community-Based Renewable Energy program and associated solar PV + battery storage project on Moloka'i at Hawaiian Electric's Pa'alau Power Plant.

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 - 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Go to hawaiianelectric.com/communitymeetings

Holiday Market Readiness Online Workshop

Dec. 7, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

With special guests: Forage Hawai'i, Ho'ola Honey, Ahiki Acres

Learn strategies these small agri-businesses are taking to make our local gift lists this year.

Register at www.gofarmhawaii.org

Social Media Marketing in 2021: 5 Tools You MUST Use!

Join us on ZOOM

Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020

12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

To register for this virtual class please call the KUHAO Business Center 808-553-8100
