On Board: Waialua
E. Nooney

The HAW-FLYPM program is gaining speed on Oahu with word of mouth helping to spread the success and ease of the project to other farmers. Just last year the implementation zone grew to include Kahuku due to farmers talking to other farmers. Now farmers in Waialua have taken an interest and asked us for help with their fruit fly problems.

The farmers in Waialua have small plots of land closely packed together and grow many crops susceptible to fruit flies. They are having no success with current tactics and have infestation rates above 80% in many cases. They need help in suppressing fruit fly damage now.

After the first meeting and educational presentation they seemed eager to participate in the program. They were told they will be receiving minimal assistance from the HAW-FLYPM staff and have most of the responsibility of the project’s success placed upon themselves. The farmers are now setting up monitoring traps and spraying GF-120 to control fruit flies.

Another group of farmers in Waialua will be given the educational presentation and supplies to start the tactics on their farms. This is a good example of farmers in one area working together to control a pest they all share through an area wide approach.

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Oahu Happenings
C. Kuo

HAW-FLYPM has begun to reach the seniors of Oahu. In addition to the Lanakila Senior Center workshop last fall, two classes were held in March at the Makua Ali‘i Senior Center in Honolulu. The workshops focused on fruit fly identification and the various fruit fly suppression techniques. We found that many seniors already know one of our keys to suppression, SANITATION. Workshop participants had opportunities to sign up with HAW-FLYPM and receive traps and protein bait spray for use at home. Those who became cooperators seemed more than eager to save their homegrown fruits and vegetables from fruit fly pests. Special thanks to Mrs. Ebesu and Mrs. Endo for helping us coordinate the workshops.

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