

## Feedback on Needs of CES and Current Situation

- I. Focus on overall needs
  - A. Opportunities to work together
  - B. Many grants require multi-disciplinary/multi-focus approach

### Current Situation

- I. Demographics
  - A. Fewer people in agriculture
  - B. Age shift
    - 1. older farmers out
    - 2. fewer new farmers
    - 3. sell off land for development
  - C. Urban/Suburban/Non-farm are controlling agenda
  - D. Urban encroachment
    - 1. spray
    - 2. dust
    - 3. pesticides
  - E. Agricultural land → Urban trend (pressure for low input/organic)
- II. Farmer awareness of environmental issues
  - A. Realize they need alternatives
  - B. CES not ready able to provide
  - C. Replace "simple" system with a more complex system (IPM)
    - 1. We may not have all of the answers/solutions
- III. Need for cooperative work
  - A. Example #1--Livestock waste need cooperation between livestock/crops (compost? markets?)
  - A. Example #2--Organic production in taro--need organic inputs
- IV. New dynamic environment costs
  - A. Nursery businesses -- water issues
  - B. Dean Okimoto -- food safety issues
    - 1. Tough to stay in business
- V. Need to do better job of getting these concerns to CTAHR Administration (no food safety person at UHM/CTAHR)
  - A. Possible cooperation with microbiology?
  - B. What can we do in the meantime?
    - 1. ADSC do testing?
      - a. Who are the clients?
- VI. Reclassification of streams on the Big Island → Class 1--Class 2
  - A. How to do this?
  - B. What is the impact on agriculture?
- VII. Organic production doesn't insure WQ
  - B. Can CTAHR-CES support organics given costs/time/resources?
  - C. How will/can CES be involved?
    - 1. TMDL determination?
    - 2. No enforceable standards at present

- a. Waimanalo stream pilot study now
  - D. Agents need to be involved in community voice for agriculture
  - E. Agents/DOH workshop?
- VIII. Potential Collaborators/Competitors
  - A. HARC- bit of both
  - B. Hawaii Department of Agriculture/Department of Health
    - 1. We need to work with both, but they have tough time themselves--external and internal
    - 2. Mostly regulatory but have some extension (DA Pest Branch--education)
    - 3. Some examples of good DOA-CES cooperation
      - a. DOH Ombudsman (Note: Role of perception)
      - b. Example of pig farms in Pacific Islands -- no evidence (HZ study)
      - c. Need to get data out
- IX. Role of CES
  - A. Pay attention/attend meetings/get our info (or lack of) out
  - B. Work with Farm Bureau Environment Committee?
  - C. Provide "reality check"
  - D. CES-NRCS cooperation -- already in progress
  - E. NRCS mandate is changing → more to CES
    - 1. ARS
    - 2. Private Consultants
    - 3. Chemical Suppliers
    - 4. AACD/districts
    - 5. DLNR

#### Internal Situation

- I. Strengths
  - A. Non-regulatory
  - B. Outreach farm visits, workshops
  - C. Longstanding credibility/trust
  - D. Good agents/front-line folks
  - E. Flexibility/imagination
    - 1. can implement innovations
  - F. Good Support (researchers)
  - G. Our services are free
- II. Weaknesses
  - A. Low numbers
  - B. Gaps in coverage areas (retirements)
  - C. Lack of money
  - D. More obligations-responsibility for lots of areas
- III. Opportunities
  - A. Food Safety
    - 1. Educational program -- more consumer education ("wash your food")
    - 2. What are the risks? Costs?
    - 3. Need to address all stages of the food system
      - a. Cultivation/handling/processing/marketing -- "Farm-to-Table"

- B. Logical place for CES/CTAHR
  - 1. Resources--especially lab resources
  - 2. Research to define issues
- C. Need to decide/determine how to frame the issue
  - 1. What is the issue?
  - 2. What is the role of CES-CTAHR?
  - 3. Do we redirect scarce resources?
- D. Food safety is national issue
  - 1. It isn't going away and we will have to deal with it
  - 2. It *will* have an impact
  - 3. But it will require resources
    - a. There is federal funding available
    - b. How to use it?
  - 4. We need to know what to recommend
  - 5. There is a food safety ext. project getting started (August) \*Have video
- E. Livestock has program for food quality
  - 1. There is room for a project
  - 2. Agents need info/training
- F. Maybe identifying critical points is a good place to start
  - 1. Part from guides (Wayne)
- G. But will vary (industry specific)