Ewa. The melon and pumpkin season is just about over. It is appropriate to review where we have been and the success that we have had. We have monitored melon fly populations at Ewa for about 3 years so we know the extent of the problem about as well as the growers. The Central Oahu implementation program began in April 2002. At that time we educated grower field workers and supervisors on the fruit fly suppression program and our goals.

In May we trained field workers on proper application of GF-120 fruit fly bait spray. The secret was out... melon fly roosting sites were shown to the workers. The wide-eyed workers understood within minutes, and it was open season on melon fly adults. The first tactic -- **bait sprays**, began immediately and once a week thereafter. Two weeks later, the second tactic -- **male annihilation**, began on the farm. Traps were set at a rate of one trap per 4 acres. Traps were recharged at two-month intervals. The third tactic was **sanitation** -- plowing crops as soon after harvest as practicable (within 1-2 weeks).

Success! Figure 4 shows that the combination of practices successfully suppressed fly numbers. Yes, there were bumps in the road during August when a month-long fallow from corn was practiced. We learned from it, and are probably better because of it.

We are summarizing infestation data to determine the relative impact that the suppression program had on fruit infestation. After all, the proof of the pudding must be lower infestation rates. Look for that article in the December newsletter.
Kunia. For many weeks now, the Oahu areawide crew has focused at developing a more comprehensive melon fly baseline at Kunia, Oahu. They worked with the grower to expand the number of monitoring traps. The partnership will expand to suppress melon fly in melons and one or two other susceptible crops. Figure 5 provides us with a basis for the extent of melon fly in the area. We will keep everyone informed in subsequent newsletters.