

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

Volume 6-1, June 2022

Dear Growers and Friends,

### **Coffee Desuckering Field Day in Kona**

Please register and join us on Saturday, June 4th at 9:00 AM for a Coffee Desuckering Field Day at the Kona Research Station. See the flyer below for additional details and the registration link.

### **Updated - HDOA CBB and CLR Pesticide Subsidy Product List**

Learn about and apply for the HDOA CBB/CLR Pesticide Subsidy Program at

<https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/main/cbbsubsidy/> and see the updated list of products here - <https://bit.ly/3LOWzHv>

### **Hawaii Coffee Association Conference, Presentations, and Cupping**

Mahalo to the HCA organizers, sponsors, partners, attendees and volunteers for a terrific conference in Kona! Also, congratulations to all winners and awardees of this year's cupping and conference!

- View the presentations here - <https://bit.ly/3LVfD6l>
- View the cupping results here - <https://bit.ly/3wMfeOA>
- Next year's conference will be held on Kauai.

Have a great weekend!

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

Monday, May 30th, in observance of Memorial Day

Friday, June 10th in observance of King Kamehameha Day

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### **Upcoming Q Arabica Grader Course at Pacific Coffee Research**



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COFFEE QUALITY INSTITUTE®

Q Arabica Grader Course  
With guest instructor, Tim Heinze  
LINK IN BIO

This June, Pacific Coffee Research is welcoming Tim Heinze back to Hawaii Island and their farm-side Lab to host the Q Arabica Grader Combo Training & Exams Course (<https://bit.ly/3NzgY4u>).

What is "The Q"?

CQI's Q Coffee System is an internationally-recognized program for evaluating cup quality based on a standardized system for Arabica coffee using protocols developed by the SCA. A Q Arabica Grader is a highly trained and calibrated coffee taster who evaluates coffee using SCA cupping standards and protocols.

While there are no required prerequisite courses to take the Q Arabica Combo Course, it is recommended that registered students be familiar with CQI/SCA cupping protocol, the SCA cupping form, and have at least introductory experience with cupping and tasting coffees. Got questions? Reach out to Madeleine at [madeleine@pcr.coffee](mailto:madeleine@pcr.coffee)

There are FOUR remaining spots for this course

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### **Starting a Business in Hawai'i**

#### **Have you ever thought about owning your own business?**

How do you go about doing that . . .

- Deciding on a type of business entity?
- Setting up your business?
- Finding the money to start?
- Identifying your customers and marketing your product or services?
- Coming up with a business plan?
- Finding a system for keeping track of all that money you'll be making?

We can help you answer those concerns and identify the resources you'll need to help you move forward.

**Tuesday, June 7, 2022**

**10:00-11:30 AM**

**\$15**

**On Line Webinar**

**Register Now - <https://bit.ly/3MYbujZ>**

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### **WUSATA: Register for 2022 ASEAN Outbound Mission to Vietnam with Buyers from SE Asia!**

The Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA®) and the 13 Western State Departments of Agriculture announce participation and registration in the following activity, which is brought to you by the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service:

#### **2022 ASEAN Outbound Mission to Vietnam with Buyers from SE Asia**

**July 14-16, 2022**

The ASEAN market continues to be an appealing and growing market for WUSATA companies. U.S. products can be well suited for the ASEAN market due to seasonality, versatility, variety, and reputation for quality and safety. During this mission, U.S. food and agricultural products from the Western states will be introduced to relevant buyers of Vietnam and other Southeast Asia countries. USDA/FAS will provide an insightful briefing on the market, and you will attend matchmaking meetings with targeted buyers/importers from the region to establish potential business relationships. A market tour will also be organized for you to see local retail facilities and the availability and merchandising of competing U.S.

products. Facility tours may also be arranged. Participants will be able to gain extensive knowledge of the Southeast Asia region, consumption habits, distribution channels, and how COVID-19 has impacted trade.

**Benefits of Participation:**

- Meet in person with qualified buyers from Vietnam and surrounding Southeast Asian countries in one central location of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- Learn and gather information on current Vietnam and targeted ASEAN country market trends, and consumer and buyer preferences
- Evaluate where best your products would fit within current retail and food service space through a market tour and briefings
- WUSATA will cover up to three nights of lodging in Ho Chi Minh City for ONE company representative. Companies will cover airfare and meals.

**Itinerary:**

July 13 - Arrival to Ho Chi Minh

July 14 - Market Briefing and B2B Meetings

July 15 - B2B Meetings

July 16 - Market retail tours and departure

**Participation Fee:** \$350.00

**Registration Deadline:** May 31, 2022

**Register Now - <https://bit.ly/3wMR47N>**

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**Kawanui Farm has 2 New Grape videos to share!**

We're so excited about how the Grape Project is progressing we just had to share this with you! Here are the links to two new Spring videos.

- <https://bit.ly/3PGpYXj>
- <https://bit.ly/3sYVG8q>

Read more at - <https://bit.ly/3LKlnAd>

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**A Petition to Increase availability of County Mulch and Green Waste drop-off days for Kona residents**

Aloha West Hawaii Farmers and Residents,

Please help us to convince Hawaii County to increase the availability of county mulch and green waste drop-off days at Kealakehe in Kona.

Our goal is to reach 500 signatures and we need your support. You can read more and sign the petition here:

<https://chng.it/mZq4SWSJ8H>

Mahalo from the Kona Soil & Water Conservation District, and the Hawaii Avocado Association

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### **Vendor Applications Now Accepted for the 9th Annual Hawaiian Airlines Made in Maui County Festival**

The Maui Chamber of Commerce is accepting Product Vendor and Food Truck Vendor Applications for the 2022 Hawaiian Airlines Made in Maui County Festival. The 9th Annual event will be held at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center on November 4 and 5, 2022 and virtually through an online marketplace.

Presented by the Maui Chamber of Commerce, this two-day event is the largest products show in Maui County. This event showcases local businesses that produce “Made in Maui County” products and provide opportunities for participating vendors to meet with prospective retailers and wholesalers and connect with new customers. The County of Maui and Office of Economic Development supports the event with title sponsor Hawaiian Airlines.

“After a difficult year in 2021 with the virtual event platform crashing and having to reschedule the event twice, we are excited to get back to a full in-person event at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center,” says Maui Chamber President Pamela Tumpap. “We can’t wait to see the new companies who have emerged from the pandemic and welcome back returning vendors throughout Maui County.”

The applications are online and vendors are asked to include pictures of products, packaging, videos, and details of the manufacturing process. The event is a juried show and vendors are encouraged to be thorough and include details to ensure they meet the vendor qualifications.

Vendors should visit [www.MadeInMauiCountyFestival.com](http://www.MadeInMauiCountyFestival.com) to apply. All online vendor applications are due no later than 4:30 p.m. July 15, 2022.

The Product Vendor and Food Truck Information Packets and digital applications, with step-by-step instructions, are available and can be found at [www.MadeInMauiCountyFestival.com](http://www.MadeInMauiCountyFestival.com)

For more information, email [office@mauichamber.com](mailto:office@mauichamber.com) or call (808) 244-0081.

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### **2022 Maui AgFest & 4-H Livestock Fair**

War Memorial Special Events Field

**Saturday, June 4, 2022**

9 am to 4:30 pm

All the signature events will be back, including the Maui Legacy Pancake Breakfast, Grand Taste, Keiki Zone, 4-H Livestock Show and Auction, Farmers’ Market, Education Tent and food booths/food trucks. The event is free, and parking is \$5 per car.

New this year is an easy registration system in order to reduce crowding in popular areas. Attendees can

go online to [mauicountyfarmbureau.org](http://mauicountyfarmbureau.org) and schedule a time slot to visit the Keiki Zone and the 4-H Livestock Show. Simply show your registration to enter. As always, attendees can purchase tickets for the Legacy Pancake Breakfast and Grand Taste chefs' event; online sales start May 1.

For all other areas at AgFest, no need to register; they will be wide open to the public. Shop, eat, learn, shop, eat some more! These areas include:

- Farmers' market
- Education tents
- Tractor displays
- Food trucks & food booths
- Eating areas
- Restrooms

Vendors and sponsors are encouraged to join Maui AgFest 2022 by filling out an online application at [mauicountyfarmbureau.org](http://mauicountyfarmbureau.org). For the Grown on Maui Farmers' Market, only product grown on Maui is allowed. New this year is the Made in Maui market for vendors who are official Made in Maui members and including not only agricultural products like Maui Crisps beef jerky and Maui 'Ulu Hummus, but also jewelry, clothing and more.

It's everything you've come to expect from Maui AgFest, coming to you live and in-person on June 4, 2022: mark your calendars now!

-Maui County Farm Bureau

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#### **USDA & IJJA Grants - 05.24.22**

**Organic Cost Share Programs - <https://bit.ly/38O5kE9>**

*Farm Service Agency*

**<https://bit.ly/3PChEbf>**

**Organic Cost Share Programs - <https://bit.ly/3z5aYN3>**

*Farm Service Agency*

**<https://bit.ly/3IMCjLO>**

**Agricultural Genome to Phenome Initiative - <https://bit.ly/3LO6Vak>**

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture*

*Closes 7/21/2022*

**<https://bit.ly/3ao6c2N>**

**Children, Youth, and Families at Risk 4-H Military Partnership Professional Development and Technical Assistance Program - <https://bit.ly/3PKPwmn>**

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture*

*Closes 6/23/2022*

**<https://bit.ly/3NAyXaD>**

**Children, Youth, and Families At-Risk Professional Development and Technical Assistance Program -**

<https://bit.ly/3NBMvCV>

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Closes 6/21/2022

<https://bit.ly/3sX3x6H>

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### **Funding Opportunities**

Hawaii Agriculturalists,

The attached is for informational purposes only and provided as a reference to Hawaii agricultural stakeholders and not as an endorsement. It is not a comprehensive listing of grant and loan opportunities. While the information is current as of May 2022, it is important to check for updates. The information is sorted by the focus of the funder as shown on their website.

**Download the grant & loan opportunities pdf - <https://bit.ly/38jPGQL>**

We encourage feedback – additions/corrections/comments will make this resource more valuable to Hawaii agriculturalists – send feedback to: [hdoa.md@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.md@hawaii.gov)

Thank you,

Sharon Hurd  
Market Development Branch  
Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
(808) 973-9465

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### **NASS Pacific Region - Labor - Released May 25, 2022**

Visit <https://bit.ly/3ISXagy> to view the report.

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### **USDA Extends Deadline to June 15 for Public to Comment on Competition Challenges in Seed, Fertilizer, Other Agricultural Inputs, and Retail Markets**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announces a 30-day extension to the public comment period to identify the impacts of concentration and competition challenges in seed, fertilizer, other agricultural inputs, and retail markets. **The new deadline is June 15, 2022.**

Three RFIs (requests for information) were published in the Federal Register on March 17, 2022, each with a 60-day comment period ending May 16, 2022.

**Continue reading - <https://bit.ly/3z07cV1>**

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### **USDA Accepting Applications to Help Cover Costs of Organic, Transitioning Producers**

Agricultural producers and handlers who are certified organic, along with producers and handlers who are transitioning to organic production, can now apply for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP) and Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP), which help producers and handlers cover the cost of organic certification, along with other related expenses. Applications for OTECP and OCCSP are both due October 31, 2022.

OTECP covers certification costs for organic producers and handlers (25% up to \$250 per category); eligible expenses for transitional producers, including fees for pre-certification inspections and development of an organic system plan (75% up to \$750); registration fees for educational events (75% up to \$200) and soil testing (75% up to \$100).

Meanwhile, OCCSP covers 50% or up to \$500 per category of certification costs in 2022.

**Learn more - <https://bit.ly/3NDkTgA>**

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### **USDA Accepting Applications for 2022 Organic Certification Cost Share & OTECP**

Agricultural producers and handlers who are certified organic, along with producers and handlers who are transitioning to organic production, can now apply for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program (OTECP - <https://bit.ly/38iGFXy>) and Organic Certification Cost Share Program (OCCSP - <https://bit.ly/3wLZ34Y>), which help producers and handlers cover the cost of organic certification, along with other related expenses. Applications for OTECP and OCCSP are both due October 31, 2022.

"By helping with organic certification costs – long identified as a barrier to certification – USDA has helped producers participate in new markets while investing in the long-term health of their operations," said Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. "We launched the Organic and Transitional Education and Certification Program to build on the support offered through the Organic Certification Cost Share Program and provide additional assistance to organic and transitioning producers weathering the continued market impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, in response to stakeholder feedback, we have aligned the signup dates for these two organic programs and encourage producers to work with the local USDA Service Centers and State agencies to complete the applications. The FSA, and the USDA broadly, are committed to making sure our Nation's organic producers and handlers have the tools they need to continue positively shaping our local and regional food systems."

For more information on how to apply for OTECP and OCCSP assistance, view the USDA Farm Service Agency news release, linked below.

Deadline to apply for both programs: October 31, 2022.

**FSA Announcement - <https://bit.ly/3sY07R0>**

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**Announcing FY 2021 Payments for Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP) Program for Geographically Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers in Alaska, Hawaii, and Insular Areas**

Good news! FY 2021 Payments for Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP) will be issued tomorrow via direct deposit. RTCP payments are calculated based on the costs incurred for transportation of an agricultural commodity or inputs during a Fiscal Year, subject to an \$8,000 per producer cap per Fiscal Year, and a National payment factor, if applications exceed authorized funding. Total FY 2021 claims exceeded available funding; therefore, payments to recipients will be reduced by a National payment factor of 0.7191017 percent. If you were eligible for the maximum \$8,000 cap, the 0.7191017 payment factor would be applied and your actual payment would be \$5,752.81.

Sorry this is a group email and I'm not sure if all in this email applied and were approved for payment. If not, please sign up for the upcoming FY 2022 RTCP.

FY 2022 RTCP signup will likely begin during the first week of July and end the first week of September. I've read and heard about the increases in agricultural operating input expenses (chemicals, fertilizer, gas, feed, etc.). Please keep invoices of your operating expenses directly related to the shipping and/or cultivation of the commodity you produce from 10/01/2021 through 09/30/2022.

A bit of good news for FY 2022 RTCP. We have been informed that the National Office is working on automating FY 2022 payments, and funding will be increased from \$2 million to \$3 million. Fully automating payments will hopefully result in a quicker process and the increase in funding will probably result in a more favorable payment factor and increased payments next year. The goal is for payments to be issued in January or February, 2023 at the latest. That's a goal, though...

Please feel free to phone 808-861-8538, #104 or email if you have questions. Stay safe and keep going...Jason

Jason G. Shitanishi  
County Executive Director  
Farm Service Agency  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
3375 Koapaka Street B-211  
Honolulu HI 96819  
Tel: (808) 861-8538 ext. 104  
Fax: (855) 356-9490

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### **HMNA May Meeting Cancelled**

Aloha,

The May HMNA meeting will be cancelled for this month. We will resume our monthly meetings on Tuesday June 21st.

Other items to note:

- We are continuing preparations for the annual meeting at the Hilton Waikoloa on July 9th. We've just confirmed Chris Searle as our keynote speaker. Chris Searle is one of the world's most respected macadamia farming consultants, working with clients in his home country of



Australia, as well as South Africa, China, and Guatemala. You will not want to miss this event. **Register at <https://bit.ly/3IKyQxm>**

- The USDA released their report on the 2021 Hawaii macadamia nut crop (<https://bit.ly/3yZiyN2>). The crop came in at a total of 51 million pounds up significantly from 2020.

Mahalo,

Nathan Trump  
President  
Hawaii Macadamia Nut Association

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### **USDA Pays Nearly \$2 Million to Producers for Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment Program**

HONOLULU, Hawaii, May 19, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) today announced nearly \$2 million will be issued to 882 producers through the 2021 Reimbursement Transportation Cost Payment (RTCP) program beginning on May 19, 2022. The RTCP helps eligible farmers and ranchers outside the contiguous U.S., including those in Hawaii and the Pacific, offset a portion of the cost of transporting agricultural products or inputs used to produce an agricultural commodity over long distances.

To continue reading visit - <https://bit.ly/3wPNDfp>

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### **USDA Designates Two Hawaii Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas**

This Secretarial natural disaster designation allows the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) to extend much-needed emergency credit to producers recovering from natural disasters through emergency loans (<https://bit.ly/3GieJAh>). Emergency loans can be used to meet various recovery needs including the replacement of essential items such as equipment or livestock, reorganization of a farming operation or the refinance of certain debts. FSA will review the loans based on the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (<https://bit.ly/3MTcHcm>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

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### **Office of Economic Revitalization Small Business Update**

To view the full newsletter visit - <https://bit.ly/3NzghrV>  
In this issue:

- Tell the City What You Think About Economic & Workforce Development
- City Expands Free COVID-19 Testing

- KūHana Business Accelerator
  - Free LED Lighting Upgrades
- 

**USDA AMS -- New Local Food Data//Grants, Farmers Markets, NASS Reports, Webinars, Seeds of Success**

View the full newsletter at - <https://bit.ly/39Vckzo>

In this issue:

- USDA Announces \$9.98 Million in Grants to Strengthen the Specialty Crop Industry
  - First Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Signed to Support Local and Regional Farmers
  - Funding Opportunities
  - USDA Farmers Market Reopens
  - USDA Releases Local Food Marketing Practices Data
  - Local and Regional Food Systems Recovery and Resilience Webinar
  - Seeds of Success: Digging into Farmers Market and Local Food Distribution Program
- 

**The Kohala Center Agricultural Resources Bulletin: May 19, 2022**

View the full newsletter at - <https://bit.ly/3lLo8Xy>

In this issue:

- Opportunities
  - Events
  - Production News
- 

**Foods of Hawaii NEWS**

In this issue:

- HFMA is seeking Board of Director Nominations
  - HFMA is soliciting nominations for candidates to serve a two-year term on the next board of directors. The term will run from July 1, 2022 thru June 30, 2024. Fortunately, several our current directors have expressed interest in returning. This great, especially if that continuity is blended with fresh ideas and new perspectives.

The available seats are:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer

- Secretary
- Director -5 seats
- Please email your nominations of who you would like to help lead our association to **hfma@foodsofhawaii.com** by **Friday May 27, 2022**. Each nomination should include name and office. Also, please do not hesitate to nominate yourself.

Eligibility to serve as an Officer (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) is limited to Manufacturing members. All members are eligible to serve as Directors.

- In-Person Workshop: Product Photography for Social Media Marketing
  - June 4, 2022 - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
  - **To register visit - <https://bit.ly/3acGIFk>**
- E-Commerce: Functionality and Definitions Course
  - Wednesday, June 8 - 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
  - **To register visit - <https://bit.ly/3wMkRwh>**

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### **Western Sustainable Research & Education (WSARE) May News from Western SARE**

View the full newsletter at <https://bit.ly/3PYagXU>

In this issue:

- Growing Mushrooms to Remediate Contaminated Soil
  - Funding Available
  - Recently Funded Projects
  - Welcome New AC Members
  - News Round-Up
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