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West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Working with Farmers to Conserve Hawaii's Soil and Water Resources since 1950.

Local Food Sales Reach \$84.4 Million in Hawaii

Hawaii local food production sales reached \$84.4 million, according to the 2015 Local Foods Marketing Practices Survey report released by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Of the \$84.4 million in total local food sales in Hawaii, \$69.5 million were from produce such as vegetables, nuts and fruit, while \$14.9 million were from value-added products such as jams, meat, and cheese.

Most farms selling directly to consumers sold through outlets such as farmers markets and on-farm stores. Value of sales directly to consumers in Hawaii, including value-added products, was \$22.8 million. The remainder of local food produce and value-added products were sold to supermarkets, restaurants, institutions, and wholesalers.

There were 2,423 operations involved in the sales of local foods in the state, representing 3,512 farm operators. Of those operators, 1,287 were female operators.

This report contains the results of the first Local Foods Marketing Practices Survey conducted. The Local Foods Marketing Practices Survey is part of the larger Census of Agriculture program. It is the first survey conducted by the National Agricultural Statistics Service to measure the effect of local foods on local economies.

Access the full Local Foods Marketing Practices dataset at NASS's Quick Stats database:

https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/Online_Resources/Local_Food/index.php



AgCurious? Wondering if you have what it takes to farm in Hawai'i?

Hawai'i's largest beginning farmer training program kicks off another round of classes on both the Big Island and North Shore of O'ahu with the AgCurious seminar **1/18/17 (5:30-7:30pm)** at Pioneer Hi-Bred. **RSVP to Leeward@gofarmhawaii.org or call 808-956-3530. AgCurious is where you will find out about and apply for the subsequent GoFarm programs and attendance is required to enroll in these other programs.**

At this free session, hear about the landscape of farming in Hawai'i and the GoFarm Hawai'i program, and apply for the AgXposure sessions (a hands-on introduction to small-scale farming with tours of local farms). AgXposure participants can then apply to renowned AgSchool program, an intensive, hands-on 4-month farmer training program.

Where are O'ahu's Important Agricultural Lands (IAL)?

Community is invited to join the City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) to learn more about the City's Draft IAL Map and the IAL mapping process, and give

your input on the Draft IAL Map. There will be an open house and project briefing at the beginning of each gathering, followed by a public comment session to gather public input.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2017 from 6-8:30 at Hale'iwa Elementary School Cafeteria
66-505 Hale'iwa Road, Hale'iwa 96712

FOR MORE INFORMATION visit the project website: www.mapoahuagland.com; call Tim Hata, DPP project manager at (808) 768-8043 or send email to: mapoahuagland@hhf.com



Learn how to Protect your Farm Assets at this FREE Agriculture Workshop

Topics include record keeping, crop insurance, conservation planning, and funding opportunities that help protect your natural resources and farming business.

[AgriLogic Consulting](#) in partnership with the [O'ahu Resource Conservation & Development Council](#) will be conducting a FREE workshop for agricultural producers in Hawaii. This workshop is designed to encourage producers to become familiar with crop insurance and related federal programs; and to share information on conservation planning and best management practices appropriate for small and beginning farmers. This workshop is free and open to all agricultural producers interested in protecting and sustaining their farming investment.

Space is limited. Please register to save your seat.
Light refreshments will be provided.

Together We Farm

Supporting Farmers Sustainably Farm

Start the new year with a gift that improves the sustainability of farming in Hawaii. Support [Together We Farm](#), a fundraiser to help new and immigrant farmers secure cost-effective conservation planning, monitoring, technical assistance, and translation.

Your tax deductible donation of \$60 or more supports farmers as well as 3 non-profits: Thai translation secured via [Pacific Gateway Center](#), Conservation Planning via [Oahu Resource Conservation and Development Council](#), and T-shirt printing via [Lanakila Pacific](#). It's pretty awesome how far your dollars can go with Together We Farm.

Learn more about our story by watching our [video](#) - Donate [here](#).





Workshops:

January 24, 9am Hawaii Time - [Designing Habitats for Multiple Benefits: Wildlife, Soil, Water and Carbon](#)

January 26, 9am Hawaii Time - [Understanding and Implementing Energy Audits: Energy Conservation Opportunities - Poultry Ventilation Case Study](#)

NEW! Applications Requested for Innovative Partner Projects

On Jan. 12, 2017, NRCS invited potential conservation partners to submit project applications for fiscal year (FY) 2018 federal funding through RCPP. Project pre-applications are due on or before April 21, 2017.

Through this fourth RCPP Announcement for Program Funding (APF), NRCS will award up to \$252 million dollars to locally driven, public-private partnerships that improve the nation's water quality, combat drought, enhance soil health, support wildlife habitat and protect agricultural viability. Applicants must match or exceed the federal award with private or local funds.

[Learn more about the application requirements and due dates.](#)

[Link to full press release.](#)

Next West Oahu SWCD Meeting: January 24, 2016

Location: Crop Production Services Conference Room, Kunia Village 92-1770 Kunia Road, Kunia HI 96759.

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

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About Us: 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 with HARC.
Submit articles and information to Michelle@OahuSWCD.org

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