

March 2018: GoFarm Hawaii - something for everyone, DPP Tips,
Organic Plant Breeding, FSA loans, and more! Next meeting
March 27, 2018

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West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

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



Go Farm has something for everyone this month!

GoFarmHawaii Variety ShowCase:

GoFarm Hawaii and the Culinary Breeding Network invite you to play a vital role in improving the quality of what farmers grow and how it tastes.

The VARIETY SHOWCASE is an interactive mixer to build community between plant breeders, researchers, new & established organic farmers and eaters. It's a one-of-a-kind experience where attendees get to taste new, unique, traditional and in-development vegetables, fruits & grains with the breeders that created them and the researchers & farmers growing them.

Come taste banana, avocado, purple winged beans, olena (turmeric), taro, jicama,

sweet potato, sugarcane and so much more!

GoFarm Hawai'i North Shore: AgCurious Seminars

Both Seminars are for participants interested in farming at the North Shore Waialua Site

March 4th, Sunday 2:00pm - 5:00pm - Punalu'u Ahupua'a Farms | Kamehameha Schools 53-270 Kamehameha Highway in Hauula, HI 96717

March 9th, Friday 6:30pm - 8:30pm - Waialua Community Center

Learn More about:

- Becoming a Farmer in Hawaii
- GoFarm Hawaii Programs & Opportunities
- Learn about Upcoming Schedule of Classes & How to Apply

[Register](#)



DPP Tips:

Question:

When is a grading or stockpiling permit required by the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Planning and Permitting?

Answer:

A **grading permit** is required when excavating or filling earth materials (rock, coral, gravel, soil, recycled asphalt pavement):

- greater than 3 feet in height or;
- greater than 50 cubic yards in volume or;
- to re-direct existing surface run-off patterns with respect to adjacent properties

Regardless of whether a grading permit is required, Best Management Practices (BMPs) to contain storm water on-site and prevent the discharge of pollutants from the site are required.

Grading permit exclusions include: mining or quarrying operations regulated by other city ordinances,
excavation & backfill within the footprint of structures authorized by a valid building permit,
grading for individual cemetery plots, *grading for agricultural use in accordance with a conservation plan*
approved by the appropriate State Soil & Water Conservation District, and
exploratory excavations less
than 50 cubic yards, provided the excavations will be back filled.

Stay informed about permitting rules through the [Department of Planning and Permitting](#).



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES



TARO FIELD DAY

WAIMANALO RESEARCH STATION
41-698 Ahiki Street, Waimānalo, Hawaii
SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Come and visit the UH CTAHR Waimānalo Kalo Germplasm Collection on Saturday, March 17, 2018. Spend the morning learning about: the history of CTAHR's taro collection; how we manage the collection using conventional and organic production practices; and our struggles and success stories dealing with new and re-occurring pests. Walk through our dryland kalo fields and network with Hawaii's agricultural agencies and local farmers. Fun for the whole family.

Please dress and plan appropriately for farm conditions, rain or shine. Calcium oxalates in Kalo (*Colocasia esculenta*) can cause skin, throat and eye irritations. Please do not eat anything without proper cooking.

For information or to request an auxiliary aid or service (e.g., sign language interpreter, designated parking, or materials in alternate format), contact Jari Sugano (suganoj@ctahr.hawaii.edu) at suganoj@ctahr.hawaii.edu at least seven days before the activity/event (March 10, 2018).

Hawaiian-NOVIC Organic Plant Breeding Intensive

EVENT DETAILS

MARCH 11, 2018 - MARCH 12, 2018

WAIMANALO RESEARCH STATION, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, COLLEGE OF
TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES | 41-698 AHIKI STREET |
WAIMANALO, HAWAII

This March Hawaiian farmers, students and seed stewards can take their skills to the next level learning fundamentals of plant variety improvement and organic plant breeding. Join researchers from OSA, University of Wisconsin, and Oregon State University (partners of the Northern Organic Vegetable Improvement Collaborative – NOVIC) along with University of Hawaii (UH) for a two-day intensive on organic seed and plant breeding. Trainings include classroom and hands-on exercises in the fields of GoFarm Hawaii, the Sustainable and Organic Agriculture Program, and UH Extension viewing a wide range of vegetable crops along with tropical staple-crops (taro, cassava, and banana). This workshop is for farmers, seed producers, and agricultural students with basic knowledge of crop and seed biology and includes group exercises, networking opportunities, and local foods lunches.

[Registration is limited.](#)



The state of Hawaii, Division of Forestry and Wildlife is accepting project proposals for the Forest Stewardship Program through March 16, 2018. Agroforestry projects are eligible for the Forest Stewardship Program.

The [Forest Stewardship Handbook](#) contains all of the information that is needed by the forest landowner to participate in the program. Procedures for application, proposal and management plan content, forestry practices, cost-share rates, and more can be found within the Handbook.

Funding possibilities include:

1) the Hawaii Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) for long-term management, eligible for 50% cost-share assistance; and/or

2) various USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) or Farm Service Agency (FSA) financial and technical assistance programs for plan implementation, eligible at 50% to 75% cost-share assistance (dependent on

program).

Learn more at: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/forestry/lap/fsp/>

Contact:

Malia Nanbara, Statewide Service Forester

Malia.Y.Nanbara@hawaii.gov

Office [\(808\) 587-4176](tel:8085874176)

Cell [\(808\) 348-0652](tel:8083480652)



Farm Service Agency: Farm Loans

By providing access to credit, FSA's Farm Loan Programs offer opportunities to family-sized farmers and ranchers to:

- Start, improve, expand, transition, market, and strengthen family farming and ranching operations
- Beginning farmers, racial and ethnic minority farmers and women producers
- Value-added, direct sale, organic, and specialty crop operations
- Young People actively involved in agricultural youth organizations needing financial assistance for income-producing, educational, agricultural projects
- Urban farmers and roof-top producers
- Operations using alternative farming methods such as hydroponics, aeroponics, vertical farming, and freight container farming

February 2018 Interest Rates

Farm Operating Loans 3.125%

Farm Operating Microloans 3.125%

Farm Ownership Loans 3.750%

Farm Ownership Microloans 3.750%

Farm Ownership Loans Direct Down Payment for Beginning Farmer or Rancher 1.500%

Emergency Loans 3.75 %

[Website](#) and contact info:

Hawaii State and Pacific Basin Farm Service Agency Office

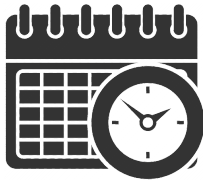
P.O. Box 50065

300 Ala Moana Blvd, Rm 5-108

Honolulu, HI 96850

(808) 541-2600 extension 2

Contact the County Office to confirm meeting date and time, as budget constraints may limit the County Committee's ability to meet each month. Honolulu County Committee - March 16, 2018 Time: 3:00pm



Calendar of Events

Aggie Events and Deadlines:

Get involved in Oahu Agriculture

- March 4: GoFarm Hawaii! [AgCurious seminar](#) Punalu'u Ahupua'a Farms 2-5pm
- March 5th [HFUU Waianae Chapter](#) meeting 6:30pm at Kahumana Organic Farm
- March 9: GoFarm Hawaii! [AgCurious seminar](#) Waimanalo Community Center 6:30 - 8:30
- March 11 -12: NOVIC [Organic Plant Breeding Workshop](#) UH Waiamanalo Research Station
- March 15: [Breadfruit workshop](#) - UH Waimanalo Research Station
- March 16 Honolulu County Committee Meeting 3:00pm - [Farm Service Agency](#)
- March 16: [Breadfruit workshop](#) - Foster Botanical Gardens
- March 17: [Taro Field Day](#) at UH Waimanalo Research Station 9-12 41-698 Ahiki St. Waimanalo
- March 27: West Oahu SWCD monthly meeting

[Hawaii Farm to School Calendar](#)



Online Workshops with NRCS:

Visit NRCS's online training opportunities and a list of archived webinars [here](#)

West Oahu SWCD's Next Meeting: March 27, 2018 at 12:30pm

Location of all meetings: Crop Production Services Conference Room, Kunia Village 92-1770 Kunia Road, Kunia HI 96759. Please enter through the side door.

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

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Newsletter compiled by Michelle Gorham, West Oahu SWCD and edited by Cindy Pinick of HARC. Submit articles and information to WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com

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O'ahu RC&D
ATTN: West Oahu SWCD
PO Box 209
Kunia, HI 96759

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