

# Lower Kula Update

E. Fujitani

For the past fifteen weeks, the Kula Area Wide Crew has been releasing sterile male melon fruit flies as part of HAW-FLYPM efforts to help bring about area wide fruit fly suppression in Lower Kula. With the innovative efforts of Dr. Don McInnis (USDA-ARS Geneticist) and Dr. Ron Mau (UH-Extension Specialist), current shipments of 600,000 sterile pupae are being sent from Oahu to Maui to be processed and released weekly. The roving release is usually done on Wednesday and Thursday, with 2 trucks going in and around cooperators' farm sites along the Pulehu and Ag. Park roads.



Sterile Insect Release

Fruit collections from farm sites of melon host crops are done weekly, and then the eggs are dissected from the fruits and kept for 24-36 hours for observations. Recent egging data is starting to show a percentage of eggs that do not hatch. This is good news because it suggests a decline in fertile mating. In addition, the number of infertile eggs laid in the field is increasing, all which results in the decline of future progeny. Current CPTD (catch per trap per day) for the melon fly is 7.21 and the flooding ratio, sterile males to wild males range from 0.4 to 17. Therefore, with the continued Sterile Insect Technique, the area wide crew is hopeful that the CPTD will decline in the coming months.



Aloha from Maui! Troy, Alfredo, Linda, and Earl



Kahului Master Gardeners

## HAW-FLYPM: Knowledge Transfer Empowering Learners, Organizations, & Associations

C. Hiraki

Master gardeners and volunteers in Kahului, Maui and Pearl City, Oahu have recently been certified to train others about the HAW-FLYPM program. The June workshops addressed fruit fly problems specific to their communities and featured hands-on demonstrations concerning trap-making and protein bait sprays. All in attendance had an opportunity to register with HAW-FLYPM as new community cooperators. Now outfitted with the gear and know-how, our 43 Area-Wide "ambassadors" are ready to spread the word:



Pearl City Master Gardeners & Volunteers

**Hilo**

- Lisa Cooper
- Cany Dizon
- Joy Hosokawa
- Christine Wolf
- Mary Blair
- Luana Beck
- Charles Dillon
- Carol Noel
- Sain Matayoshi
- Janice Crowl-Planas
- Daghilo Rick
- Yoshi Watanabe
- Marge Watanabe
- Barbara Thomason
- Casey Cumming
- Nancy Johnston
- Judy McMacker
- David Marshall

**Maui**

- Aline Rolaff
- Masami Fukuoka
- Victoria Smith
- Lora Sasaki
- Walter Sasaki
- Willie Chung
- Linda Chandler
- Charlie Chandler
- Kathy Lindsey
- Edwin Brown
- Susi Mastroianni
- Masao Sato

**Oahu**

- Stacy Davis
- Wilma Ezzell
- Carol Gonsalves
- Nancy Inouye
- Ralph Lee
- Carlton Luka
- Jan McEwen
- Bea Sailn
- H. Dale Sato
- Margaret Terakawa
- Victor Tanimoto
- Connie Yoshioka
- Herman Young

# HAW-FLYPM: Increasing Community Involvement Pickled Peach Supports Church and Community

L. Fujitani

Every year during peach season my cousin in Honolulu reminds me to send her a gallon of Makawao Hongwanji's famous pickled peach. This year the church made over 900 gallons of this sweet tangy delicacy, so I had no problem getting a gallon. Some years, when the peach production was poor and I called too late, my cousin would have to wait another year before savoring this Maui specialty.

This year's peach production was so bountiful the church found more than enough fruit. The peaches were "almost sting free" according to Michael Nakagawa who spearheads the pickling production. "We could have made 1000 gallons but not enough help," laments Nakagawa, reverberating the need for more volunteers. Last year the church produced less than 500 gallons of pickled peaches due to fruit fly infestation. "Big difference!"

In nearby Olinda, Kazuma Okumura has been donating his peaches to Makawao Hongwanji for as long as the church has been pickling peaches. After moving to Olinda in 1942, Okumura planted peach trees and made plans to sell the fruit to a Chinese preserve seed company on Oahu. However, the peaches arrived overripe and couldn't be used. Soon afterwards he heard Makawao Hongwanji was looking for peaches for pickling. With over 60 trees Okumura had plenty of peaches to donate to the church. "Hardly any fruit flies before." Grinning, Okumura looks at the peaches still on the tree. "This year the church could have made 1500 gallons, easy."

Every since I can remember a gallon of this sought after treat sold for \$20. "Make it affordable, sell all!" asserts Sam Morikawa, a lifelong Makawao Hongwanji member. Monies from the pickled peach sales go into the church general fund, which supports church activities such as 4-H, Boy Scouts, Japanese School, and various senior citizens' programs including Project Dana.

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Kazuma Okumura



Pickled Peaches



Gail Hamai & Sam Morikawa



Reverend Ron Kobata



[www.fruitfly.hawaii.edu](http://www.fruitfly.hawaii.edu)

**A Friendly Reminder!**

## Persimmon Growers Pathogen Alert!



### *Cercospora Leaf Spot*

Available:  
*Abound Flowable* by Syngenta

June 2003 may be a good time  
to start considering *Abound* applications

For more information, contact:  
Clark Hashimoto, Kahului Extension Office  
244-3232

## Upper Kula: Persimmon Season Update

E. Fujitani

Upper Kula persimmon growers are optimistic and looking forward to a good season this coming year. This year's fruit set on the trees was good and there is some fruit drop occurring now. Med fly counts continue to be low with slightly higher catches in citrus; therefore, cooperators must use the tactics of mass trapping and GF-120 to further suppress the fruit fly population. Many cooperators and surrounding neighbors have enjoyed a good peach season, and got a chance to share their crop with friends and family. A cooperator mentioned that he had his fill of eating peaches this year.

Because of the good peach season, our cooperators are enthusiastic that the persimmon harvest will encounter low fruit fly infestation. Kula is now experiencing drought conditions and water usage is at Voluntary Conservation status. As the fruits mature, the Bio-lure traps will be placed in the persimmon orchards. The concern among the growers is the Cercospora Leaf spot disease, which affects the persimmon, yields and at its worse, kills the tree. Growers have made applications of "ABOUND," a fungicide as a preventative treatment for Cercospora.



The Tagamoris with Biolure® traps

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