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 business plan development series for farmers, crop insurance consultations, an awards program for U.S. tea growers, a Wholesale Success multi-day workshop, 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:

Paid Summer Sustainable Agriculture Internships (Ages 15–19)
Sponsored by The Kohala Center and Kamehameha Schools’ ‘Āina Ulu Program
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 kohala.farminterns for more information and to apply, or call The Kohala Center at 808-887-6411.

School Garden Coordinator
Sponsored by FoodCorps and the Hawai‘i Department of Education
Hōnaunau Elementary School, Captain Cook, Hawai‘i Island
Position begins August 17
A part-time teaching position is currently open at Hōnaunau Elementary School for up to 17 hours per week for 35 weeks. The school garden coordinator will work with students, teachers, and staff to facilitate learning in the school garden as well as oversee the program. Fridays are required and the second day is flexible. Fingerprinting and TB testing are required before starting work. Resume is due by July 8. View/download the job description for more information and application instructions.

Farm Service Agency Loan Assistants
Two Farm Loan Officer (FLO) positions are currently open. These positions work in a developmental capacity receiving on-the-job and classroom training in the administration of farm loan programs. FLOs assist the Farm Loan Manager in administering farm loan programs in a USDA Service Center serving one or more counties. FLOs are required to successfully complete all of the requirements of the Farm Loan Training Program and may be reassigned to another training office during their training program. Visit usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/406428900 for more information and to apply.

Living Farm Internship

Hosted by Hawai‘i Institute of Pacific Agriculture (HIP Ag)

July 5–August 1
Halawa Farm, Kapa‘au

Join HIP Ag for a special offering of the Living Farm Internship and experience the daily happenings of a working farm while immersing in the study of tropical permaculture and conscious agriculture. During this four-week course students work and learn alongside HIP Ag instructors, participating in all elements of daily farm life. Weekly class topics include permaculture, tropical agroforestry, plant medicine, sustainable living, beekeeping, soil fertility, and more. Study with lead farmer Dashiell Kuhr and experience the transformative power of working with the land and restoring our connection to a vital living earth. For more information and to register, visit hipagriculture.org/education/internship.

Crop Insurance Agent Consultation

Hosted by AgriLogic Consulting, LLC

July 20–24
Waimea Area, Hawai‘i Island

Brandon McDonald will be conducting workshops and one-on-one farm appointments in and around Waimea on Hawai‘i Island. AgriLogic is one of the largest developers of crop insurance for the USDA Risk Management Agency. If you are interested in having Brandon come to speak to your office or group, contact him at 913-982-3965 prior to July 15. He is also available to come to your farm or home and meet with you individually. During this time, he can review crop insurance options available to you and provide you with a custom quote, remind you of important deadlines, and provide you with the contact information for crop insurance agents licensed to sell in Hawai‘i. You may also contact Nicole Milne at The Kohala Center (808-887-6411) with questions or to inquire further about this opportunity.

Business Plan Development Series

Sponsored by University of Hawai‘i Colleges through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Grants from the U.S. Department of Labor

July 7–August 25, 2015
Tuesday & Thursdays, 4:30–8:30 p.m.
Tropical Edibles Nursery, 83-5696 Māmalahoa Hwy, Captain Cook (map)

Hawai‘i Community College is offering a course for new, old, and would be farmers. Learn to write a business plan suitable to get a loan, a lease, a grant, or angel investor for your farm. Speakers from UH CTAHR, NRCS, SBDC, and more will offer ideas for running a successful agricultural business. The course will also include four Saturday daytime field trips from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. View/download the flyer for more information and to register.

Food Innovation Project: Value-Added Producer Services

Hosted by University of Hawai‘i and sponsored by a U.S. Department of Labor Value Added Producer Grant

Spring 2016
Kapiʻolani Community College, Honolulu

The Kapi‘olani Community College (KCC) has launched a Food Innovation Project for research and development to create value-added products using ingredients from local farms and maximizing the use of seconds and blemished farm products. Beginning in Spring 2016 KCC will offer services to food producers and farmers in value-added food product development including recipe creation and testing, analytical testing, nutritional labeling, supplies, and current equipment capabilities. View/download the flyer for more information and how to register.

Tea of the United States (TOTUS)

TOTUS is the first national tea competition specifically for USA-grown tea. The TOTUS Awards are open to all tea farms, researchers, and beginning growers whose tea crop origin is cultivated in U.S. soil. We
encourage producing states to gain global recognition by participating in our national competitive program juried by an international industry panel. TOTUS promotes origin pride and identifies tea production making significant contributions in domestic agriculture and innovative trade. The TOTUS Awards will be held November 2015 on Hawai‘i Island and hosted by the Hawai‘i Tea Society in partnership with the Volcano Art Center, The Kohala Center, Big Island Resource Conservation and Development Council, and Hawai‘i Farmers Union United.

For more information about deadlines, rules, entry fees, and how to apply, visit totus1awards.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**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, July 12 • 5–6 p.m.
**CTAHR Agricultural Research Station, 70-7381 Māmalahoa Hwy, Kealakekua (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.

**Listening Session**
*Hosted by the Kohala Mountain Educational Farm*
Friday, July 16 • 6–8 p.m.
**65-1291A Kawaihae Rd, Waimea (map)**
The Kohala Mountain Educational Farm, better known as the Pumpkin Patch, is growing into a year-round educational farm with a mission rooted in agricultural education. KMEF would like to share their plans with the community and receive any feedback, ideas, and opinions. Refreshments will be provided. More sessions are planned for Hilo, Kona, and Kohala. For more information email visit.kmef@gmail.com or call 808-937-7432

**Wholesale Success Workshops – Save the Date!**
*Sponsored by The Kohala Center and the Small Socially Disadvantaged Producer Grant by the U.S. Department of Agriculture*
- November 3-4: Waimea, Hawai‘i Island
- November 5-6: Kahului, Maui
- November 9-10: Ho‘olehua, Moloka‘i

Wholesale Success is two-day workshop specifically designed to meet the food safety and wholesale production needs of produce farmers just entering wholesale markets as well as seasoned producers, produce buyers, county sanitarians, farmers' market masters, community and school garden coordinators, school and other institutional food service directors, food processors, and extension agents. All are encouraged to attend. Please stay tuned for more information and for how to register in future Ag Bulletins.

PRODUCTION NEWS:

**New Pest Advisory: Bagrada Bug**
The bagrada bug (*Bagrada hilaris* (Burmeister)), a destructive pest of crucifers such as arugula, broccoli, cabbage, collards, cauliflower, kale, turnip, mustard, and other plants, was recently found in Kona on Hawai‘i Island. The bagrada bug was first found in the islands last year on Maui. [Review the Hawaii Department of Agriculture New Pest Advisory](https://www.giparhawaii.gov/news/2016/07/30/new-pest-advisory-bagrada-bug/) for detailed information, color photos, and how to report a suspected sighting.