Progress Made at ADC’s Wahiawa Properties

In the past year, Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) has made considerable progress in making our properties in Wahiawa and on Kauai more suitable for farming.

One example of this is our 1,200-acre Galbraith Estate land north of Wahiawa, which the state purchased in 2012 for agricultural use.

Currently, 80 percent of the Galbraith Estate land is being cultivated by farmers growing food crops. The remaining 20 percent (240 acres) is undergoing preparations and should be utilized by the end of the year once the selected tenants receive approval by the Soil Conservation District on their respective soil conservation plan.

Some of the crops currently grown at the Galbraith site for the consumer market include bell peppers, tomatoes, cucumber, taro, eggplant, okra, papaya, citrus, avocado, banana, dragon fruit, watermelon, green onion, and ti leaves.

Water for irrigation was previously an issue, but has since been rectified. Repairs were made to the former Del Monte well (Bott Well) that provides much-needed water to the ADC property and tenants.

Two new reservoirs recently completed—10 million and 3 million gallons in size—are currently being filled with water to assist with farmers’ irrigational needs.

“We acknowledge there were challenges, including clearing and tilling the land and providing the necessary irrigational improvements,” said ADC executive director James Nakatani. “Now that we’ve taken those major steps this past year, we can move forward with our goal of 100 percent occupancy of the land.”

Nakatani noted other improvements made in recent years at the Galbraith property:
During this past holiday season, you may have seen the recent media coverage about our Christmas tree farm tenant, Helemano Farms.

Because of the high public demand for Christmas trees during this COVID-19 pandemic, Helemano Farms’ entire seasonal inventory of 5,000 locally-raised Christmas trees was sold out by the first week of December!

Mahalo to the local community for their continual financial and moral support of our local farmers during these challenging times!