

July 2016 West Oahu SWCD news: funding for feral pig management in the Pacific, VeggieU! teacher education program, and translation services from Helping Hands Hawaii.

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Veggie U!

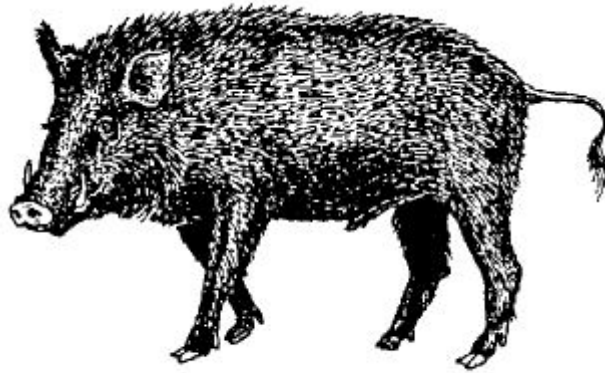
Veggie U is dedicated to increasing children's awareness of healthy food options, peaking their interest in agriculture related careers, and teaching them how real food reaches their plate. Veggie-U partners believe children who are exposed to growing their own food are more likely to include vegetables in their diet. Hosted in Hawaii by the [Hawaii Agricultural Foundation](#) (HAF) and nationally by Veggie-U, the non-profits work together to provide schools with supplies, Classroom Gardens program training, and a standards based, five-week science program to elementary and special needs students.

Veggie U Classroom Gardens are sent to teachers complete with 25 lessons that meets state and national standards for life science. The Gardens include the Lesson Guide with instructional videos, vegetables for tasting, seeds, soils, root view boxes, grow lights, and worm farms- all to allow the students to see, feel, taste, and experience the process of planting, growing, and harvesting a crop in their classroom.

As the current school year comes to an end, HAF wants to invite all of the Hawaii State Department of Education elementary school teachers to enroll in

the #VeggieUHawaii Teacher Workshop in August using this quick [Workshop in August using this quick form](#). Deadline to register is July 15, 2016.

For more information about [Veggie U](#), visit: <http://www.veggieu.org/>



Feral pig, *Sus scrofa scrofa*

Feral Swine Management Interim Practice Offered for Second Year

(Application Deadline - July 15, 2016 - *News modified from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's NRCS Honolulu office*)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) applications through July 2016, to evaluate and restore forestlands damaged by feral swine. EQIP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to plan and implement conservation practices that improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related natural resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. Specifically, this partnership will focus on conservation practices that minimize adverse impacts caused by feral swine and restore natural resource conditions.

Through the 2014 Farm Bill EQIP funds are set aside to: address impacts from feral swine; guide NRCS' work with private landowners and other partners to develop a management plan to address identified feral swine impacts; and to support NRCS in evaluating the effectiveness of applied conservation practices to reduce feral swine impacts to natural resources.

July 15, 2016 is the deadline to apply for the feral swine initiative for Hawaii County and the Territory of Guam EQIP. Land enrolled in this initiative must meet EQIP eligibility. All methods proposed for feral swine management must comply with Federal, State, and local regulations. Any activity that involves feral

swine trapping, transport, euthanasia, or disposal of carcass will be the sole responsibility of the landowner or local agency partner. For more information or to submit your [EQIP](#) Feral Swine application, please [visit us online](#). For more information, contact the following NRCS staff: Hawaii County: (Hilo) contact Kori Hisashima at 808 933.8381; (Kealahou) contact Laura Nelson at 808-322-2484, x105; (Waimea) contact Matt Wung at 808-885-6602, x106.



Bilingual Access Line: Providing interpreter and written translation services

The [Bilingual Access Line](#) (BAL) is a program of [Helping Hands Hawaii](#) (HHH) that provides qualified spoken interpreters and written translators in 20 primary languages on a fee-for-service basis. Spoken interpreter services are provided on site or over the phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Written translation services are provided on an as-needed basis. BAL also provides referrals to 90 secondary languages.

[HHH received a Grant In Aid \(GIA\) for its BAL program](#) and included within that GIA was the ability to provide interpreter and written translation services to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations on a pro-bono basis/at no cost **valid through all appointments and written translation requests that occur prior to 10/1/16.**

The primary languages covered are: Cantonese, Chuukese, Ilokano, Japanese, Korean, Kosraean, Laotian, Mandarin, Marshallese, Pohnpeian, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Spanish, Tagalog, Taiwanese, Thai, Tongan, Vietnamese, and Visayan.

The on-staff primary language interpreters for the Bilingual Access Line follow Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) standards and a professional code of ethics that places fundamental importance on maintaining accuracy, confidentiality and neutrality.

Through the GIA grant, HHH may be able to support:

- Face-to-Face or Telephone Requests

- Written Translation Requests
- Emergency Requests After-hours (outside of 8am - 4:30pm). Phone in requests to (808) 526-9724, our after-hours dispatcher, who will dispatch an interpreter if one is available.

To request interpretation services, contact BAL on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Phone: (808) 526-9724, Option 1 Fax: (808) 536-7237
Email: bal@helpinghandshawaii.org

[Request requirements found here.](#) Requests are processed in the order they are received.

As with all [Helping Hands Hawai'i](#) programs, the Bilingual Access Line actively promotes volunteerism. For more information on our services, please call 808-526-9724, Option 1 or email us: bal@helpinghandshawaii.org.



JOBS

Farm Bill Program Assistant: [Positions across the islands](#) – Apply by August 25

- 1 vacancy – Hilo, HI
- 1 vacancy – Honolulu, HI
- 1 vacancy – Kealahou, HI
- 1 vacancy – Waimea, HI

TRAINING:

July 26: [Construction Equipment Operation Safety – NRCS and OSHA policy](#)

July 27: [Subaqueous Soils and Their Importance for Species and Marine Ecosystems](#):

August 3: WQIag: [Water Quality Index for Runoff From Agriculture Fields](#), a tool for multiple applications.

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



A Map Of Where Your Food Originated May Surprise You

by JEREMY CHERFAS - excerpt from NPR

Some people may be dimly aware that Thailand's chilies and Italy's tomatoes — despite being central to their respective local cuisines — originated in South America. Now, for the first time, a new study reveals the full extent of globalization in our food supply. More than two-thirds of the crops that underpin national diets originally came from somewhere else — often far away. And that trend has accelerated over the past 50 years.

Colin Khoury, a plant scientist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (known by its Spanish acronym CIAT) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the study's lead researcher. Khoury tells The Salt that "the numbers affirm what we have long known — that our entire food system is completely global."

Previous work by the same authors had shown that national diets have adopted new crops and become more and more globally alike in recent decades. The new study shows that those crops are mainly foreign.

[Read the complete article here.](#)

COFFEE PRODUCTION STATS for 2015 - 2016 Season

The final Hawaii utilized coffee production is estimated at 34.7 million pounds (cherry basis) for the 2015-2016 season, a 5 percent decrease from the previous season,

according to a recent report from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Bearing acreage totaled 6,900 acres, down 900 acres from the prior season. Weather events and Coffee Berry Borer (CBB) damage accounted for the drop in acreage. However, average yield is at 5,300 pounds (cherry basis) per acre, up 580 pounds from the previous season. The statewide farm price for coffee averaged \$1.56 per pound (cherry basis), a drop of 9 percent from the previous season's price of \$1.72 per pound. The value of utilized production for coffee is estimated at \$54.2 million (cherry basis) for this season, 14 percent less than last season's \$62.6 million. CBB remains a concern for the industry, though controlling measures are showing signs of progress.

[Click for a PDF of the report](#)

Soil Health's Importance in Local Agriculture and Native Species Restoration

Interested in local agriculture? Or restoring native plants? Join us for a workshop exploring how healthy soils play a big role in the success of these two things!

Featuring:

-Guest speakers from: O'ahu RC&D, NRCS, CTAHR, Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui, and Aloha 'Āina 'O Kamilo Nui

- Field visits to a local sweet potato farm and plant nursery



When: **Saturday, July 23rd from 9AM-1PM**

Where: **'Āina 'O Kamilo Nui Nursery, 965 Kamilonui Place, Honolulu 96825**

Cost: **\$3 online** (<http://soilhealth-nativespeciesworkshop.eventbrite.com>) or **\$5 at the door**

Questions? **808-622-9026 (O'ahu RC&D office)**

*Please dress appropriately for field visits (hat, shoes, sunscreen, etc.)

Sponsored by:



Join Oahu RC&D for another great workshop on Saturday, July 23, 2016 - "Soil Health's Importance in Local Agriculture and Native Species Restoration". The event features guest speakers followed by a site visit with harvest demonstration of uala (sweet potato) and walk around of the plant nursery. [Register](#) for the workshop, which is \$3 in advance and \$5 at the door.

July West Oahu SWCD meeting: Tuesday July 26, 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, Taylor Kellerman, & John McHugh.

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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