

## **Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter**

Volume 9-3, September 2021

Dear Growers and Friends,

### **Thank you Sen. Hirono, Sen. Schatz, Rep. Case, Rep. Kahele and industry leaders!**

Sept. 29, 2021 - The Hawai'i Delegation: Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), Rep. Ed Case (D-HI-01) and Rep. Kaiiali'i Kahele(D-HI-02), introduced bicameral legislation to enable research funding to address all current and emerging threats to the United States coffee and macadamia nut industries. The Coffee Plant Health Initiative Amendments Act (CPHIAA) and Macadamia Tree Health Initiative Amendments Act (MTHIAA) would remove existing restrictions on the limited scope of research and grant funding for the coffee plant and macadamia tree.

Under current law, research for both crops only address two invasive and harmful species: the macadamia felted coccid (MFC) and coffee berry borer (CBB). The CPHIAA and MTHIAA expands research to address all macadamia tree and coffee plant pests and weeds.

Read the PA release here: <https://bit.ly/3imhmq0>

### **Crop insurance presentations and LIVE Q&A - Find out how coffee leaf rust is covered!**

Please join us for crop insurance presentations and to participate in a LIVE Q&A on Tues., Oct. 5, 2021. Feel free to watch the recordings (<https://bit.ly/3uyfFKF>) prior to the 5th. I will also play them on Zoom before the Q&A session. Here's the schedule for Oct. 5:

- **9:00 AM** - Coffee fruit and coffee tree crop insurance policies and available subsidies - presented by Bonnie Lind of Lind Insurance Services
- **9:30 AM** - Whole farm revenue protection - presented by Shannon Antonini of American AgCredit
- **9:40 AM** - Coffee tree pest and disease coverage and tree removal/replacement - presented by Scott Shulin of the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA)
- **9:55 AM** - The pre-acceptance inspection, good farming practices, producer records, causes of loss (tree, fruit), submitting a notice of loss (tree, fruit), and what can be expected from an inspection upon receipt of notice of loss - presented by Bill Chase of Rural Community Insurance Services (RCIS)
- **Break**
- **10:30 AM** - LIVE Q&A with the presenters (Lind, Antonini, Shulin and Chase)

Can't make it on the 5th? Join us on Thurs., Dec 2nd and have another opportunity to ask the presenters your questions.

If you aren't able to make either date or would like an event host to ask the question(s) for you, feel free to send me your question(s) via email at [andreak@hawaii.edu](mailto:andreak@hawaii.edu). The Q&A sessions will be recorded so we can capture FAQs and answers and then have it available to you.

**Register here (<https://bit.ly/3ikGCwL>) or by clicking on the flyer below.** We will email you the Zoom

link which you can then use to join us on Oct. 5th and Dec. 2nd.

-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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**Kauai Little Fire Ant Webinar (October 6, 2021 @ 9:00 AM)**

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

# Moloa 'a Little Fire Ant Detection

October 6th, 2021 | at 9:00 am  
Register at <https://bit.ly/kauaifireants>

 **Michelle Montgomery & Heather Forester** Hawaii Ant Lab 

 **Craig Kaneshige** Hawaii Department of Agriculture 

 **Tiffani Keanini** Kauai Invasive Species Committee 

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**Next Level Marketing for New Business Webinar**

Due to technical difficulties, the Kuha'ō Business Center is offering the "Next Level Marketing for New Business" workshop again!

**Wednesday, October 6, 2021**

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**RSVP to Kuha'ō Business Center - call 808-553-8100**

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### **Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers Conference**

The Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers Conference scheduled for October 8-9 has cancelled the in-person portion of the event, but will still upload new videos to their website: [www.HTFG.org](http://www.HTFG.org)

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### **Kona Coffee Cultural Festival**

Thursday, November 4-7, 2021

Visit <https://konacoffeefest.com> for all event information.

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### **8th Annual Hawaiian Airlines Made in Maui County Festival**

Friday, November 5, 2021 & Saturday, November 6, 2021

Visit <https://www.madeinmauicountyfestival.com> for more event info.

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### **New Interim Hawaii County Administrator for Cooperative Extension**

On October 1, 2021, Dr. Michael Shintaku will assume the position of Interim Hawaii County Administrator for Hawaii Cooperative Extension. Dr. Shintaku moves to this position from his current role as a professor of Plant Pathology at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Shintaku will follow Dr. Susan Miyasaka in the Interim Hawaii County Administrator role as she prepares for retirement.



Dr. Shintaku received his Master's degree in Plant Pathology from UH Manoa as a CTAHR student. He also earned a PhD in Plant Pathology from Cornell University. Shintaku brings a working knowledge of Hawaii County agriculture and a familiarity with Cooperative Extension programs and personnel in the county. Please welcome Michael to his new role in providing leadership to the UH Manoa Research and Cooperative Extension efforts in Hawaii County.

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### **Hawaii Tourism Authority's Community Enrichment Program RFP**

**HONOLULU** – The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) has announced that it is resuming its Community Enrichment Program (CEP), which supports community-based projects, festivals and events that enhance resident and visitor experiences, and create opportunities for meaningful economic development.

HTA is partnering with the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and the Island Chapters to administer its 2022 CEP process. HVCB has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide funding support to qualified nonprofit organizations and projects in 2022, and is seeking proposals from the community.

Proposals must fall into one of the following tourism niche categories:

- **Agriculture Tourism:** Tourism related to experiencing and appreciating agricultural products, settings, and lifestyles.
- Cultural Tourism
- Culinary Tourism
- Nature Tourism
- Education Tourism
- Health and Wellness Tourism
- Sports Tourism
- Voluntourism

The deadline for applicants to email proposals to the respective Island Chapter is November 5, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. HST. Applicants are encouraged to review and download the RFP at: [www.hvcb.org/cep](http://www.hvcb.org/cep)

For more information and to register for the informational briefings, visit: [www.hvcb.org/cep](http://www.hvcb.org/cep).

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### **Hawai'i Organic Growers Must Apply for Organic Cost Share by Nov. 1, 2021**

Organic producers and handlers can now apply for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) funds to assist with the cost of receiving or maintaining organic certification. Applications for the Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP) are due Nov. 1, 2021 to your county office of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Eligible producers include any certified producers or handlers who have paid organic certification fees. Producers can be reimbursed for expenses made between Oct. 1, 2020 and Sept. 30, 2021 including application fees, inspection costs, fees related to equivalency agreement and arrangement requirements, travel expenses for inspectors, user fees, sales assessments and postage. For 2021, OCCSP will reimburse 50% of a certified operation's allowable certification costs, up to a maximum of \$500 for each of the following categories: crops, wild crops, livestock, processing/handling.

**For the Organic Certification Cost Share Program Application (CCC-884) Form:** <https://bit.ly/3m9ZmjC>  
**For the application instructions** <https://bit.ly/3iq6reS>

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### **USDA Grants for Certain Food Related Small Businesses for Pandemic Safety Related Costs**

Grants are capped at \$20K.  
 Applications period expected to open on Oct 5  
 For More Information: <https://bit.ly/3olKkdj>

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### **USDA Rural Development Innovation Center Funding and Grant Opportunities**

Farm Labor Housing Direct Loans and Grants: <https://bit.ly/3irzEpP>

#### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

USDA Rural Development offers Low interest loans and need-based grants to develop affordable housing for year-round, migrant, seasonal, retired, and/or disabled domestic farm laborers. **Application Deadline: Nov. 1, 2022**

USDA Racial Equity and Justice Conservation Program - <https://bit.ly/3uzYylv>

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership and funding to expand the delivery of conservation assistance to historically underserved farmers and ranchers, including socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning, tribal and veteran. **Application Deadline: Oct. 25, 2021**

USDA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) - Phase I - <https://bit.ly/3B0P0Zu>

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture offers funding for research that focuses on the development of new technologies that address important problems affecting people, institutions, and communities in rural America, including health, agriculture, rural development, and the environment. **Application Deadline: Nov. 3, 2021**

Rural Business Development Grants - <https://bit.ly/3mdR1vn>

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications to support economic development and create jobs for people in rural America. **Application Deadline: Feb. 28, 2022**

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### **Help Identify Rural Community and Workforce Priorities**

The four Regional Rural Development Centers (<https://bit.ly/3irKgVz>) are leading an effort to identify the issues various rural stakeholders see as top priorities for economic and workforce development. **We invite you to participate in this effort by completing an online survey (<https://bit.ly/3oqFQ5e>) to share more about the challenges and opportunities you see for investing in Rural America. Responses must be submitted no later than October 6, 2021.**

Responses to the survey will be used to formulate a public report, identifying both regional and national priorities. This report will help guide the work of the four Regional Rural Development Centers and will be shared with USDA NIFA and other federal partners as stakeholder feedback. Results of the survey will also be the basis for listening sessions - convenings of selected stakeholders with facilitated dialogue that deepens our understanding of the priorities identified.

To complete the survey, visit: <https://bit.ly/RuralPrioritiesSurvey>

Please contact Betsy Newman ([betsy.newman@usu.edu](mailto:betsy.newman@usu.edu)), WRDC Associate Director, with your questions regarding the survey.

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### **USDA FPAC September 2021 Newsletter for Hawaii and the Pacific Basin**

To view the full newsletter visit <https://bit.ly/3uvvu4U>

In this issue:

- USDA Designates Honolulu County, Hawaii as a Primary Natural Disaster Area
  - Hawaii County Producers May be Eligible for the Emergency Conservation Program
  - Lenders Can Now Apply for New Heirs' Property Relending Program
  - Noninsured Crop Coverage Helps Producers Manage Risks
  - Dates to Remember
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