

Kona Cooperative Extension – Events and Announcements Newsletter

Volume 4-2, April 2023

Dear Growers and Friends,

We would like to extend a heartfelt mahalo to all who joined us for the sprayer calibration, respirator use, and respirator fit testing workshops in Kona, Hilo, and Kau. We are extremely grateful to the Claudia, Ana, Nate, Cyd, Leona, and Dr. Lindborg of the Hawaii Island Community Health Center, who partnered with us to conduct the medical evaluations so farmworkers could be respirator fit tested and to inform producers and farmworkers of their services. We also greatly appreciate Pepe, who helped to translate information and provide respirator use training in Spanish.

Through these series of workshops, we had a total of 72 participants. 19 farmworkers were medically evaluated and respirator fit tested. In addition, we would like to congratulate the four individuals who became trained as respirator fit test trainers so they could provide respirator use training and respirator fit testing for other workers and those needing their annual re-training and fit testing.

In asking workers to bring in respirators they currently were using or were planning on using, we made a MAJOR DISCOVERY of imposter or fake full-face AND half-face respirators that DID NOT fit properly on the workers. These respirators were purchased online, looked very much like brand-named models, and were about one-third the cost of known brands. Not only did these imposter or fake respirators not fit the worker, the rubber was flimsy, and the filter cartridges did not have the proper NIOSH codes and numbers so it could not be known if the filters would even protect the wearer. Please be aware of this situation and purchase respirators and filters that will provide the proper protection for your health and safety. Below are examples of a fake/imposter full-face respirator (left) with filter cartridges, and a reputable 3M full-face respirator (right) with separate 3M filter cartridges.



Fake/imposter full-face respirator

This no-brand respirator came with a cartridge and multiple filters for \$39.99.



3M full-face respirator.

Notice the brand name on the front.

This 3M respirator alone cost \$108.00.

A pair of 3M filters cost \$19.99.

Tips for purchasing respirators and filters/cartridges:

- Stick with known brands such as 3M, Honeywell, etc.
- Look for the brand name and size on the respirator.

- Look for the proper TC and filter number on the cartridge. e.g. TC-84A-0193; cartridge and filter number 60923
- If the respirator is inexpensive compared to other respirators, question the purchase.
- If product details are in a language other than English, question the purchase.

Please remember that if you are planning on using a respirator, you must be medically cleared to wear a respirator, trained in its proper use, and respirator fit tested to ensure you are getting a tight seal and fit. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Andrea at andreak@hawaii.edu, 808-322-4892, or 415-604-1511 (text ok).

Sincerely,
Andrea, Jennifer, Matt W., Sarah, and Matt M.

Mention of a trademark or proprietary name does not constitute an endorsement, guarantee, or warranty by the University of Nebraska, workshop presenters, the University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service or its employees and does not imply recommendations to the exclusion of other suitable products.

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:
Monday, May 29th, in observance of Memorial Day

Oahu ADSC - No Longer doing Insect Identification

Good Morning,

The UH Manoa ADSC will no longer offer insect identification services that were performed by Mr. Dick Tsuda.

Insect identification will only be available to Hawaii County clients at the ADSC Komohana laboratory. We apologize to our Kauai, Maui and Oahu County Extension partners for the loss of this service.

Thank you for your understanding.

ADSC

SBA In Person Training: Federal Contracting

Date: 4/26/2023

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (HST)

Status: Open - 13 places remaining

Registration Deadline: 4/26/2023 8:00 AM (HST)

Fee: No Fee

Point of Contact: Nancy Ginter-Miller

Location: Natural Energy Laboratory 73-970 Makako Bay Drive, Kailua-Kona HI 96740

To register visit - <https://bit.ly/43CCHBj>

Starting a Small Business in Hawaii

April 26, 2023

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Online Webinar

Register at <https://go.hawaii.edu/33X>

Business Model Canvas to Business Plan

April 27, 2023

9:00 – 10:30 AM

Online Webinar

Register at <https://go.hawaii.edu/X3J>

Growing Together: Farmers, FoodHubs, & Community Perspectives Forum on Thu, 4/27 at 12 pm

Registration is required – <https://go.hawaii.edu/Xk4>

- Susan Crow: Assisting Hawai'i Farmers with Climate-Smart Practices
 - Saleh Azizi: Improving Hawai'i's Food System & Farm Supports via Food Hubs
 - Thao Le: Hawai'i Residents' Attitudes towards Farming & Local Purchases
 - Haley Miyaoka: Building a Sustainable Farm in Hawai'i
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Avocado Lace Bug, Avocado Grafting & General Management

Friday, May 5

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Online Webinar

For more information or to register visit - <https://bit.ly/41TJbdv>

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

Maui Coffee Association - Educational Videos

View all the MCA videos - <https://bit.ly/41DcYXw>

They include:

- Picking
 - Float/Sort
 - Pulping
 - Float/Fermentation
 - Processing
 - Hulling
 - Moisture
 - Grading
 - Pruning
 - History
-

Hawaii Coffee Association's 2023 Annual Conference & Cupping Competition

Aloha, HCA Friends and Supporters!

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming 28th HCA Annual Conference & Cupping Competition taking place from **June 15 - 17, 2023**. 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/41Ci46l>

We hope to see you at the conference!

HCA Planning Committee

NRCS Announces \$75 Million to Assist Producers Transitioning to Organic Production

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced details about its \$75 million investment in conservation assistance for producers transitioning to organic production. As part of the multi-agency, Organic Transition Initiative (<https://bit.ly/3mAeKu1>), USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will dedicate financial and technical assistance to a new organic management standard and partner with new organic technical experts to increase staff capacity and expertise.

Read more for details about assistance for producers transitioning to organic and the notice of funding to hire organic technical experts - <https://bit.ly/40jNjCl>

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/40aNqQY>.

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 - <http://bit.ly/43nGF0K>. 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

Food/Environment Presentation

My name is Stephen Sturdivant, and I am the Region 6 lead for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Sustainable Food Management program. I would like to invite you to another free virtual event where we will get an overview of the impacts of modern agriculture on the environment, public health, and climate change, how agriculture is currently regulated, and what can be done to reduce that impact and help shape a sustainable climate-friendly and fair food system. Our speaker will be Peter Lehner, currently Managing Attorney of the Sustainable Food & Farming program at Earthjustice and former Executive Director of NRDC and Chief of the New York Attorney General's Environmental Protection Bureau. Peter teaches a seminar on food systems and US environmental law and is a frequent speaker as well as the co-author of Farming for Our Future; The Science, Law, and Policy of Climate-Neutral Agriculture.

When: Tuesday, April 25th, Central Daylight Time: 2:00PMCDT – 4:00PMCDT *** Please note the time zone is for Dallas, Texas

To add to your calendar: <http://bit.ly/3ZVmdkY>

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Join the meeting: <http://bit.ly/3Gnujf5>

Meeting ID: 222 439 680 104

Passcode: kjfgMJ

Also, I can give a presentation to your class at your leisure to discuss the environmental impacts of our food choices and simple ways we can reduce those impacts. I would be happy to give this talk for free. Email or call to schedule a time.

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Stephen Sturdivant
Environmental Engineer
Sustainable Materials Management
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O'ahu RC&D April News and Updates

View all newsletters from O'ahu RC&D - **<https://bit.ly/3iXX3Qn>**

In this issue:

- Work With Us! O'ahu RC&D is seeking highly motivated individuals who are passionate about local agriculture and land stewardship to join our team!
 - Women Farmers Network Farm Viability Cohort is Coming to O'ahu
 - Farmers & Watershed Stewards on O'ahu's North Shore - Apply for Funding Now!
 - What We're Reading
 - News & Opportunities
 - Access to Local Food & Produce
 - Updated O'ahu Soil Water Conservation District Meeting Schedule
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USDA FPAC Hawaii and Pacific Basin April Newsletter

View the full newsletter - **<https://bit.ly/41h8216>**

In this issue:

- Maui County Eligible for Disaster Assistance for 2023 Livestock Forage Losses
 - Update Your Records
 - USDA Announces Additional Assistance for Distressed Farmers Facing Financial Risk
 - USDA Requests Nominations for Ag Air Quality Task Force
 - NRCS PIA State Advisory Technical Committee May 9th, 2023 1pm HST
 - Forest Land Managers Encouraged to Submit Applications for Joint Chiefs Project in Guam
 - NRCS Announces \$75 Million to Assist Producers Transitioning to Organic as Part of USDA's Organic Transition Initiative
 - April Interest Rates
 - Dates to Remember
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