

Winter 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

The Pres Sez...

Aloha Gang,

I wanted to say what an honor and pleasure it was to be the MALP president these past two years. It has been a real learning experience to see how we can make a difference in our organization. I would like to encourage all the members to become involved and together we can continue to make a difference.

I would also like to thank the past board

members for their help and support; I could not have taken this role without your help. In closing I would like to thank all the MALP members; a big Mahalo for attending the meetings and for your support.

Aloha & Mahalo,

Jeff, Retired MALP President!

Three Maui Landscapers Earn IPM Certificates

Norman Nagata, University of Hawaii Extension Agent

Today, landscaping is a very prosperous business that's in great demand. Many workers in this industry earn wages that are competitive or more than other skilled trades (e.g., mechanics, carpenters, electricians). It's not uncommon for homeowners to pay a landscape maintenance worker \$50 or more per visit to basically mow and blow their yard, which may take as little time as thirty minutes.

With these attractive salaries, more people are getting into landscape design, installation, and maintenance. The cost to start a landscape company is relatively inexpensive. For less than \$1,000 worth of equipment and a pickup truck, almost anyone can start a landscape business and find work immediately.

However, is the industry hurting itself with so many people going into landscaping with very little knowledge, training, and experience in this area? Will they be able to provide the quality of work, make correct horticultural decisions, know how to deal with plant problems, and provide professionalism to their clients?

A true professional should be committed to provide the very best service to their customers. As new information and technology evolve, it becomes necessary that these people continually improve themselves professionally through education. This often occurs in the technical skill trades, as well as in the medical, dental, legal, business, and educational professions.

Fortunately, there are many opportunities for landscapers on Maui to improve their knowledge, skills, and to network with each other. The Maui Association of Landscape Professionals (MALP) is an organization that people can join whose mission is to "exemplify leadership by offering education to its membership, the industry, and the community." MALP has recognized the need to improve their industry by co-sponsoring the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii's "Certified Landscape Technician" program to provide training and certification in the technical aspects

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Voluntary Codes of Conduct from MISC

Each year, many varieties of plants are introduced into the islands for landscaping projects and nursery sales. Whether it's finding that unusual plant in foreign markets, or supplying plants that have become popular in mainland gardens, industry members try to keep up with demand by finding new species to bring to Maui. However, some overlook the possibility that these introductions may cause more harm than good to our economy and environment. The threat is all too real, especially considering the startling fact that about 70% of Hawai'i's invasive species have been introduced by the horticultural trade.



Coqui Frog

Miconia, for example, was first introduced to Maui as an ornamental plant in Hana in the early 1970's and now the Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) works to survey and control over 37,000 acres. Coqui frogs are another example of introduction by the horticultural industry. Homeowners on the Island of Hawai'i who are selling their homes must sign disclaimers stating that they are aware of the frog's presence on their property. Big Islands realtors have reported that they have lost over \$11.3 million in sales due to coqui.

The plant industry is currently the source of the majority of new plant introductions in the state. Therefore, it is important that members like you make responsible and educated decisions about the types of plants being brought into the state to help protect Hawai'i from new invasive species. By doing so, you will not only boost your reputation as being aware of and doing something about invasive species, you will also set an example for other members to join in the battle.

This is exactly what's happening on other islands. In 2005, the O'ahu Nursery Growers Association (ONGA) was the first to sign a Voluntary Codes of Conduct agreement to acknowledge pest species marketed by their association members and made a pledge to phase these species out of their operations within six months. This was a revolutionary move in this field and in the spring of 2006, the Kaua'i Landscaping Industry Council (KLIC) hopped on the bandwagon.

In a show of support for the program, the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i (LICH) signed a resolution for the Codes program, and urged all industry associations and independent businesses to sign the Codes appropriate for their type of business. By signing, these associations pledged to work cooperatively with University of Hawai'i scientists and use the Hawai'i Weed Risk Assessment (WRA) system to screen new plant introductions. They also agreed to identify non-invasive alternatives and to discontinue growing, using and selling a short list of invasive species.



Pampas Grass
(cortaderia jubata,
cortaderia selloana)

The Voluntary Codes of Conduct is a nationwide program developed by the Missouri Botanical Garden and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). It is a self-regulatory system where nurseries, architects, contractors, gardeners and other members of the industry can help minimize the introduction and spread of invasive plants. Plant industry professionals create and comply with a set of codes that have been adapted specifically for their organization. The codes are not only a way of bringing plant industry professionals together statewide, it is also a way of slowing down the invasion.

As with ONGA and KLIC, the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals (MALP) can take a stand against invasive species and take the lead on Maui. In March, Christy Martin of the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species approached MALP to introduce the idea. Since then, a draft Codes of Conduct has been drawn up with specific objectives of how MALP can address the Codes. The next step is to review this draft, finalize it and sign the agreement.

By participating in this self-regulatory program, MALP members can take an active role in protecting the environment by decreasing the number of invasive species in Maui County. You are experts in the field and have the ability to influence your customer's views by recommending plants and designing projects that are safe and non-invasive. Working within a nursery or as a landscaper, you have constant one-on-one communication with your clients. You can educate them about invasive species and your voluntary role as a participant of the Codes of Conduct.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
54 SOUTH HIGH STREET, ROOM 101
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

November 3, 2006

Ms. Sue Mastroianni
c/o Maui Association of Landscape Professionals
P.O. Box 2237
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

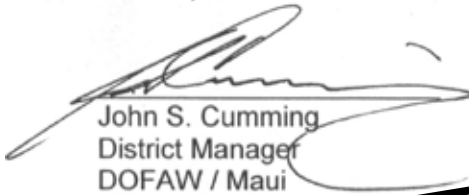
Dear Ms. Mastroianni,

I am writing to thank you and members of the Maui Association of Landscape Professionals for the exceptional volunteer effort at our Keanae Arboretum on October 28, 2006.

Your group's effort has improved the Arboretum's tree and plant landscape for future years. With this letter, we wish to acknowledge your memberships' technical expertise in tree and plant care.

Please accept our sincere gratitude for your effort to make our Keanae Arboretum a better place to view tropical trees and plants.

Mahalo,


John S. Cumming
District Manager
DOFAW / Maui

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

Sure, you're already a member of MALP so why don't you cut this out and give it to a friend? Or, better still, buy a gift membership for a friend. You'll see them more often because they'll come to some of MALP's great meetings and special events! Then next year, they can do the same thing and gift it to a friend of theirs...

Strike now while the iron is hot, go get a pair of scissors and cut this baby out and send it in today, your friend will thank you more than once!

Keanae Arboretum - MALP Workday

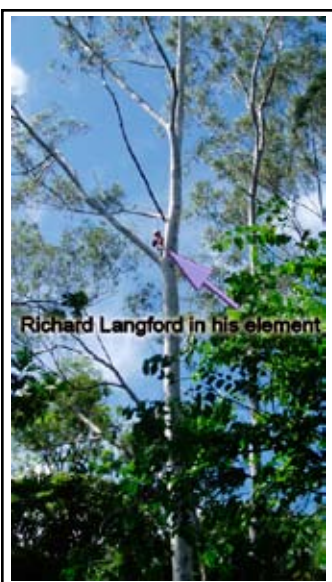
On Saturday, October 28th MALP held a workday at the Keanae Arboretum. This day was a joint venture between MALP, the Department of Land and Natural resources - Division of Forestry and Wildlife, the Master Gardener's Association of Maui, Outdoor Circle and the Maui County Arborist Committee.



A Branch of Arborists – Planning the job – L to R – Ryan Wilson, Matt Buono, and Richard Langford of Ehu Kai Tree Preservation and Jeff Grey. You can contact Richard at 808 281 5949. Big mahalos to all those guys.



Ty Domen – Ty was one of the tree climbing arborists to work at the arboretum that day. You can contact his company Alihilani Arborcare at 808 268 0510. Thank you Ty!



Richard Langford in his element

It was a great success and it goes to show what can be done when we all join forces. The arboretum will benefit from our endeavors for years to come. Here is a photo essay of the day!! (Photo credits go to Glen Shishido, Susi Mastroianni and Donna Mann)



Armed to prune – L to R Luana Delvecchio, Sue Kiang, Linda Manabe and Elaine Malina



Master Gardeners, Victoria Smith and John Deadheading Ginger

Tree Huggers – Sue Kiang & Elaine Malina



The Crew – Operating the chipper are members of the DLNR Forestry and Wild Life Division.



Kathy Lindsey from the Master Gardeners Association and Donna Mann, MALP Treasurer, Deadheading ginger.



Talk Story –(l-r) Bob Hobdy, Terry Nutt & Ernie Rezents



January Monthly Meeting 23rd January 2007

Auditorium at the Walter Cameron Center

95 Mahalani Street, Wailuku (Same road as Maui Memorial Hospital, just past the Maui police Department)

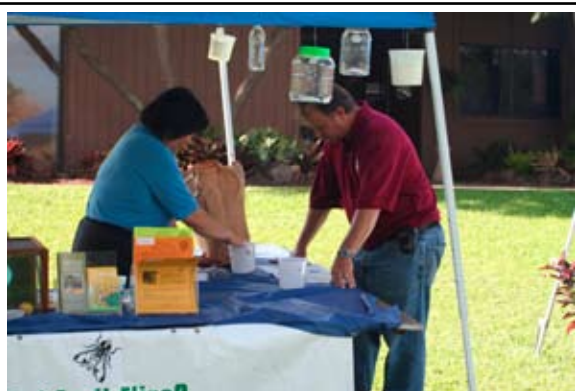
Our Speaker that evening will be **Terry Nutt and a MALP panel**, discussing Plant selection, Plant ID, growth patterns and cultural requirements of many Landscape plants.

We will have examples of the plants at the meeting and will be having a plant give-away with all the samples!! Terry is a certified arborist and has many years of experience in the Landscape industry and is one of the most passionate and enthusiastic speakers you will ever see. So come and get some great design ideas and expand your plant pallet. The meeting will encourage members to share their experience with the plant material discussed.

Lawn and Garden Fair

Photo credits goes to Joylynn Paman of MISC

- Thank you for sharing them with us



Ken Findeisen getting information on the fruit fly program from Linda Fujitani. The HAW-FLYPM program is a cooperative program between CTAHR's Cooperative Extension Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agriculture Research Services (USDA-ARS), and the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture (HDOA). They can be reached at 808 244 3242 (CTAHR office), Visit Ken's store, Hawaii Growers Products (Tel: 808 8776636) at 400 Lehuakona in Kahului. (Behind Lows lumber yard, down the street from Irrigation Systems - 808 877 6636)



Rainbow Acres once again had an excellent display of succulents and cacti. Contact Sherry Sorensen at her nursery 808 573 8318



Elaine Malina and Avery Chumbley, General Manager of the Maui Tropical Plantation, talking plants at the MALP plant sale booth. Thank you Elaine for organizing yet another successful fair. Big Mahalos to the Tropical Plantation for hosting the Fair.



Linda Manabe grabbing the palm by the fronds!



Sarge McBride manning the MALP booth.



The College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) can be reached at 244 3242. Their offices are located at the Maui Community College campus in Kahului. They offer a wealth of knowledge and resources to anyone in the green industry. The Master Gardeners program also operates out of the same office and provides information and education to the gardening public.



Marge Bonar of the Maui Garden Club, The Garden Club meets the third Saturday of each month.



Ann Emmsley from Maui Community College testing soil pH for an attendee. The Agriculture Department of MCC provides this service each year. Just bring a soil sample.



The Bug Man had samples of the pesky critters for us to identify. Contact Ray Ahchin at 871 1283 for pest issues.



Ron Parkhurst won the best exhibit award for his Traveling Bromeliad display. Well done Ron! You can reach Ron at Hanalei Nursery @ 572 9232.

Voluntary Codes of Conduct from MISC

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As an added benefit, you will also have top priority at screening any new introductory plants with the WRA. This assessment consists of 49 questions that rate the potential for a plant to be invasive based on its documented characteristics and performance in other parts of the world. The Weed Risk Screener, Shahin Ansari, is housed at the Lyon Arboretum on O`ahu which has already screened more than 500 species. You can access the WRA information at www.botany.hawaii.edu/faculty/daehler/wra/default.htm and make informed decisions about plants that you plan to add to your inventory and those already used in your business. If you do not see the plant that you are considering, then being a member of the Codes will help move you to the front of the line to have your species screened as a top priority!



Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)

The WRA rated the Australian tree fern as a plant that has been “documented to cause significant ecological or economic harm in Hawai`i.” This has been evident statewide where native ecosystems are being invaded. Its spores take flight easily and spread into pristine areas. Kaua`i has seen the devastation in remote core areas of their native forests and residents are startled at how easily and quickly the fern spreads.

That’s part of the reason why KLIC member, Kaua`i Nursery and Landscaping company destroyed their entire stock of more than 200 Australian tree ferns within a month of signing the Codes. It was a loss of over \$8,000 in revenue, but they wanted to confront the pest head on. Leilani Nursery on O`ahu also took a hit by agreeing to phase out the fern over time. This is a bold statement given Australian tree fern makes up about \$42,000 of their annual sales. Instead, these nurseries are working on supplying alternative plants that are safer environmentally.

During the 2006 LICH conference, President, Boyd Ready announced his support of the Codes of Conduct and challenged more than 200 industry personnel in the audience to sign on with the Codes before next year’s meeting in April 2007. During the MALP meeting in June, he stated, “It’s important for us, and our responsibility to the environment, to act together on things that we can influence.”



Miconia

This is a nationwide program and MALP can assist by testing the Codes locally. A successful program will see the screening of most or all of the new plant introductions to the State; a drastic reduction or end to the use of some current invasive plants; open communications between resource managers and the plant industry to catch the few ornamental plants that are just starting to spread; and an increase in the number of non-invasive alternatives being used and promoted.

MALP has the power to make a difference and there is great potential to reduce invasion from horticultural plants into natural areas. Will you take a stand against invasive species and be the next to sign on? Please consider being a leader for Maui County and support Voluntary Codes of Conduct. You can view the codes for different industry groups at http://www.lichawaii.com/invasive_species.htm.



The Malama i Ka `Aina Award recognizes landscape professionals that promote and aid in the use of non-invasive plants on our island.

Well done William !

(L - R) Senator Kalani English, Mayor Alan Arakawa, Katie-Marie Jacintho, William Jacintho, Daniel Jacintho, Joylynn Panman - MISC and Jeff Bantilan MALP President

Three Maui Landscapers Earn IPM Certificates

Cont. from pg. 1

of landscaping such as irrigation, planting, pesticide use, and equipment handling and safety. You can contact or learn more about MALP by visiting their new website at www.malp.org. Landscapers can also take classes and seminars at Maui Community College on various horticultural subjects.

The University of Hawaii Cooperative Extension Service (UH-CES) conducts research projects to help solve problems that affect the landscape and golf course industries and provides educational seminars, classes, and field days for these people. Programs that are delivered by CES are based on the needs or requests from those involved in these industries.

For example, surveys conducted by CES have indicated that insects and diseases were the most important issues for these industries. To help address this concern, an "Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Landscape Advisor Program" was developed and presented from August to November 2005 to a maximum enroll-

ment of twenty-four people. Topics covered were introduction to IPM, plant diseases, insects, weeds, plant diagnosis, pesticides and other control measures, sprayer/spreader calibration, and environmental protection.

Students could earn a "Certificate of Recognition" from the University of Hawaii by passing the program with an 80% grade. They may also renew their certificate annually by obtaining an additional six credit hours of instruction. The three people that completed the rigors of this program have demonstrated their ability to provide professional advice to clients on pest and disease issues in the landscape. Congratulations go out to Allison Wright and Tracy Bos of Island Plant Company and to Donna Mann (Right Plant, Right Place) for being awarded the "2005-2006 IPM Landscape Advisor Certificate. Donna Mann has also successfully renewed her certificate for 2006-2007.



IPM students examining plants for insects and diseases.



Stop the chop and plant a tree!!

Important MALP Meeting

Dear MALP Members

Elections were held at the November 2006 Meeting and the board Members were elected as follows for 2007:

President - Susi Mastroianni

Vice president – Terry Nutt

Treasurer – Ken Fiendisen

Secretary Kevin Boteilho

Vocal – Donna Mann

Vocal – OPEN

23rd January 2007

There is an open position for an additional Vocal. We would like to fill this position at the January Meeting and hope that a member of our industry will volunteer some time to help MALP with its mission. The position carries no specific duties except attendance of the Board meetings, Educational Meetings and help as needed with MALP projects.

We hope as your board this year, that we make a difference in the Industry. Please get involved with our plan for 2007 by attending the January meeting. We hope to

fill the Vocal position as well as discuss the direction that MALP should focus on in the up coming year.

The board has discussed some significant changes in the Members

Meeting Schedules and other projects that MALP is involved in. **We want to get your vote on the changes that will be proposed and suggestions on where to focus our attentions.**

This is your Association and we respect and value your opinion – Please share them with us on 23rd January 2007.

Our Speaker that evening will be Terry Nutt and a MALP panel, discussing Plant selection, Plant ID, growth patterns and cultural requirements of many Landscape plants.

We will have examples of the plants at the meeting and will be having a plant give-away with all the samples!! Terry is a certified arborist with many years of experience in the Landscape industry and is one of the most passionate and enthusiastic speakers you will ever see. So come and get some great design ideas and expand your plant pallet. The meeting will encourage members to share their experience with the plant material discussed.



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!!

Ali'i Chang
Andrew Higgins
Andy Taira
Ann Emmsley
Anna Palomino
Arlene Maither
Billy Irvine
Bob Hobdy
Bobby Caires
Brian Kaulupali
Brit Stisher
Bruce Martin
Chris Curtis
Claudia Kalaola
Conrad Pasco
Cresencio Yargin
Dan Honma
David & Martha Moran
Dennis Mitchell
Donna Mann
Duke Alber
Earl Mamuad
Ed Perreira
Edwin Magaoay
Elaine Malina
Ernest Rezents
Gary Mohlang
Gaylen Harina
Gill Brooks
Gill Darby

Glenn Gazman
Godfrey Mau
Harold Keyser, Ph.D.
Ian Ballantyne
James Jones
James Tavares
Jan Elliott
Jan McEwen
Jeff Bantilan
Jeff Soulier
Jim Dobson
Jim Heid
Jordan Abe
Kalani Kaleiupu
Karl Casco
Kathy Lindsey
Keith Sakamoto
Ken Findeisen
Ken Ota
Kevin Boteilho
Kevin Ledesma
Kim Mitchell
Leatrice Taketa
Leslie Jeremiah
Linda Manabe
Lothar Kuster
Mark & Barbara Beebe
Melanie Turner
Michael Mahnensmith
Monnie Gay
Nancy Snow
Norman Nagata
Pam Gould
Pam Shingaki
Pamela Van Horn-Beagle
Philippe Visintainer
Ray Ah Chin
Remy Platz

Rich Van Wellsheim
Richard Meaney
Richard Meaney
Roland Pacubas
Ron Parkhurst
Rubens Fonsesca
Russ Dooge CGCS
Sarge McBride
Sherry Sorensen
Shigeru Karakawa
Sonny Castillo
Steve Beha
Steven Quigley
Susi Mastroianni
Teresa South
Terry Nutt
Thom Foster
Tish Stone
Tom Peterson
Vincent Mina
William Mederios Jr
Woody Gobie
Zepher Warren

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.

Now Accepting 2007 Membership Dues