

October 2016 -The Dirt on Ag in West Oahu: No October West Oahu SWCD meeting, HFUU Conference, Pesticide Short Course, EQIP deadline, Photo contest, and more!

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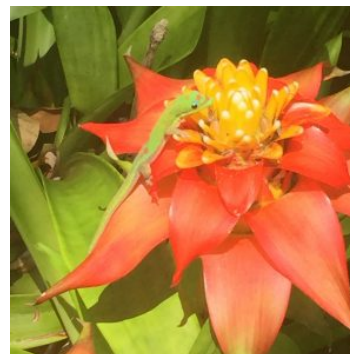


West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District

[2016 Photo Contest](#)

What is soil and water conservation to you? Is it healthy streams, vibrant fields of kalo, rippling rows of corn, dew on cover crops, keiki learning how to ID soil types, or kupuna hiking in verdant mountains? Show what it means to you in the West Oahu 2016 Soil and Water Conservation District Photo Contest.

Application Process: Submit your photo (no larger than 20MB) and a [completed and signed application form](#) to WOswcdContest@gmail.com by November 5, 2016.



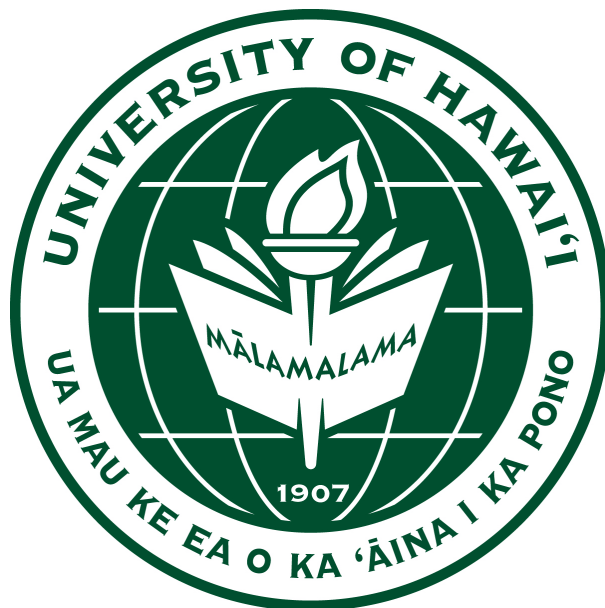


The cut flower industry is a vibrant part of Hawaii's ag sector and the flowers are home to a wide variety of insects and wildlife.

Cover Crops like this help to keep valuable soil in place, preventing runoff into Hawaii's Oceans. Beneficial fungi, like mushrooms, help create a healthy soil biology and are important decomposers.

Details: 20 winners will be selected in November and featured in the 2017 West Oahu Calendar and the West Oahu 2016 Ag update, "The Dirt". The Grand Prize winner will receive \$100 cash, a local veggie bag, and their work on the cover of the 2017 West Oahu Calendar. All winners will receive a copy of the 2017 Calendar and a local Ag bag with veggies and other goodies. [Like us on facebook](#) and stay tuned as our prize pack develops!

Rules: Comprehensive Rules are found [here](#).



Pesticide Risk Reduction Education Short course for Oahu

Pearl City, November 29-30, 2016, 8:15 AM to 4 PM both days.

ABOUT THE COURSE: This in-depth two-day short course is about handling pesticides (including herbicides) in ways that will reduce risks to people and our environment. It will be conducted by an instructor from the Cooperative Extension Service, a part of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii at Manoa. The course is co-sponsored with the State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

WHO WOULD BENEFIT? This course would benefit people who want to be better informed about handling pesticides properly or prepare for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture's certification exam for restricted use pesticides. (Certification exams will be conducted at separate sessions by Hawaii Department of Agriculture employees.) Certified applicators will not earn recertification credits by attending this course.

TOPICS: The instructor will emphasize the study packet's basic or "core" study guides, which provide

information common to all categories of certification. (However, “category-specific” topics such as life cycles of specific pests and specialized equipment and calculations are covered only in the category-specific packets of study guides, not in the short course. So, if you plan to take a certification exam, you should study the “category-specific” materials in the study packets.)

The registration fee per person is \$100. Deadline for registration is October 31. To register, [please use either the blank version or the fillable version](#) of our registration form.

Topics covered in the short course include:

- Types and formulations of pesticides
- Understanding pesticide labeling & MSDSs
- Laws and regulations about buying, storing, transporting, applying, and disposing of pesticides, plus employee protection
- Integrated pest management (IPM) concepts
- General identification features and life cycles of pests
- Common application equipment
- Dilution and dosage calculations
- Pesticide movement and breakdown
- Groundwater protection
- Endangered species protection
- Carry-over. Resistance. Phytotoxicity.
- Hazards to pesticide handlers
- Protective clothing and equipment
- Safe mixing, loading, and application
- Proper transport, storage, and disposal

HAWAII AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE AG 2017

In 2017, the Hawaii Agriculture Conference will once again be hosted by the Agriculture Leadership Foundation of Hawaii, and the planning team is seeking input from the agricultural sector as to what would create the most value for their time and resources.

To share your ideas, click on the [2017 Hawaii Agriculture Conference](#) survey link. Deadline to respond is October 30, 2016.

Mahalo, Agricultural Leadership Foundation of Hawaii
2017 Hawaii Agriculture Conference Planning Team



The [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#) is a voluntary conservation program that helps agricultural producers in a manner that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible goals. Through EQIP, agricultural producers receive financial and technical assistance to implement structural and management conservation practices that optimize environmental benefits on working agricultural land.

Accepting Applications

EQIP applications are accepted on a continuous basis, however, NRCS established application “cut-off” or submission deadline dates for evaluation, ranking and approval of eligible applications. EQIP is open to all eligible agricultural producers and submitted applications may be considered or evaluated in multiple funding pool opportunities. Interested agricultural producers in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam and CNMI (Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), may apply in person at any USDA Service Center or NRCS Field Office.

To learn how to get started with NRCS, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/getstarted.
To apply for EQIP, contact [your local service center](#).



October 25 8am Hawaii time

[Restoring Native Plant Communities: Soil and Hydrology Suited Planning Tools](#)

Learn how native plant community restoration can be guided by existing natural inventories. This webinar will highlight resources that can aid in the identification and selection of native plant communities adapted to the ecological conditions of a restoration site. An example of how such resources were used to develop Iowa native plant community restoration planning tools will be discussed along with a cursory introduction to appropriate native plant material selection.

October 26 8am Hawaii time

[Buying Seed: Not a Leap of Faith](#)

The assessment of seed quality, the process of seed certification, and how seeding rates are developed are presented as tools for purchasing the seed to get the job done. The success of any vegetation project depends upon the seed. The use of poor quality seed always reduces the quality of the planting. When we buy seed do we do all we can to make sure we get what we need? We will discuss the physical, physiological, health, and genetic qualities that determine seed quality. In addition, we will explore what it means to purchase certified seed and how it ensures seed quality. We will also look at various ways to calculate seeding rates.

More webinars can be found here: <http://www.conservationwebinars.net/documents/planned-conservation-webinars>



BUILDING REGIONAL STRENGTH THROUGH AGRICULTURE



6TH ANNUAL HFUU STATE CONVENTION

early registration open till September 14!

October 14-16, 2016

OK Farms, Hilo, HI

on-site camping and hotel packages available

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CONVENTION AND REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.HFUUHI.ORG

Join this educational convention and learn all about
"V" Trellis Horizontal Fruit Production, Soil Health
Demonstrations, HEMP farming to scale and so much more!

Register before September 14th to receive a free CEC Soil Analysis
OR Conference Tee Shirt as well as a discounted
early registration fee of \$130.

Registration after September 14, including all 3 convention
days, concert, food and all educational sessions = \$145

[Register and learn more by visiting here:](https://hfuuhi.org/events/2016-state-convention/) <https://hfuuhi.org/events/2016-state-convention/>

NATIONAL CONSERVATION PLANNING PARTNERSHIP SURVEY

As conservationists, we recognize the importance of conservation planning as part of the science-based process that supports landowners, land users, and other decision makers as they seek to address natural resource concerns and achieve their long-term conservation objectives while meeting their economic needs.

Complete this [5 minute Survey](#) on Conservation Planning can help the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCP), created by the five national conservation partners effectively meet their critical role in conservation planning to advance voluntary conservation efforts on private lands.

The NCPP Leadership Team is comprised of the [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#) (NRCS), the [National Association of Conservation Districts](#) (NACD), the [National Association of State Conservation Agencies](#) (NASCA), the [National Conservation District Employees Association](#) (NCDEA), and the [National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils](#) (NARC&DC).

Suvey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NCPPsurvey2>

NO OCTOBER MEETING FOR WEST OAHU SWCD

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 22, 12:30. **Location:** Crop Production Services Conference Room, Kunia Village 92-1770 Kunia Road, Kunia HI 96759. Agendas are faxed and posted on the Lt. Governor's website.

West Oahu SWCD Directors

Larry Jeffs (Chair), Peter Gibson, Alan Gottlieb, John McHugh, & Joe Para.
Associate Directors: Mike Glidden.

West Oahu SWCD meeting

The West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District is committed to building partnerships that strengthen agriculture in Hawaii and contribute to a vibrant island community, environment, and economy.

Newsletter compiled by Michelle Gorham, West Oahu SWCD, and edited by Cindy Pinick, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center.

Submit articles and information to Michelle@OahuSWCD.org.



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