Available/Needed Resources

- Extension agents (need more)
- Baseline data that is centralized and available (needed)
- Case studies that are relevant and specific to Hawaii (needed)
- Suitable land and by products available (available)
- Strategic planning for this issue (needed)
- Cooperatives – place for parts and service on island (needed)
  - Customized farming and specialized crews

Opportunities

- Biodiesel by-products can be used for feed
- Suitable and available land
- Interest and demand from consumers for locally grown food
- High cost of shipping means it makes more economic sense to grow our own feed
- Year round growing season
- Creates jobs and money
- Collaboration between diverse groups exists
- Knowledge and expertise available
- Other renewable energy sources
- Value-added products
- School garden programs (education)

Challenges

- Land ownership
  - Few land owners
  - Resistance to diversify
- Lack of infrastructure – need for dealers and servicers of specialized/big equipment
- Synchronizing the growth of industry with support
- Transportation both inter-island and inter-state
- Lack of Investments
- Labor pool not trained to grow feed
- Public perception and need for education/outreach
  - Lack of awareness about the feed issue
- Transition from plantation agriculture to diversified agriculture; more complex
- Collecting by-products economically
• Economy of scale
• Loss of UH extension agents
• Lack of government incentives
• Lack of funding for equipment
• Stringent regulations that are not applicable to small farmers (i.e. food safety)

Priorities

• Attracting investors to feed mill to test economic feasibility of locally grown feed
• Biofuels
• Policy changes that support agriculture
  o Sustainable policy
  o Sales tax exemption on inputs
  o Exemption from highway tax on farm vehicles
  o Economic analysis
• Strategic Planning on feed issue
  o Collaboration between UH, industry and government with DOA as a facilitator
• Inter-island transportation
• Investment in Industry from government through funding, subsidies, tax exemptions
• Economic study
• Strengthening industry/trade/agricultural associations (work with Hawaii Livestock Farmers Coalition)
• Public awareness on the benefits of a local feed mill