Now that the HAW-FLYPM program has been shown to be successful for many Hawaii-based growers, the program has taken an international flair as researchers from other countries have begun to request information and assistance in setting up similar programs in their countries. Three years ago during a visit to Taiwan, Eric Jang, Lyle Wong and Ron Mau visited with researchers at the Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) in Taichung and Taiwan’s Council of Agriculture (COA) in Taipei to talk about the program. As a result of that visit and close cooperation with researcher Dr. Edward Cheng from TARI, the Taiwan program for suppression of oriental fruit fly was revised to include an “areawide approach” that has helped growers in Taiwan control the fly. In addition, the Taiwan program is starting a melon fly control program based on the success of the Hawaii program. Hawaii researchers have also learned a lot about agriculture in Taiwan including the successful farm cooperatives that have been in place for many years. These cooperatives help to insure that programs such as the Taiwan areawide fruit fly program are sustainable.

During the last two years the HAW-FLYPM family has also hosted numerous “trainees” from other countries funded by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to learn about the research activities at PBARC and to see firsthand how technologies are transferred to growers through cooperative efforts such as those developed in the Hawaii program with the University of Hawaii and the Hawaii State department of Agriculture. Trainees from Fiji, Mauritius, and Madagascar have recently visited Hawaii. In December Dr Qinge Ji, an Associate Researcher from Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University will arrive to spend a year in Dr. Mau’s lab at UH. Dr. Ji was awarded a scholarship from the government. She will spend a year studying the FLGYPM program and in research on bio control aspects.
Outreach has also been initiated from Hawaii in the form of workshops to American territories and countries in the Pacific such as Guam, Rota, Saipan and Tinian. These territories/countries have similar fruit fly problems as those in Hawaii and are anxious to learn more about the program in Hawaii. Last year, Drs. Vargas, Mau, Jang accompanied by Dr. Kent Teramoto from the Hawaii Department of Agriculture spent a week in the Pacific at workshops aimed at understanding the HAW-FLYPM program and controlling fruit flies through sanitation, bait sprays, mass-trapping and biological control.

Interest in the FLYPM program has grown as evidenced by over 4000 "hits" of the HAW-FLYPM website representing countries worldwide. While it is too early to know the full impact of the Hawaii program on fruit fly control worldwide it is clear that some have benefited from the increased knowledge and tools that have been made available. We predict interest will continue to rise as word of the HAW-FLPM programs success spreads. Stay tuned for more updates on international activities.

**Upcoming Events on the Big Island**

**14th Annual International Tropical Fruit Growers Conference:**

HAW-FLYPM staff will hold trap making demonstrations and provide other information designed to help the fruit growers in our community learn how to control their fruit flies.

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Location: Ohana Keauhou Beach Resort
78-6740 Ali‘i Dr.
Keauhou, HI

Days & Hours: Friday, October 1 to Sunday
October 3, 2004
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HAW-FLYPM Honored with Awards
R. Mau

During 2004 HAW-FLYPM has been honored with three prestigious awards listed below.
- Federal Laboratories Consortium Technology Transfer Award
- Pacific Branch, Entomological Society of America IPM Team Award
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary’s 2004 Honor Award for providing the basis for a sustainable rural economy

These awards were accepted by the Core Team on behalf of the entire team of field and office professionals who are responsible for the programs success.

It is immensely satisfying that the partnership with Hawaii’s growers and communities was recognized. Since the arrival of the melon fly in 1895, Hawaiian agriculture has learned to live with the four fruit fly pest species. As a result of grower skill in applying fruit fly mitigation practices, no longer will these pests be allowed to take what they want.

The USDA-ARS Area Wide Pest Management Program had the foresight to fund the project. Led by Drs. Robert Faust, Eric Jang and Roger Vargas a project management group called the HAW-FLYPM Core Team was assembled. This planning group was composed of individuals from USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA), University of Hawaii (UH), and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Members are Robert Faust (ARS), Eric Jang (ARS), Roger Vargas (ARS), Carroll Caukins (ARS Retired), Dennis Gonsalves (ARS), Lyle Wong (HDOA), Stuart Stein (APHIS) and Ron Mau (UH).
When it comes to protecting its $30 billion fruit-producing industry, the State of California does not waste time. Each week over 300 million sterile Mediterranean fruit flies are released throughout the Los Angeles Basin. In August, the HAW-FLYPM crew from Maui, Oahu, and the Big Island visited the California Fruit Fly Preventive Release Program facility in Los Alamitos. California’s Medfly Preventive Release Program (PRP) is the largest sterile release program in the United States. The PRP is a cooperatively funded operation between the USDA and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Fruit flies are attracted to over 250 different varieties of fruit and vegetables and can cause havoc on the agricultural industry, the consumer, and the economy in California. The visitors from Hawaii saw firsthand how sterile Mediterranean fruit fly pupae are processed and prepared for aerial release. This experience will help prepare the HAW-FLYPM crew for their upcoming sterile Mediterranean fruit fly release program.