

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

Volume 9-1, September 2023

Dear Growers and Friends,

Sept. 5th at 9 AM is the final webinar for learning about the HDOA Pesticide Disposal Program (<https://go.hawaii.edu/CXy>) in Hawaii. Email [hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov) and register for the week's Zoom link. The link and phone numbers changes weekly.

Oahu will be the first island that this program begins on. Maui is likely to be next.

For those on Oahu, you must be **registered with EnviroServices & Training Center BY 4:30 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023** to participate in the Oahu disposal opportunity being held on Saturday, September 30, 2023 between 8 AM and 4 PM.

- Complete the registration forms found here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/yXv>, including the list of pesticides form.
- Return the forms to EnviroServices & Training Center at [wm@gotoetc.com](mailto:wm@gotoetc.com), by fax to 808-839-4455, or by drop-off or mail (505 Ward Ave., Suite 202, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814).

DO NOT RETURN THE REGISTRATION FORM TO HDOA.

If you have any questions, contact EnviroServices & Training Center at 808-456-3494 or [wm@gotoetc.com](mailto:wm@gotoetc.com) or reach out to the HDOA Pesticide Disposal Program at 808-973-9408 or [hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov) or review the HDOA FAQs webpage - <https://go.hawaii.edu/pXy>

-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:**  
Monday, September 4th, in observance of Labor Day

---

### **Important Announcement for Hawaii's Coffee and Orchard Crops Growers**

Andrea Kawabata will soon be out on extended family leave. Starting Aug. 16, Matt Miyahira will be stepping in as a Jr. Extension Agent to keep the coffee and orchard crops extension program running. While Andrea is on leave, please send email correspondence to Matt ([mnmiyahi@hawaii.edu](mailto:mnmiyahi@hawaii.edu)) and cc Andrea ([andreak@hawaii.edu](mailto:andreak@hawaii.edu)) to keep her in the loop. Matt can also be reached at 808-322-0164.

---

### **Registration is now open for the next PSA Growers Training. Register by September 1st**

Please help spread the word about the PSA Growers Training that will be held online. September 12-14, 4pm - 7pm. I have attached the flyer to this email.

The link to register is also on the flyer but here it is again - <https://go.hawaii.edu/yXn>

Yours truly,  
Helen Tak

Agriculture Program Associate  
Edible Crops & Farm Food Safety Program  
University of Hawai'i at Manoa  
College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources (CTAHR)  
(808) 969-8256 (work)

Email: [helentak@hawaii.edu](mailto:helentak@hawaii.edu)

Mailing Address:

Komohana Research & Extension Center  
875 Komohana St.  
Hilo, HI 96720

---

**Informational Meeting for the HDOA Pesticide Disposal Program - Register for Zoom link - link changes weekly**

Email [hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov) and register for the week's Zoom link. The link and phone numbers changes weekly.

Greetings,

This is Adam Williams, Project Manager for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's ("HDOA") Pesticide Disposal Program ("PDP"). Starting Tuesday, July 25, 2023, from 9am – 10am, the HDOA will be holding a series of zoom meetings to discuss the HDOA's PDP.

The PDP will provide an available, affordable, and environmentally accessible mechanism by which any agricultural entity, licensed pest control operator, landscape professional, pesticide dealer, and other commercial users of pesticides in the State can, for free, dispose of up to 250 lbs of canceled, suspended, unwanted, and unlabeled ("CSUU") pesticides. **No enforcement action will be taken** against participants for disposing of CSUU pesticides.

The goal of the PDP is to promote a cleaner and safer Hawaii by reducing the amount of pesticides which could potentially impact human health or the environment.

We will be discussing:

- Acceptable and unacceptable materials;
- Who's eligible to participate;
- Getting registered;
- The event date and time; and,
- Frequently asked questions.

**Meeting information:**

**Who:** The Hawaii Department of Agriculture

**What:** Informational meeting for the pesticide disposal program

**When:** every Tuesday from 9am-10am. Tuesday, September 5, 2023 is the final webinar.

**Where:** Zoom

**Why:** to provide information on the HDOA's Pesticide Disposal Program

Please contact me for any further questions. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Adam Williams

Environmental Health Specialist

Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Pesticides Branch

1428 South King Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Telephone number: (808) 973-9408

Pesticide Disposal Program: [hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov](mailto:hdoa.pdp@hawaii.gov)

Email address: [adam.williams@hawaii.gov](mailto:adam.williams@hawaii.gov)

---

**GoFarm Hawaii and Oahu RC&D: Introduction to Growing Cacao Series Starting August 7**

Aloha,

We are excited to share that GoFarm Hawai'i and Oahu RC&D are partnering to bring you a 4-part series introducing cacao growing. This series includes visits to a cacao orchard to learn about establishment and cultivation, chocolate production facilities with cacao buyers, and to a cacao aggregator to learn about processing and fermentation.

- ~~1. August 7 @ 5:30pm - Intro Webinar (Zoom) - Learn about current trends in cacao production and meet local growers and experts.~~
- ~~2. August 12 @ 8:30am-12:30pm - Establishing a Cacao Orchard (Kamananui - North Shore Oahu)~~
3. September 9 @ 8:30am-12:30pm - Cacao Buyers and Chocolate Processing (Lonohana Chocolate - Kaka'ako + Manoa Chocolate - Kailua)
4. October 20 @ 8:30am-12:30pm - Cacao Harvesting and Processing (Mapele Fields - Kaneohe)

Cost: \$50 for full series.\* Space is limited. Register here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/3oy>

---

**Open House, AgCurious Webinar, and Next GoFarm Cohort - Kauai**

Aloha,

We are recruiting for our next GoFarm cohort on Kaua'i and would love your help to reach potential farmers. We are hosting an Open House on July 1 and our AgCurious webinar on September 7. More

details are shared below and on our website at [www.gofarmhawaii.org](http://www.gofarmhawaii.org).

Thanks for your support!

Mahalo,  
GoFarm Hawaii

**AgCurious Online Webinar: September 7 @ 5:30pm**

The first step to learn more about our beginning farmer training program and how to apply. Register here - <https://go.hawaii.edu/yox>. (Attendance is required to apply for AgXposure/AgXcel.)

**AgXposure: October 5 - November 2**

Learn from local farms and get exposure to farm work (Wednesday evenings (online) and Saturdays).

**AgXcel: November 16 - June 1**

Learn farm production and business skills from our coaching team during Thursday evening (online) and Saturday field classes. Plant, manage, and market your own 7-week CSA vegetable production at our farm site in Lihue.

More info available at <https://gofarmhawaii.org/agcurious-faqs/>.

---

**Kona Conservation Presents: 'Āina Resilience**

Aloha kākou,

You are invited to be a part of the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Local Work Group event entitled 'Āina Resilience, taking place Tuesday, August 29, 2023. If you live in Kona and are interested in providing a local voice to represent 'āina, please join us! If you are not able to join us in person, please take a moment to respond to the survey **here: [bit.ly/KonaLWG23](https://bit.ly/KonaLWG23)** We want your voice to be heard. This is a great opportunity to be a part of the Kona conservation process.

Mahalo,  
Keli'ikanoe Mahi, Director  
Hiki Ola  
[hikiola.org](http://hikiola.org)

---

**Promoting Local Food Sustainability Forum on Sept 14, 2023**

September 14th, 2023

12:00 – 1:30 PM

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

---

**33rd Annual HTFG Conference – Security Starts with the Soil**

Oct 05, 8:00 AM – Oct 07, 2:00 PM

Blaisdell Center, 777 Ward Ave, Honolulu HI 96814

The theme for this year's conference is Security Starts with the Soil, so food security and soil health will both be highlighted. The conference will include speakers from around the islands, as well as some international guests. Speakers will include farmers, government officials, and various fruit experts.

UPDATE: The venue for the conference is now the Blaisdell Center, at 777 Ward Ave in Honolulu. Tickets will be available soon! However, you can RSVP here (<https://go.hawaii.edu/yAu>) to let them know you're interested in attending.

---

**Join Us! Mālama the Farmer, Caring for Yourself and Each Other – An AgrAbility Regional Workshop in Hawai'i**

October 17-18, 2023

Grand Naniloa Hotel

93 Banyan Drive, Hilo, HI 96720

**Registration Fees**

- Oct 17-18: \$225
- Oct 17 only: \$150
- Oct 17 Pau hana - \$50

Questions – please contact [tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org](mailto:tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org) or [jbrath@goodwillfingerlakes.org](mailto:jbrath@goodwillfingerlakes.org)

---

**Beekeeping Course October 2023**

October 1, 8, 15, and 22 2023

11 am – 3 pm

Honokaa, Hawaii

Cost: \$140 for materials, \$267 for tuition

Maximum of 8 students

For more information: [birdandbeehawaii.com](http://birdandbeehawaii.com), [birdandbeehawaii@gmail.com](mailto:birdandbeehawaii@gmail.com), 808-936-6019

---

**Don't miss out on the EmPOWER Grant**

This grant program was designed for Hawai'i small businesses and nonprofits to make energy efficient upgrades more accessible. Whatever eligible kind of energy efficiency upgrade you're considering, it will reduce your electric bill, save energy, and help reduce your operating costs! Organizations may apply for a grant of up to \$6,000, depending on the equipment type, which may cover up to 100% of eligible project costs.

Visit [HawaiiEnergy.com/Empower](http://HawaiiEnergy.com/Empower) for everything you need to apply!

Applications open – August 1<sup>st</sup> – September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

---

**Hawai'i Agrifood Summit**

Join leading experts on sustainable agriculture and aquaculture practices, along with global corporate leaders on industry trends and innovation, for THRIVE Hawai'i Agrifood Summit, Developing Sustainable Food, Agriculture, and Aquaculture Solutions for the Asia Pacific Region.

The two-day event on September 26-27 at the Hawai'i Convention Center will consist of keynote speeches, panel conversations, start-up pitches, and more.

Register before the end of August and take \$50 off registration fees. Use code: earlybird

Visit - <https://go.hawaii.edu/yAL>

---

### **Mark your calendar / Ka'u event - Coffee Tea Water: Essential Elements Expo**

Coffee Tea Water: Essential Elements Expo - <https://go.hawaii.edu/FXy>

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

**9am - 5pm**

**Na'alehu Sports Park (Ka'u), Hawaii island**

FREE ADMISSION

*Hosted by Stargazer Industries*

**This event celebrates the elements that we all cherish: Coffee, Tea & Water...Music & Food.** From Ka'u Coffee & Tea farmers, and Hawaii island Bottled Water, to Food & Retail vendors from around Hawaii island, including

LIVE musical performances by artists from across the state.

This is the **FIRST LARGE EVENT in DECADES** for the District of Ka'u.

*PARKING is On-Site at the event and also at the OKK Naalehu Farmers' Market, Naalehu Methodist Church.*

*100% of the Proceeds go to the public schools & educators in Na'alehu and Pahala, in District of Ka'u, Hawaii.*

### **2023 VENDOR SPACES**

- *Ka'u Coffee, Tea Farm & Retail vendors*
- *Bottle Water from Hawaii island*
- *Roasters of Ka'u Coffee on Hawaii island*
- *Coffee, Tea & Water Brewing & Infusion Tools*
- *Beverage Container vendors*
- *Event themed Artwork, Beauty Products, Merchandise*
- *LIVE Music by groups from across the state*
- *Purchase music and merchandise from the performing artists*
- *Coffee & Tea condiment vendors*
- *Snacks, Baked goods & Pastries that complement the theme: coffee, tea & water*
- *Food trucks & booths from around Hawaii island*

**PLUS,**

**- Coming up in October...**

- **Winners to be chosen** from the “*Ka’u Schools Vocal/Group Performance Competition*” to be held in October and winners from Elementary, Jr. High and High School will perform LIVE on stage at the event.
- **Sign-up at the schools for kids 1st thru 12th** to visit the event artist of their choice, backstage to "Meet & Greet", to ask about their instruments, how they got their start, how they feel on stage, what the world of music performance is like....takes place after the 45-minute set for each artist--limit 20 kids per artist.

---

### **10th Annual Hawaiian Airlines Made in Maui County**

November 3 & 4, 2023

RSVP by email to: [\*\*Office@MauiChamber.com\*\*](mailto:Office@MauiChamber.com)

---

### **Maui County Farm Service Agency is Accepting Emergency Conservation Program Applications**

Kahului, Hawaii, August 25, 2023 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Executive Director James Robello today announced that Maui County is accepting applications for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to address damages from wildfires and high winds. ECP signup is open now and will end on October 17, 2023.

The approved ECP practices under this authorization include debris removal to address wildfire and high winds damage to eligible farmland, livestock fences and conservation structures and installations.

ECP assists producers with the recovery cost to restore the farmland to pre-disaster conditions.

Approved ECP applicants may receive up to 75 percent of the cost of approved restoration activity.

Limited resource, socially disadvantaged and beginning farmers and ranchers may receive up to 90 percent cost-share.

To continue reading visit - [\*\*https://go.hawaii.edu/yXa\*\*](https://go.hawaii.edu/yXa)

---

### **HFUU Maui Producer Impact & Support Survey -- PLEASE CONSIDER COMPLETING THIS SURVEY - HDOA DETERMINED ONE SURVEY COMPLETED BY MANY IS THE BEST WAY TO COLLECT DATA // less chance of overlap or duplication of information and - survey fatigue**

The Hawai'i Farmers Union United (HFUU) encourages all food producers impacted by fire, severe winds, and loss of markets due to the 2023 Maui fire and disaster to complete the **Maui Producer Impact & Support Survey** - [\*\*https://go.hawaii.edu/bXy\*\*](https://go.hawaii.edu/bXy). This survey will help HFUU and partners identify potential federal and private funding resources and provide direct support specific to your needs to aid in recovery.

This survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete. Please share this survey, and direct all impacted food producers you know to this link: [\*\*https://hfuuhi.org/maui-response/\*\*](https://hfuuhi.org/maui-response/)

Questions? Contact Hunter Heavilin, HFUU Advocacy Director: (808) 391-8687

or [Mauiresponse@hfu.org](mailto:Mauiresponse@hfu.org). To complete the survey via phone, please contact Amanda Shaw, O'ahu Agriculture and Conservation Association: (808) 429-5310.

Note to producers: This survey is for all impacted producers, whether or not you are an HFUU member. We will be in contact with you within a week, once you complete the survey. As soon as it is safe to do so, please document and take clear photos of any damage.

#### **MAUI PRODUCER IMPACT & SUPPORT SURVEY**

Resources for affected farmers - <https://go.hawaii.edu/rXy>

If you have not been affected by the fires and would like to provide assistance, please consider donating with the note "Maui Response Fund" (<https://go.hawaii.edu/yXm>). Your donation will help us continue to provide fresh fruits and vegetables straight from our Maui farmers directly to our Lāhainā 'ohana. Donate to the Maui Response Fund - <https://go.hawaii.edu/DXy>

You can also help affected families by directly donating to the organizations below

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action has compiled an extensive resource list - <https://go.hawaii.edu/yXi>

\*These lists and resources have NOT been vetted by UH-CTAHR, its faculty, or staff. It is recommended that anyone using these lists do their own due diligence before donating to individuals and organizations.\*

---

#### **Coffee Donations to First Responders, Search and Recovery, FEMA Personnel**

We have been asked to provide roasted ground coffee contributions in bags or in bulk to the recovery workers in Lahaina, Maui. Any and all amounts of coffee will be greatly appreciated and welcomed. Heavenly Hawaiian has offered to be the local collection point here on the Big Island, email them for arranging the drop off. Heavenly Hawaiian has made arrangements to fly the coffee from the Big Island to the local smaller Kapalua airport. The local church, Maria Lanakila Catholic Church, that is still standing, has agreed to be the Lahaina collection point of coffee for direct distribution, to the Lahaina service providers.

Thanks to each of you for making your own cash and necessity goods contributions individually. Anything and everything is needed to help the survivors. Let's do our part as the HCA to help out the recovery workers with our coffee.

Mahalo nui loa,  
Dave Bateman  
dave@heavenlyhawaiian.com  
Heavenly Hawaiian Farms

---

#### **Maui Fires Federal Resource Fair & Message from Rep. Tokuda**

**Farm and Agriculture Disaster Assistance**



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) can provide disaster recovery assistance to farmers, ranchers, and communities affected by the wildfires.

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) offers numerous disaster assistance programs to cover crop and livestock losses, address farmland damage, and cover production and physical losses. For more information, individuals should visit the FSA's Disaster Assistance Programs webpage (<https://go.hawaii.edu/RXy>) and use FSA's Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool (<https://go.hawaii.edu/yXS>) to see which programs may be most relevant to their needs.

The National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) operates the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP - <https://go.hawaii.edu/KXy>) to help producers plan and implement conservation practices on land impacted by natural disasters.

USDA Rural Development can also support homeowners, businesses, and communities in recovering and rebuilding, especially in providing long-term support through repairing homes, essential community facilities, and rural water systems. For more information, individuals can review Rural Development's disaster toolkit (<https://go.hawaii.edu/yXg>).

For more information on USDA programs and how they can support, please contact the following or visit the Kahului Service Center at the address listed below.

Mr. Gerald Gregory  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
gerald.gregory@usda.gov  
(808) 214-1747

Ms. Nenita Acob  
Rural Development  
nenita.acob@usda.gov  
(808) 871-5500 ext. 4

Kahului Service Center  
77 Hookele Street, 2nd Floor  
Kahului, HI 96732

---

### **News Release from Dept. of Ag on Emergency Loan Program**

The Hawai'i Board of Agriculture (Board) yesterday voted to activate an emergency agricultural loan program to assist Maui and Hawai'i Island farmers and ranchers suffering damage from the high winds and wildfires this week. The Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Loan Program submitted the request to the Board and will administer the program effective immediately. The Emergency Proclamation issued by then-Acting Gov. Sylvia Luke on Aug. 8, 2023 allows the Board to activate the emergency program. The emergency loan parameters are as follows:

- Maximum loan amount: \$350,000
- Interest rate: 3 percent

- Terms of the loans are to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Consideration will be based on historical farm performance and projected cash flow based on reasonable assumption of review and expenses.
- Requirement for credit denials waived
- Three-year residency requirement waived
- Collateral requirements may be modified or waived on a case-by-case basis.
- Emergency loan applications may be submitted until February 29, 2024.

To continue reading visit - <https://go.hawaii.edu/eXy>

---

### **CTAHR NREM AgEcon and AgFinance Agent positions (tenure-track)**

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR)  
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM)  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

CTAHR is a premier college that has a mission to provide exceptional transdisciplinary education, research, and extension in tropical and sub-tropical agriculture, natural resources, and human well-being to local and global communities. NREM is an interdisciplinary department, weaving multiple knowledge systems for stewardship of natural resources, and discovering and disseminating innovative, integrated solutions for sustainable natural resource use, farm and food systems, and environmental management. Visit <https://cms.ctahr.hawaii.edu/nrem/>. We are seeking candidates for the following tenure-track faculty positions:

- Junior/Assistant Extension Agent for Agricultural Finance (Position # 84045)
- Junior/Assistant Extension Agent for Agricultural Economics (Position # 85336)

For the complete job announcement and application information, visit

- <https://go.hawaii.edu/uXy> or,
- <https://go.hawaii.edu/yXZ>

The University of Hawai'i is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. We believe that inclusiveness and excellence are interdependent. Our local and global communities are best served by ensuring all populations are represented equitably throughout CTAHR. We strive to cultivate an environment that supports equitable opportunities for every member of CTAHR to achieve individual and common goals.

---