

Summer 2006

MALP



The mission of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals is to exemplify leadership by offering education to its membership, the industry, and the community.

NEWS

Aloha Gang,
It's halfway through the year.
How quickly time is passing by.

The Pres Sez...

This year I had the opportunity to travel to Oahu and attend one of the largest conferences of the year, The Green Industry Conference arranged by LICH (The Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii). The well attended conference had people from all aspects of our industry. Contractors, arborists, nursery people, growers, landscape architects, and a couple of professors. I learnt a lot and if you ever get a chance to attend one of these meetings please do. Maui was well represented. I was surprised to see how many of you attended. It was great to see our MALP Group, Donna Mann, Susi Mastroianni, Elaine Malina, Ernie Rezens and others, and although the conference was interesting what I found more interesting was getting to know my colleagues over dinner and a drink. It is funny how much you can learn about a person outside of work or even from our meetings. Ernie was especially funny. I have always had this image of him being my professor,

its great to know he is just like you and me.

The MALP board is looking for a vocal and treasurer for 2007. Sarge McBride (vocal) and Donna Mann (Treasurer) are stepping down after many years of faithful service to our industry. If you are interested please let us know. What makes this organization special and successful are its members and you can make a difference. If you have not attended our monthly meetings please come back and invite a friend. This month we are having Vista Outdoor Lighting. This could also be a great business opportunity if you are interested.

Sarge is planning a great hike for the group next month. The Waihee Coastal Land Trust walk. It should be interesting and the walk is not too strenuous. So if you can make it, please attend, it will be fun. See you there!!

Mahalo's, Jeff

Economic Value of Landscaping and Golf Courses

Norman Nagata, Extension Agent
University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service

Do you consider the landscape and golf course industries a part of agriculture? Unfortunately, most people don't or they may ignore the contributions and value of these industries to Hawaii's economy. Furthermore, the "Statistics of Hawaii Agriculture" that's published annually doesn't provide any information on the value of these industries to the state, nor does it list any of its major affiliated organizations in this publication.

In reality, diversified agriculture is made up of two main sectors, one being "agricultural production/marketing," which includes market grown products (edible crops, animal products, potted plants, cut flowers, forestry, pharmaceuticals, fisheries, etc.) and the other being

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THE MANY FACES OF KOA by Robert Hobdy

This article first appeared in the Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Newsletter (January 2006) and is re-printed with permission of both the author and the Gardens.

Koa (*Acacia koa*) is the monarch of the Hawaiian forests. Its name also means warrior and brave one. With a name like this, it is no coincidence that it is the largest and most dominant tree in the forest. Its wood is one of the most beautiful in color and grain and it has great workability and stability. The Hawaiians prized it as the premier wood for canoes, and the harder dryland woods were used for tools, weapons and paddles.

Koa is also a benevolent parent tree to its smaller neighbors in the mesic forests. Its great spreading crowns are relatively open, allowing ample light to filter through for the smaller trees, shrubs and ferns in the understory, while its roots, in partnership with symbiotic rhizobial bacteria, produce nitrogen that also nourish the understory plants. Where the finest koa forests grow, the most luxuriant maile vines proliferate.



Koa is also extremely variable in stature and appearance throughout its statewide range. So much so that at one time three segregate species were recognized. High elevation trees look different than low elevation trees, and wet forest trees look different than dry forest trees. Koa has adapted to a wide range of habitats and changed to better survive in these habitats. As an example, the koa forests at high elevations (4,000-6,000 ft.) on the leeward slopes of Hawai'i and Maui have developed extremely wide leaves. These "leaves" in koa are actually enlarged leaf petioles called phyllodes that are thick and leathery. These have evolved to replace the delicate bipinnate true leaves, apparently as a means for minimizing desiccation in dry climates. Typical koa has long sickle-shaped phyl-

lodes 15-30 mm wide. The high elevation koa, however, have phyllodes 40-55 mm wide that are blunt tipped and only slightly curved. One theory is that wide phyllodes provide more surface area for condensing water out of fog. In upper Kula and Kahikinui where these trees grow, the annual rainfall averages about 40 inches.



This is peripherally low for koa, which prefers 60-150 inches per year. On these leeward slopes, however, there is usually a thick cloud bank that forms from the gentle orographic lifting of warm air during the day. This dense nalu cloud is full of moisture, but little of it falls as rain.

These broad phyllode koa condense great amounts of water from these clouds to the point that it "rains" under these trees, nearly doubling the actual precipitation and creating a more ideal climate for these trees and their understory beneficiaries. Koa trees in both wetter and drier forests away from this nalu cloud have phyllodes of normal width. Of special note are the koa trees that grow in lower Kipahulu Valley. These trees have long, extremely narrow (6-8 mm wide) phyllodes that give these trees a lacy appearance.

The range of koa forest on East Maui is of interest. On the leeward Kula and Kahikinui slopes it lies in an elevation band between 3,500 and 6,000 feet, consistent with the occurrence of the nalu cloud. But koa does not naturally occur on the windward slope where rainfall is too high for its liking due to the trade wind effect. So koa wraps around the edges of Haleakala only to Kailua on the northwest corner and only to Kipahulu on the southeast corner, and then abruptly stops where rainfall exceeds about 200 inches per year. The great Kipahulu Valley is literally filled with koa forests while the adjacent Waiho'i Valley

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Economic Value of Landscaping and Golf Courses

Continued from Pg. 1

"agricultural service industries" (e.g., landscape designers, contractors, and maintenance workers; golf courses).

Like farmers, landscapers and golf course workers are responsible for growing and maintaining ornamental plants, turfgrasses, and even at times edible crops on client's properties. They use water, fertilizers, pesticides, and other agricultural products and equipment as part of their work. The only difference between them is that their plants are not sold, but are grown to beautify the landscape or for people's enjoyment.

In a 2003 University of Hawaii publication by Dr. Linda Cox (<http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/EI-5.pdf>), it showed that the value of the agricultural service industries was approximately \$507.7 million, which nearly equaled the value of its counterpart, agricultural production (sugarcane and pineapple included) at \$521 million. It was also projected that more new agricultural jobs will be created in these service industries as urban development continues and by people taking greater pride in their outdoors. A good indication of this trend is the numerous vehicles on highways carrying mowers, string trimmers, irrigation pipe, and other landscape supplies and equipment in the mornings and late afternoons of each workday.

The contributions of the landscape and golf course industries help make this state a very desirable place to live and visit; and also supports the visitor and hotel industries, which are the economic engines for Hawaii. These service providers design, install, and maintain the landscapes and interiorscapes of retail and office buildings, hotels, condominiums, residences, roadways, parks, sports fields, golf courses, and other establishments.

In spite of this, there are few opportunities for agricultural service providers to better themselves and to improve their business and industry. Most state and federal agricultural programs are targeted to support agricultural producers with grants (free monies) or low interest loans to support their businesses, organizations, marketing programs, and to fund research and educational programs.

If you believe that you or your industry could benefit from some of these programs, then support and get involved in your local associations, such as MALP, or form a professional organization to address your group's needs. Talk to your government officials, political representatives, and university personnel about your issues. Be persistent and don't give up, because some changes may take time.

EVENTS CALENDAR

July 25th, Tuesday 7pm - MALP Monthly Meeting. Our speaker for the evening is Cruz Perez VP of Marketing for Vista Professional Outdoor Lighting.

August 26th, Saturday 9am – 12pm Maui Nui Botanical Garden Hawaiian Plant Sale

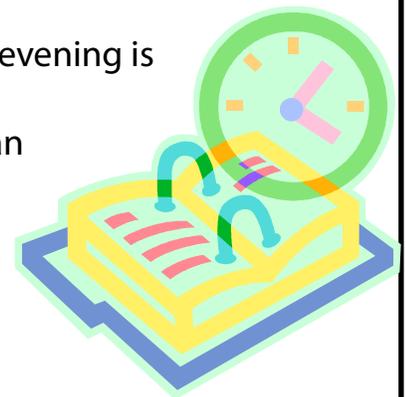
August 27th, Sunday 10am-1pm – MALP Hike. The Maui Coastal Land Trust Waihee coastal hike

September 26th, 7pm - MALP meeting

October 28th, - MALP Keanae Arboretum Workday and overnight at the YMCA.

November 4th, Saturday 9am – 12pm Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

November 11th Saturday 10am – 3pm MALP's 10th Annual Lawn and Garden Fair



Please help us with this calendar. If you know of any event that is relevant to our industry, please contact [Susi at gardencreationsmaui@yahoo.com](mailto:Susi@gardencreationsmaui@yahoo.com). We will be happy to include it in our next newsletter coming out Fall '06.

PLANTS THAT MAKE SCENTS

By T&T Nutt

Not many people associate fragrant flowers with Deadly Nightshade, commonly referred as The Potato family. The Latin name is Solanaceae. Generally, we acknowledge the plants in this family for food and medicine or just the fact that many are highly toxic. Isn't it fascinating how one particular family of plants can impact our daily lives?

To think, Tomatoes and Potatoes growing in your garden are related to the Black Night Shade you just weeded out, or that Tobacco in a cigarette butt you cleaned from that same garden is a cousin to the Petunias, coloring your flower beds. And don't forget, Eggplant that goes in Eggplant Parmesan is a relative to the Chile Pepper spicing up your Salsa.

Two of the Nightshade family members recognized for fragrance would be the Angle Trumpet Tree and Night Jessamine. Some people can be overwhelmed by these blooms because they can dominate the evening air with a such a strong, sweet aroma. Certain people even claim they experience a feeling of light headedness when inhaling their sent. Another caution to remember is that some plant parts from Night Jessamine and all parts of the Angle Trumpet Tree are toxic. Make sure to wash your hands after handling, and especially be careful around eyes or open wounds. This is where the similarities end. By contrast the Angle Trumpet Tree and Night Jessamine they are two very different plants.

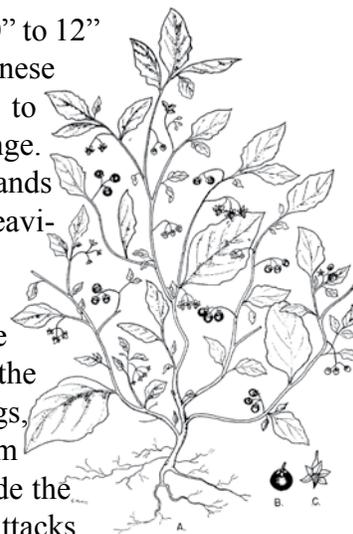


Angles Trumpet

The Angles Trumpet Tree *Brugmansia x candida*, (also know as Tree Datura) is a hybrid from South America arriving in the Hawaiian Islands 180 years ago. Trees prefer full sun, plenty of water and a well drained loamy soil with periodic fertilizing and mulching. They are not drought tolerant and will drop leaf under stress.

Angle Trumpet Trees do not handle windy and salty conditions. A small tree ranging from a height of around 15 feet with leaves growing 12" to 15" inches in length. This is one of the few trees I prune heavily because extensive pruning encourages flower and maintains the trees shape.

Flowers are trumpet shaped 10" to 12" in length, hanging like Chinese lanterns in colors from white to cream, or pink to pale orange. Blooming in the Hawaiian Islands can be year round, although, heaviest during full moon.



I have not seen the Angle Trumpet Tree fruit, however, the plant starts easily from cuttings, and can also be started from root shoots. Insect pests include the Chinese Rose Beetle which attacks at night and chews unsightly holes in the leaves. This does not seem to effect the health of the plant other then external appearance. People also complain of infestation of red spider mite.

Night Jessamine, *Cestrum nocturnum*, is one of the most famous and desirable fragrant plants. Erroneously called 'Night Blooming Jasmine' its flowers are pale yellow to white, opening and remaining extremely fragrant until sunrise. Aroma is sweet, pleasant and intoxicating. These flowers are widely used in India and other countries of South Asia for perfumery, medicinal applications and in religious ceremonies. Jessamine is a fast growing bushy shrub. The flowering period is in late spring to early summer. Extreme pruning is recommended after each flowering cycle to encourage new growth and remove old dead wood. Plants will become sparse with age, if not pruned excessively. Propagation from seed or cutting start very easy, can be grown as a hedge or single specimen plant. Insect problems can range from red spider mite to white fly or scale infestations, but for the most part I personally have had no insect problems with this plant.

So here's an example of expanding the potato family from garden into the landscape, appeasing the eye while exciting the nose. Angle Trumpet Tree and Night Jessamine truly make scents to grow.



Drakontaia

Garden Spotlight

by Susi Mastroianni

MAUI SUNSET

South Kihei Road

Maintained by Sonny Castillo and his crew

Sonny is undoubtedly the King of Seashore (paspallum that is!). Where most of us are content with



Guabelto, Sonny Castillo, Dionisio

short and green, Sonny takes lawn care to a whole new level.

Arriving at 8am the temperature was still cool and the shadows of the palms, Royal Poincianas, Tacomas and Plumeria played on a green surface that was immaculate, weed free and as smooth as a large green carpet. Edges around hardscape and plants were straight and clear, no struggling yellow spots, or invasive nut sedge, just beautiful green.

This has not always been the case says Sonny who has looked after this property for over 20 years. If you go to the border of the property you can get



past and how far it has with odd patches here Sonny and the Seashore from strength to strength. took pieces and spread more had out competed mowed once a week, detatched each year, fertilized about every three months and once in a while top dressed with compost for a boost of Organic Matter. What impressed me is that Sonny sharpens his mower blades EVERY week. Hats

had no idea!



off to any one who does that, but it shows and Sonny says that is one of the secrets to having a crisp clean cut which remains green after mowing.

The morning silence was broken as I wandered down to the beach to find a front-end loader that scoops up accumulated algae and seaweed each day and cleans the beach for the day's beachgoers. The "green waste" is piled to the side and the country comes and takes it away every so often. Each condo along that shoreline has their stretch of beach to do. I



Herb garden – tucked behind the pool is a surprise herb and veggie garden with green onions, basil, parsley and more.

had no idea!

To help with costs Sonny grows out some annuals to add a splash of color. With no nursery to speak of, he has cleverly screened off a section behind the pool house and makes great use of the

Garden Spotlight ~Maui Sunset

rooftop to lie out flats of colorful petunias. Sonny and his crew also have a neat herb and veggie patch nestled into the garden, much to the delight of visitors and owners. The condo dwellers all seem to know Sonny and we were stopped by a few as they talked story and complimented him on his work.

Sonny has great passion for his lawns and it shows. He is happy to share his knowledge and experience. So if you want to see how Seashore paspalum looks at its best, walk awhile with Sonny, I am glad I did.

If you have a garden that could be featured in the Garden Spotlight or you would like to nominate a garden, please drop me a line at gardencreationsmaui@yahoo.com



Rough and smooth – the contrast is clearly evident if you walk to the border of the prop-



Maui sunset sign – cheerful trailing gazanias (*Gazania rigens* var. *leucolaena*) form the backdrop to a red variety of Joyweed (*Alternanthera* sp.)

THE MANY FACES OF KOA

to its north has but a handful.

Likewise on the northwest corner a dense koa forest occurs at Honopou then suddenly gives way to a low-statured 'ohi'a and fern forest at Kailua. Another interesting characteristic of these two endpoints is also tied to rainfall. Where the trade winds wrap around Haleakala the isohyets (lines of equal rainfall) lie vertically on the shoulders of the mountain rather than horizontally as they do on both the windward and leeward slopes. Thus the zone of ideal rainfall for koa (60-150 inches per year) stretches from near sea level to 7,000 feet. On the northwest it runs from lower Peahi up to upper Waikamoi and Hosmer Grove, and on the southeast it runs up Kipahulu Valley from just above the highway to the upper reaches of the valley below Kuiki and Pohaku Palaha. On the map the range of koa looks like a boomerang with parentheses on each end.

Continued from pg. 2

Also of botanical and cultural interest is the low-statured, gnarly, dry forest species known as koai'a or koai'e (*Acacia koaia*). This allied species grows in the hot lowlands between 1,200 and 2,000 feet on the leeward side of the island. It has an interesting range as there is a considerable space between where it grows and the koa which is higher on the slope. The name koai'a connotes koa with connection to fishing. Indeed great shark hooks were crafted from curved roots or branches of this strong wood. The name koai'e connotes koa with a connection to kapa mallets, which in fact was another major use

Photo credits by Bob Hobdy



MALP's 10th Lawn & Garden Fair

When: Saturday, November 11, 2006

Time: 10am to 3pm

Where: Maui Tropical Plantation-Center lawn area

1670 Honoapiilani Hwy. ,Waikapu

Near Wailuku town

Reason:

*To educate the public about the Green Industry through displays, knowledgeable speakers on a wide range of topics, plant sales, and demonstrations.

*Main fundraiser for MALP - to help cover cost of newsletters, flyers, scholarships for a MCC Ag. Student, CLT students, seminars and Certified Arborist students and donations to help support other non-profits in their causes.

More information:

*Vendor participant information:

Cost-Booth space for MALP members \$150.

For non-members \$200 includes a \$45 MALP membership for 2007

Non-profits-limited space at no charge for booth space.

Tents (10 x 10) are set up with tables and chairs for participants

Entertainment along with our famous raffle prizes at the stage area.

Food is available at the restaurant and snack bar.

Call Elaine at 879-9169 for more information, to be a volunteer (we set up on Friday, Nov. 10th, and break down after the Fair), to donate some plants for MALP to sell, to be a speaker, to be a vendor, just call. Mahalo nui loa.

Help MALP celebrate our 10th Lawn & Garden Fair!!!!!!!!!!



MALP Annual Field Trip

To replace our monthly meeting for August Sarge McBride has planned a Maui Coastal Land Trust hike along the Waihee Coastline. It will be a moderate hike with a guide. The hike offers spectacular views of the coastline as well as interesting dune ecology; bring binoculars if you are interested in the birds (feathered kind). Several native Hawaiian plants can also be seen

growing along the hike. We will meet at the Trust's office in Wailuku on Sunday, August 27 at 10am. Then we will drive over to the hike area car-pooling is encouraged. MALP will supply a picnic lunch after the hike. Call Sarge at 879-9169 for information and sign up.



TESTING OF DEAD BIRDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISEASE SURVEILLANCE



LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
CHIYOME L. FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
54 High Street, Room
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793
LORRIN W. PANG, M.D.
MAUI DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER

May 8, 2006

TO: Landscaping, Security, and Groundskeeping Companies on Maui

FROM: Lorrin Pang, M.D., M.P.H., Maui District Health Officer

SUBJECT: Testing of dead birds for the purpose of disease surveillance

Ongoing surveillance activities for various diseases are carried out by the Hawaii Department of Health, including regular trapping and testing of mosquitoes (the vector for West Nile Virus and Dengue) as well as the collection and testing of dead birds (for West Nile Virus and Avian

Flu Virus). For bird testing, DOH relies largely on the public to report dead birds and voluntarily submit the specimens for testing. We would especially like your help with this step, since your teams cover the "grounds" on a regular basis.

When a dead bird is found, please call (808) 357-7234 to report it. If the bird is intact (not scavenged) and appears to be freshly dead (less than 24 hours), the caller may be asked to turn it in for testing. If it smells, has maggots, or is decomposed, the caller will be instructed to simply dispose of the bird carefully, using a shovel or gloved hand to place it in a double bag and put it in the trash. Hands should always be washed with soap or sterilized with alcohol gel afterwards. You cannot get West Nile disease from contact with birds but only from being bitten by mosquitoes which have bitten infected birds. You can get Avian Flu from contact with infected birds.

Note: Birds are tested for several viruses including West Nile Virus and Avian Influenza. At this time, neither WNV nor avian influenza has been detected anywhere in Hawaii, but we have in place our surveillance system of mosquitoes, humans, and birds. For more information about avian influenza ("bird flu"), please see www.avianflu.gov. For more information about West Nile Virus, dengue, and other infectious diseases, see www.hawaii.gov/doh.

To contact the Maui District Health Office about this memo or other public health matters, please dial (808) 984-8200.

MALP ON THE MOVE

MALP was approached by Glen Shishido from the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (a division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources). He is seeking help at the Keanae Arboretum. The board thought this would be a good opportunity to give something back to the aina and arrange a volunteer workday out at the Keanae. We hope to get as many volunteers as possible to attend a workday on Saturday the 28th of October 2006.

Glen is looking for any help, but specifically tree pruning, so any one out there that does tree work we will

be very grateful for your involvement, but I am sure that there will be work for us all. MALP will provide a picnic lunch that day and for those of you that enjoyed the overnight at the YMCA the last time, we thought we would book the kitchen and some accommodation and make a weekend of it! MALP will also sponsor the evening meal.

This will replace our October monthly meeting. More details to follow as the time gets closer, but mark your calendars if you are interested. Please call Susi at 268 9825 or email me at gardencreationsmaui@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

2006 Green Industry Conference and Trade Show Experience

by Elaine Malina

I represented MALP on the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii's (LICH) Foundations Board that met in Honolulu the evening before the conference and Trade show.

LICH was very impressive with their goals, members and energy. Boyd Ready is LICH's president and driving force behind the revival of the state organization. The conference, called "Building bridges: Unifying the Landscape Industry" set out to accomplish goals to build bridges with landscape design, the seriousness of invasive species, the importance of urban trees, using native Hawaiian plants and much more. I really enjoyed all the lectures I attended, filled with information and once more was reminded how important networking amongst other Green Industry people is.

The first day of the conference opened with LICH president welcoming us and asking us to participate in our industry to make positive changes, next was a moving speech by Big Island Mayor Harry Kim, reminding us that the Green Industry is so important in the State, not only in the beautifying of Hawaii landscapes but in creating living examples that can be followed by others in choosing what to use or do properly. An example of this is by not spreading invasive species.

Here are some highlights to share:

Dr Edward Gilman, professor of Environmental Horticulture at the University of Florida, spoke on the design of the urban forest, reminding people of the benefits of trees: economic benefits, water retention in canopies, crime prevention, social benefits and real estate values. Future changes to county/state ordinances so trees have more room to grow in parking lots or along streets. Creative ways for sidewalk repair such as rubber sidewalks or suspended walkways. In parking lots, lowering lights so trees are not butchered to lower their heights. Also lowering store signs for the same reason to allow trees to grow upward.

Grant Jones, an architect who works out of the west coast, is a pioneer in culturally sensitive design. Interesting tidbit; before 1950's roads were designed by landscape architects to fit into the communities, now they are designed by engineers, not always fitting into the areas they travel through. His question to us was, "How can you get the county, state,

and federal authorities to work with the Landscape architects again?" Some suggestions start with the community who can go to their political leaders and work with the department of transportation in trying to understand the engineers on their level. An example on Maui that Grant Jones may help with is the "Road to Hana".

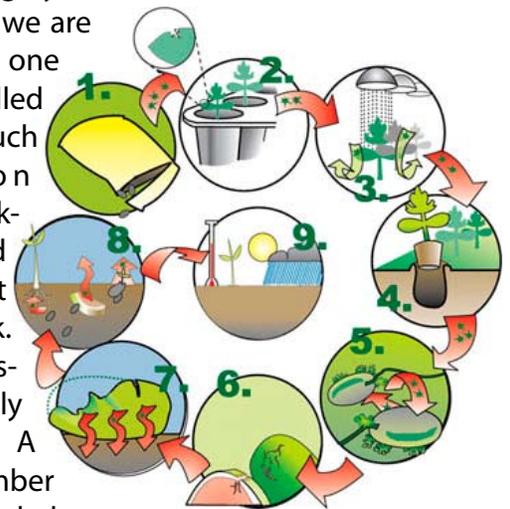
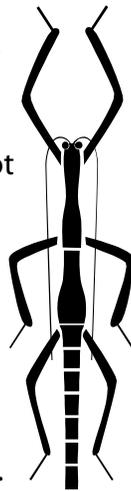
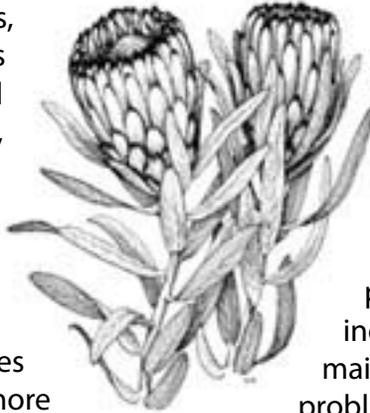
More advice from Grant Jones is to remember that the landscape is your client. Know where you are – the memory and voice of the place. "What can I do to strengthen the health and fullness of this place?" "How can I hook the most people to fall in love with this place?"

Several lectures were on design with native plants of Hawaii and introducing and expanding the existing plant pallet. Learning how to maintain native plants, common maintenance problems like overwatering and fertilization. On a positive note, the Oahu Nurseryman's Association is adopting "The Code of Conduct" which for them is to start phasing out the growing and selling of invasive species. They are working with the state organization CGAPS (Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species). MALP has voted to adopt the Code of Conduct also.

The trade show had 36 tables of products, information and free samples. Another place to network, learn to find solutions and share information.

As you can see I personally enjoyed this opportunity and would highly recommend it to all MALP members. I know we are all busy, but one or two days filled with so much information and networking would greatly benefit you and your work.

The Green Industry crowd are really nice people too. A fellow MALP member suggested I attend the lectures on design. They were really refreshing to me since the last design classes I took were in college many years ago. Plan to attend next year's conference and you will not regret it. Mahalo nui loa to MALP and the Maui Tropical Plantation for the opportunity to attend this con-





MALP

P.O. Box 2237
Wailuku, HI 96793-2237
<http://www.malp.org>



MALP Members 2006

On behalf of MALP we wish to thank all of our members for their support not only to our organization, but also to the Green Industry here on Maui. Each one of you contributes in some way and we thank you!!

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Jordan Abe | Kalani Kaleiopu |
| Ray Ah Chin | Shigeru Karakawa |
| Duke Alber | Brian Kaulupali |
| Ian Ballantyne | Harold Keyser, Ph.D. |
| Jeff Bantilan | Lothar Kuster |
| Mark & Barbara Beebe | Kevin Ledesma |
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We would also like to acknowledge the support that MALP receives from:

Maui Office of Economic Development
Maui County Farm Bureau
Landscape Industry of Hawaii (LICH)

Special Mahalos to our Monthly Meeting speakers and sponsors and our newsletter contributors.

If you have paid your dues for 2006 prior to 07/15/06, and your name does not appear on this list please call Donna Mann on 808 283 0758 or email me (Susi) at gardencreationsmaui@yahoo.com

MALP Membership Form

New Member
Renewing Member

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please send \$45.00 along with this card to:

MALP

P O Box 2237

Wailuku, HI, 96793-2237