

CRB Response Update

March 8 - 14, 2014

- Last week after discovering the infested mulch pile at the Par 3 Golf Course on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam (JBPHH), the command post received information that mulch had been recently removed from the pile for use on a farm. The mulch was tracked down by project staff and recovered thanks to cooperation from the golf course. Renewed efforts to spread the message not to move mulch from JBPHH are underway.
- Tests using a steam sterilizer to decontaminate soil in CRB breeding sites will be conducted on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam next week. An expert from California will be on-site to conduct the tests.
- The Navy has begun testing of in-vessel composting as a treatment method for CRB. If effective, this method will be used to kill all stages of the beetle in contaminated and potentially contaminated mulch and green waste on JBPHH. Bioassays (beetles placed in mesh bags buried in the compost) will be used to test efficacy.
- This week 12 beetles were trapped, with two beetles being trapped off-base, slightly extending the buffer area around the infested area. Crews serviced 259 traps and did visual surveys covering 25 square miles inspecting 6288 coconut trees.
- Response staff is looking into additional detection tools such as detector dogs for hard-to-find breeding locations.