Aloha <<First Name>>,

The Kohala Center’s Rural and Cooperative Business Development Services team is dedicated to strengthening Hawai‘i’s rural and agricultural businesses. Upcoming events include our paid summer Sustainable Agriculture Internship Program for high school students, a Fruit Growers’ Conference on Kaua‘i, summer agricultural courses at Hawai‘i Community College in Hilo, a workshop about Hawai‘i Island’s new mobile slaughter unit, a Farm to Charter School mixer in Pāhoa, and more. Please visit our website at kohalacenter.org/business for more information about our services, upcoming events, microloan programs, and other resources.

Mahalo,
Nicole, Melanie, Anna-Lisa, Dana, Derrick, Anthony, and Zoe
Rural and Cooperative Business Development Services
The Kohala Center

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES:

**Fruit Growers’ Conference 2015**
Presented by University of Hawai‘i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and Kaua‘i Community College Office of Continuing Education and Training
Wednesday, May 27 • 8 a.m.—4 p.m.
Kaua‘i Community College, 3-1901 Kaumuali‘i Hwy, Līhu‘e (<map>)
Conference topics and speakers include Coffee and Cacao by John McClure, Longan and Lychee by Jerry Ornellas, Citrus and Tropical Fruits by David Whatmore, Clean Plant Network in Hawai‘i by Dr. Mike Melzer, and Cashews and Chickens by Scott Neuman. Registration is $37.50 per person; call 808-245-8318 to register.
»View the flyer

**Summer agriculture courses at Hawai‘i Community College**
May 21–June 6, 2015
Thursdays 6–8 p.m. at Hawai‘i Community College, 200 West Kawili St, Hilo
and Saturdays 9 a.m.—3:30 p.m. at UH Hilo farm in Pana‘ewa (<map>)
Brush up on your horticultural skills or learn some new techniques in agriculture by taking Hawai‘i Community College’s non-credit agriculture classes this summer. Learn about sustainable farming practices, pest and disease control, nursery management, gardening, landscaping, irrigation function and repair, and how to start a farm business. The class is a combination of lecture and on-farm practice in plant propagation, composting, hydroponics, soils, and soil amendments.
Workshop classes are $59. To learn more about Sustainable Production Practices and other agriculture classes being offered and to register, visit [http://blog.hawaii.edu/kauhale/2015/05/13/summer-agriculture-classes-on-tap-at-hawaii-community-college/](http://blog.hawaii.edu/kauhale/2015/05/13/summer-agriculture-classes-on-tap-at-hawaii-community-college/)

**Statewide Agricultural Baseline Mapping Project**

*Developed by the Spatial Data Analysis and Visualization Labs at University of Hawai‘i at Hilo and the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture*

The Statewide Agricultural Baseline Project has created a website with a draft copy of the current agricultural footprint in Hawai‘i. The website is currently collecting data from the farming community about farms that may be missing and to correct any inaccuracies in the digital layer. The website includes an interactive map that allows anyone to scan the Hawaiian Islands or view a particular region. A commenting feature allows users to add or correct information. The website will be available until mid-June, with the final report and digital layer completed by the end of October. Visit [http://geodata.sdal.hilo.hawaii.edu/statewideagbaseline/map.html](http://geodata.sdal.hilo.hawaii.edu/statewideagbaseline/map.html) to review the mapping protocols and provide input.

**Borrowing Money for Your Business**

*Article by James Hollyer at the Agricultural Development in the American Pacific project, University of Hawai‘i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources*

As a businessperson who wants to be successful, you are probably looking for opportunities to improve and/or expand your business. Oftentimes, however, you do not have enough of your own money to pay for new equipment, buy (more) land, or hire the new marketing manager that you desire. At times like these, you might want to find organizations that will lend you the money that you need. [Read more...](#)

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Paid Summer Sustainable Agriculture Internships (Ages 15–19)**

*Sponsored by The Kohala Center and Kamehameha Schools’ ‘Āina Ulu Program*

1st Session: June 8–19
2nd Session: July 13–24
8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday

*The Kohala Center Demonstration Farm, Honoka‘a (map)*

Hey high school students and recent grads! This summer get paid to learn how to grow your own food, take field trips to Hawai‘i Island farms and ranches, and experience traditional Hawaiian land management in our two-week Sustainable Agriculture Internship Program! Visit and work on local farms, harvest and make your own ‘ono grinds, tour an ahupua‘a from mauka to makai, take home plants to start your own garden, explore careers in sustainable agriculture, and meet students from other schools. Visit [koha.la/farminterns](http://koha.la/farminterns) for more information and to apply, or call The Kohala Center at 808-887-6411.

**Hawai‘i Island Meat Cooperative Producer Meeting**

*Presented by Big Island Resource Conservation & Development, Hawai‘i Small Business Development Center, and The Kohala Center*

Sunday, June 14 • 5–6 p.m.

*Pāhala Community Center, 96-1149 Kamani St, Pāhala (map)*

Family ranchers on Hawai‘i Island will be able to access an additional slaughter option through a new mobile slaughter unit for cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs beginning in 2016. A partnership with the Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture has moved this project from concept to reality, as the mobile unit is on order. Please attend this producer meeting to learn more about using the unit and becoming a member of the cooperative. [»View the flyer](#)

**Pig to Plate: Animal Husbandry Workshop**

*Co-sponsored by Kahua Pa’a Mua and The Kohala Center*

Saturday and Sunday, June 18–19

*Palili ‘O Kohala Natural Farming Learning Lab, Ho‘ea Rd, Hāwī (map)*
Hog Home Slaughter: June 18, 3–6 p.m.
Imu: Cooking the Hawaiian Way: June 19, 2–7 p.m.
Two days of workshops providing step-by-step instructions for efficiently processing a humanely raised, naturally farmed, homegrown hog to feed your family. Learn how to prepare a traditional imu (underground oven) and cook a hog from start to finish. The workshops will also delve into natural farming techniques, animal husbandry basics, and feeding requirements. Taught by David B. Fuertes, who holds a B.S. in animal science from the University of Hawai‘i and has nine years of experience teaching animal husbandry for the Ka Hana No‘eau mentoring program at Honoka‘a & Kohala High Schools.

Registration is free but advance registration is required at pig-plate.eventbrite.com.  
»View the flyer

“Meet Your Farmer” Farm to Charter School Mixer
Hosted by The Kohala Center and the Arts & Sciences Center
Tuesday, June 30 • 3–4:30 p.m.
Hawai‘i Academy Arts and Science Public Charter School
15-1397 Homestead Rd, Pāhoa (map)
The farm to school movement is gaining momentum in Hawai‘i. Island farmers and distributors are invited to a mini trade show to meet public charter school reps who are leading the charge to create a local supply chain to feed our keiki fresh, nutritious, locally grown food—your food!

Register by June 25. Registration is free but space is limited. Reserve your spot online at koha.la/f2smixer or call The Kohala Center at 808-887-6411. 
»View the flyer

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