

Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter

Volume 3-2, March 2023

Dear Growers and Friends,

Sprayer calibration for airblast sprayers and hand-held sprayers, respirator use and fit-testing events in Kona, Hilo, and Kau for coffee and orchard crop growers:

We will be co-hosting sprayer calibration events for airblast sprayers, hand-held sprayers, and respirator use and fit-testing events in Kona, Hilo, and Kau for coffee and orchard crop growers. The Hawaii Community Health Center will be joining us to administer blood pressure and glucose level tests for interested participants, and a doctor will be on-hand on April 12 and 14 ONLY, to review (in-person) medical evaluations for respirator use. Respirator fit testing will be conducted by our partners from the University of Nebraska, but you must be medically approved by a medical physician to use a respirator BEFORE being fit tested. **Medical evaluation and respirator fit testing appointment slots are limited, so register and sign-up your workers and pesticide handlers today!**

- April 11, 12, 13 - Kona
- April 14 - Hilo
- April 15 - Kau

See each flyer further below for complete event details for each location.

Additional Information

Medical evaluation form (free):
Español medical evaluation form (free):
3M medical evaluation form (this evaluation form costs):

A medical professional will be present in Kona to evaluate your medical form on April 12 ONLY.
A medical evaluation must be approved by a medical professional before a respirator fit test can be performed.
Sign-up is required for a respirator fit test during registration.

April 11th Agenda:
9:00 to 10:00 am - Respirator use training
10:00 am to noon - Sprayer calibration (airblast sprayer)
Noon to 1:00 pm - Lunch on your own
1:00 to 2:00 pm - Respirator use training
2:00 to 4:00 pm - Sprayer calibration (backpack/handheld)

April 12th and 13th Agenda:
9:00 am to noon - Respirator fit testing
Noon to 1:00 pm - Lunch on your own
1:00 to 3:00 pm - Respirator fit testing

Have your blood pressure and glucose levels measured by Hawaii Community Health Center staff on April 11 and 12.

Please disregard my update about the HDOA subsidy program from the last two newsletters. I was incorrect. **Funding runs out in June 2023, so don't miss this opportunity to get reimbursed for both CBB and CLR receipts!!** See the HDOA subsidy website (<https://bit.ly/3TXgXMc>) for an application, program coordinator contact information, and additional details. My apologies for any confusion this may have caused.

New Publication:

- "Field Efficacy of Spinetoram (Delegate WG) for the Management of Coffee Berry Borer (*Hypothenemus hampei*)" by Andrea Kawabata, Roxana Myers, Matthew Miyahira, Nicholas Yamauchi, and Stuart T. Nakamoto has been published in *Insects* as part of the Special Issue Biology, Ecology, and Management of CBB.
 - <https://bit.ly/3TXuK5t>

Poster presented at the Extension Risk Management Education National Conference in Chicago this week.

- "Enhancing the Adoption of Crop Insurance for Coffee in Hawaii by Integrating Pest and Disease Management" by Andrea Kawabata, Matthew Miyahira, Shannon Sand, and Stuart T. Nakamoto.
 - <https://bit.ly/3KoGBGr>

Coffee Industry survey re: CLR-resistant varieties of Catimor hybrids, False Tupi, and Obata.

Aloha,

For the past two seasons (2021-2023), UH-CTAHR Kona faculty and staff have maintained, harvested, collected yield and cherry size data, and cupped coffee from individual Catimor hybrid trees at the Kona Research Station in Kainaliu. In April 2023, we will cup the top trees from the 2022-2023 crop. If you would like to learn more about our Catimor hybrid project, please view a recorded presentation at <https://bit.ly/40E6pEo>

So far, CLR has not caused sporulating lesions on any of the 20 of trees and 8 of the top Catimor hybrid trees have been confirmed by USDA ARS PBARC as CLR-resistant. Two seasons of observations and harvests have also given us a better understanding of the top producing and top quality trees from this field. In addition, we have False Tupi and Obata varieties which are also showing resistance to CLR.

Currently, we are at a point of determining if growers are 1) interested in receiving plant materials from these top Catimor hybrid trees, False Tupi, and/or Obata trees, and 2) how growers prefer to receive the plant materials if they are made available to the industry.

We are NOT currently distributing seed or plant materials to the industry. However, to help determine our next steps, please complete this survey and provide us with your feedback (<https://bit.ly/3Zw5554>). This survey is open to all coffee producers in Hawaii, but is NOT anonymous.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at andreak@hawaii.edu, 808-322-4892, or 415-604-1511 (text ok).

-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, April 15th, in observance of Good Friday

HDOA's CBB/CLR Pesticide Subsidy Program

Funding runs out in June 2023, so don't miss this opportunity to get reimbursed for both CBB and CLR receipts!!

Aloha Coffee Farmers,

There is help out there for your struggles with Coffee Leaf Rust!! Please send in your application for the CBB-CLR Subsidy and get 50% reimbursement of your spray product receipts.

Start on the program webpage (<https://bit.ly/3IL7uUm>) to get an application (<https://bit.ly/3IsRghk>) and view a list of HDOA-approved products (<https://bit.ly/3IGU8bs>) that we reimburse. Please email the completed form to hdoa.cbb@hawaii.gov with your receipts from 7/1/21 - 6/30/22. If you prefer, call for a paper application and mail it in with your receipts. You can also come to the office in Captain Cook for an appointment.

If you're new to the program, there's one more form to fill out and I will need your GET#, and SS# or FEIN# as well as an ID. If you need help with spray decisions, and understanding when to use or mix CLR sprays, please see UH-CTAHR's spray document (<https://bit.ly/3xHGU85>), especially the excellent table at the end on pages 5-7.

Melanie Bondera, CBB-CLR Subsidy Program

Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Phone: 808-323-7578

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 226

Captain Cook, HI 96704

Physical address:

82-6130 Mamalahoa Hwy, Room # 7

Captain Cook, HI 96704

Looking for Coffee Participants for Agroecology Research Interviews

Hello coffee growers,

My name is Sanya and I am a Ph.D. student at UC Santa Cruz in the Environmental Studies department. I study the ecological and social dynamics of coffee production and I am looking for coffee producers who might be willing to chat with me for ~1hr about your farming practices for a study about coffee farming

knowledge systems. I will conduct interviews in person in June and July. I would like to share the results in an article made available to all who are interested as well as publish a paper in an academic journal.

If you are interested in participating, please reach out to me at:

email: scowal@ucsc.edu

phone: +1 503 867 9901

Thank you so much for your consideration, I look forward to connecting soon!

Warmly, Sanya Cowal

Busco participantes: las prácticas de cultivación de café

Buen día a todos,

Me gustaría invitarles a participar en un proyecto de investigación sobre el tema: las prácticas de cultivación de café. Mi nombre es Sanya y soy estudiante de pos-grado en el Departamento de Estudios del Medio Ambiente en la Universidad de California, Santa Cruz. El enfoque de mi proyecto es estudiar la dinámica ecológica y los aspectos sociales de la producción de café.

Se les invita a participar en una entrevista de 1 hora en junio-julio. La entrevista será conducida en persona en español o inglés. Su participación es completamente voluntaria. Me gustaría compartir el resultado de estas entrevistas con todos los participantes a través de un informe para el público y también en un diario académico.

Si está interesado en participar en este proyecto de investigación por favor envíeme un correo electrónico o mandame un chat.

correo electrónico: scowal@ucsc.edu

teléfono: +1 503 867 9901

Gracias por su tiempo y consideración.

Saludos, Sanya Cowal

Looking for Coffee Participants for a Coqui Frog Diet Project

Investigating the novel ecological network on coffee farms through the diet of the common coqui (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*)

Jennifer (Jenny) Teresa Flores, MSc. is a Ph.D. student in the department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor with training in environmental science, agroecology, and invasive species. She is advised by Dr. John Vandermeer and Dr. Ivette Perfecto, who work closely on agroecological research in the Neotropics. For her dissertation, she is conducting a comparative study assessing the ecological role of coqui frogs (*Eleutherodactylus coqui*) on coffee farms in Puerto Rico, to which they are native, and Hawai'i, which they have recently invaded. She is seeking connections with

coffee farmers in Hawai'i that may be interested in participating in a research project on the coqui frog diet in June-July of 2023.

Learn more about this project and expectations of the cooperator here - <https://bit.ly/3zlwFRm>

If you are interested in becoming a cooperator, please contact Jenny by email: floresjt@umich.edu or phone: +1 (773) 396 9115.

HDOA Hawaii Agriculture & Food Products Database - BECOME A REGISTERED VENDOR!

Aloha Hawaii Agriculturalists: See below about HDOA's Hawaii Agriculture & Food Products Database

Vendor sign up: <http://bit.ly/3nE1ODz>

Email hdoa.products@hawaii.gov or call 808-973-9595 with any inquiries or for technical support.

GoFarm Hawaii AgOrchard Course Summer 2023

Aloha,

We are excited to announce that applications are open for this summer's AgOrchard Course, which will teach the basics of commercial orchard production from planning and layout to maintenance and harvesting. The course will also incorporate business skills such as financial analysis and marketing.

Dates: **May 31 - August 5, 2023**

Times: **Wednesday 5:30-7:30pm (online), Saturdays 8:00am-2:00pm (field)**

Location (for Saturday classes): **Various orchards around Oahu**

Application Deadline: **May 15**

For more info and to apply: visit www.gofarmhawaii.org

Kauai Farmer Resource Fair

I am writing to invite you to a FREE Resource Fair for the farming community on Kauai to be held at the KAUI WAR MEMORIAL CONVENTION HALL 4191 HARDY STREET LIHUE, HI 96766 on THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2023 4-6:30 PM is being organized by OACA, UH CTAHR, GoFarm, North Shore EVP, and many other partners. Please see the attached flyer for details - no registration is necessary.

You may have joined us last year for a similar event where you can meet vendors, service providers, technicians, and experts who can help you with your farm business, get information about plant disease and pest control, and learn about government and nonprofit programs that are available to you.

Come chat with us about your farm concerns and ideas and get the chance to win a free soil test and

other giveaways!

Translation services will be available in Thai, and Mandarin.

Please spread the word and we look forward to seeing you there! Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Mahalo,

Andreanna Kaluhiokalani
Oahu Agriculture and Conservation Association
Outreach Coordinator
cell:808-673-8670

USDA Value Added Producer Grant

The USDA Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) is open for application for FY23. The objective of the program is to assist agricultural producers in starting or expanding value added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of value added agricultural products. Grants are available for planning or working capital projects. Program information can be found at: <https://bit.ly/3IYbhVI>

Application Deadline:

Electronic Applications (Grants.gov): May 11, 2023

Paper Applications postmarked: May 16, 2023

Program funding: Approximately \$31 million

Maximum Award Amounts:

Planning Grants: \$75,000

Working Capital Grants: \$250,000

Matching Funds Requirement: 1-to-1 Match

Contact the Hawaii Island Business Programs Specialist, noted below, for any questions.

Lehuanani Angay
Business Programs Specialist
154 Waianuenue Avenue, Rm 311
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 933-8307 /Fax (855) 878-2460
lehuanani.angay@usda.gov

March 31st Deadline Approaching for Acreage Reporting and Underserved Producer Assistance

USDA Extends Deadline for Underserved Producers to Receive Additional Pandemic Assistance

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued nearly \$290.5 million in top-up payments through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP) to nearly 172,000 underserved producers. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will continue to issue payments to underserved producers who participated in CFAP 2 and are certified as underserved producers.

Producers without form CCC-860, Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, Beginning and Veteran Farmer or Rancher Certification, on file can submit by March 31, 2023, to receive the top-up payment. This is an extension from the Feb. 10, 2023, deadline. Contact your local USDA Service Center (<https://bit.ly/3KqIV0A>) for more information.

The top-up payment is part of a broader effort by the Biden-Harris administration to better reach agricultural producers and industries impacted by COVID-19 market disruptions by providing a holistic, inclusive approach to pandemic assistance.

USDA Reminds Hawaii and Pacific Basin Producers to File Crop Acreage and Production Reports

Agricultural crop producers in Hawaii and the Pacific Basin who have not yet completed their crop acreage reports (<https://bit.ly/3M2inTI>) after planting or submitted their yearly production reports should make an appointment with their Farm Service Agency (FSA) office before the applicable deadline.

An acreage report documents a crop grown on a farm or ranch and its intended uses. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses can prevent the loss of benefits.

How to File a Report

The deadline to submit production and acreage reports for fruits and vegetable crops covered by the Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) is March 31, 2023. Contact your FSA county office for a full list of applicable crops.

To file a crop acreage report, you will need to provide:

- Crop and crop type or variety.
- Intended use of the crop.
- Number of acres of the crop.
- Map with approximate boundaries for the crop.
- Planting date(s).
- Planting pattern, when applicable.
- Producer shares.
- Irrigation practice(s).
- Other information as required.

More Information

For questions or to make an appointment, please contact your local FSA office. To locate your local FSA office visit <https://bit.ly/3M7hARe>

[Macadamia Felted Coccid Infestation Survey](#)

Google Forms Survey Link: The Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Plant Pest Control Branch (HDOA-PPC) is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the release of a biological <https://bit.ly/40SLmO4>

To download the pdf survey visit - <https://bit.ly/3nDhDu7>

The Hawaii Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Plant Pest Control Branch (HDOA-PPC) is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the release of a biological control agent to control the macadamia felted coccid (MFC). *Metaphycus macadamiae* is a tiny parasitoid wasp which specifically feeds and reproduces on MFC. HDOA-PPC has researched this natural enemy of MFC and determined that it should not have any negative impact on plants, humans, the environment, any animal other than MFC. If approved for release into Hawai'i, *M. macadamiae* will be a natural, sustainable, and long-term control option to manage MFC infestations on macadamia nut trees for growers.

To better understand where MFC is currently distributed and where the areas are most affected are located, HDOA-PPC kindly asks macadamia nut growers to answer a brief questionnaire. The data collected will allow us to communicate the distribution status of this invasive pest and determine its spread across the island and/or state, and to prioritize where initial releases of the natural enemy will occur.

If you have a recent infestation of MFC (past 5 years), please provide us with the exact location. You can also send digital photographs, if you are unsure. Please take clear photos of the MFC scales up close and zoomed out.

For questions regarding the survey please contact:

Janis N. Matsunaga
Entomologist
Plant Pest Control Branch
Hawai'i Department of Agriculture
1428 S. King St.
Honolulu, HI 96814
email: Janis.N.Matsunaga@hawaii.gov

EPA's Draft Biological Evaluation for Cyantraniliprole

Trade names (examples): Exirel, Verimark, Benivia, Ference (turf)

EPA Memo: Public Participation for EPA's Draft Endangered Species Act (ESA) Biological Evaluation for Cyantraniliprole

<https://bit.ly/3K4lgRa>

Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0668-0063

Comments due: **April 2, 2023.**

Issue & Background: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies, including the EPA, to ensure that their actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of species listed as

threatened or endangered under the ESA, or destroy or adversely modify the designated critical habitat of such species. If EPA determines a pesticide may affect a listed species or its designated critical habitat, EPA must initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service (collectively referred to as the Services), as appropriate. EPA initiates formal consultations with the Services through the conduct and transmittal of a final Biological Evaluation with its findings.

The EPA is currently accepting public comments on their Draft Endangered Species Act (ESA) Biological Evaluation for Cyantraniliprole (<https://bit.ly/3JZH11a>). **Comments are due April 2, 2023.**

EPA Draft Biological Evaluation: Summary of Findings

- EPA determined “no effect” for 427 species and 273 designated critical habitats, based primarily on low overlap, no direct toxicity and no dependency on invertebrates for prey, pollination, habitat and dispersal.
- For those listed species and critical habitats with “may affect” determinations, EPA distinguished whether cyantraniliprole is likely to affect an individual when considering the species-specific habitat, life history, and other considerations of exposure and toxicity.
- EPA made “not likely to adversely affect” determinations for 588 listed species and 454 critical habitats. A majority of these determinations were based upon unlikely exposure due to the habitat or when specific physical and biological factors (PBFs) for the CHs are not expected to be impacted by cyantraniliprole.
- EPA made “likely to adversely affect” determinations for 703 listed species and 112 critical habitats. For the species, these were either: listed invertebrate species that may be directly affected; listed animals that rely upon insects for prey; or listed plants that rely upon insects for pollination or dispersal.
- For all critical habitats with “likely to adversely affect” determinations, physical and biological factors related to habitat quality for listed invertebrates and invertebrates that serve as prey, pollinators or dispersers were the primary factors leading to the determination.
- EPA further evaluated the “likely to adversely affect” species and designated critical habitats and made predictions about the likelihood of jeopardy to any listed species or adverse modification of any designated critical habitat from the use of cyantraniliprole *before implementation of mitigations*.
- Of the species with “likely to adversely affect” determinations, EPA predicted a likelihood of jeopardy for 68 listed species. EPA also predicted a likelihood of adverse modification of 12 designated critical habitats. These were identified primarily for terrestrial invertebrates, fish, plants, and critical habitats that are either directly impacted or highly dependent on terrestrial insects.

Table E-1 from the Executive Summary of the Draft Biological Evaluation

(<https://bit.ly/42TWIsi>) summarizes EPA's findings with respect to predicted adverse effects on listed and endangered species or adverse modification of critical habitat.

What's Next: After reviewing comments received during this public comment period on the draft Cyantraniliprole Biological Evaluation, EPA will issue a final Biological Evaluation and a response to public comments document.

EPA's full Draft Biological Evaluation for Cyantraniliprole (226 pages) is available in the public docket here: <https://bit.ly/438cQkG>

Additional documents related to the evaluation of cyantraniliprole for potential impacts on listed and endangered species can be found in the public docket: <https://bit.ly/3ZzK60W>

Save the Date for HCA 2023 Annual Conference & Cupping Competition

Aloha, HCA Friends and Supporters!

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming 28th HCA Annual Conference & Cupping Competition. We are planning on hosting a live event on the Island of Kauai at the beautiful Kauai Beach Resort & Spa.

For information about sponsorship opportunities, trade show and silent auction please follow this link - <https://bit.ly/3lg6U7w>

We hope to see you at the conference!

HCA Planning Committee

Final EA Released For Coffee Berry Borer Biocontrol

The Final Environmental Assessment (<https://bit.ly/3lKrkhj>) for the proposed field release of a parasitoid wasp to combat the destructive coffee berry borer in Hawai'i has been published, along with a Finding of No Significant Impact. The application for a permit to release the wasp was submitted the USDA-ARS (Agricultural Research Service) in Hilo and the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture Plant Plant Quarantine Branch.

Continue reading - <http://bit.ly/3YeJNbt>

HDOA's Branding Programs - SUPPORT & BUY LOCAL

Hawaii Agriculturalists,

Are you familiar with Hawaii Department of Agriculture's branding programs?
See below!

For more information:

HDOA Market Development Branch: <https://bit.ly/40R3hod>

Seal of Quality Application Process: <https://bit.ly/40xYLeC>

Seal of Quality webpage: <https://bit.ly/3KyAP5n>

Made in Hawaii with Aloha webpage (apply online): <https://bit.ly/3m5VFPM>

Hawaii Seal of Quality Instagram: <https://bit.ly/3Zx0gbu>

Made in Hawaii with Aloha Instagram: <https://bit.ly/3TZK01v>

Safely Preserving Locally Grown Specialty Produce through Hawaii Master Food Preservers Online Training

Watch this series of educational videos that demonstrate how to safely preserve our unique Hawaii-grown crops (<https://bit.ly/3zIGchw>). We will show you the step-by-step processes of water bath canning, high pressure canning, fermentation, pickling, freezing, dehydrating and packaging. You will learn the techniques, the art and the science behind food preservation. Enjoy our videos and let's start preserving!

Your hosts,
Jane Tai & Ken Love

HCA Booth at SCA 2023 Expo in Portland, OR this April!

HCA representatives are busily preparing for the largest specialty coffee expo in the US - the 2023 Specialty Coffee Association Expo (<https://bit.ly/40z0MHg>) on April 21-23, 2023 in Portland, OR - and we'd love to share the coffees you've produced with EXPO attendees! This is an important opportunity to showcase Hawaii's specialty coffees, and attract sales leads to Hawaii's producers.

We're seeking your coffee donations to be served at the HCA Booth #2061, Savor Brand's booth, and display booths of partner organizations and manufacturers.

What we need:

- Donations between 3 lb-10 lb of green coffee
- Origins: Kona, Ka'u, Maui, Kauai, Hamakua, Oahu, Puna, Molokai
- Natural process, honey process, carbonic maceration, yeast, or washed
- Distinct varieties: typica, caturra, bourbon, geisha, etc.
- From the 2022/2023 harvest season
- Must be green / unroasted

Please note: we cannot promote individual growers at this time, only the features of the coffee, its variety, processing method, and growing region. For instance, a Typica processed with carbonic maceration grown on Kauai.

Donate Here - <https://bit.ly/3znfLlp>

Mahalo for considering donating coffee for this event!
HCA Booth Planning Committee

Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers Newsletter

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

In this issue:

- Tropical Fruits featuring Ken Love
- Do you have children? (your plants don't count...)
- Have you seen the **Hawaii Master Food Preserver** videos yet?
- Anthony Florig, new HTFG East Hawaii Chapter President

O'ahu RC&D February News and Updates

View all O'ahu RC&D newsletters - <https://bit.ly/40Tpv8Y>

In this issue:

- We're Hiring - Conservation & Soil Health Planner & Watershed Program Manager
- O'ahu RC&D Teaches In-Field Soil Health Assessment to Maui Farms
- Farmers & Watershed Stewards on O'ahu's North Shore - Apply for Funding Now!
- Watershed Health Opportunity for Ag Producers Expands to Kaukonahua area!
- News & Opportunities
- Access to Local Food & Produce
- Updated O'ahu Soil Water Conservation District Meeting Schedule

USDA FPAC Hawaii and Pacific Basin March Newsletter

View the full newsletter - <https://bit.ly/3Zyb0pW>

In this issue:

- Be Counted, Complete and Submit the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service Survey
 - Applying for Youth Loans
 - Communication is Key in Lending
 - Apply Now for Inflation Reduction Act Funding through EQIP and CSP with NRCS
 - Apply Now for Conservation Stewardship Program Funding with NRCS
 - It's Tax Season! Let farmers.gov Help
 - Honolulu County FSA Office is Hiring
 - March Interest Rates
-