

July 7 - July 18, 2014 Update

- The total CRB buffer area expanded by approximately 9 square miles after a single female beetle was detected for the first time in a panel trap in the Campbell Industrial Park (CIP) area.
- No larvae were detected & 1 damaged palm was removed during this reporting period. 102 new delimiting survey panel traps were deployed while 2,677 existing traps were serviced. 14,718 palms were visually inspected over 20 square miles within the buffer zone area.
- CRB Incident Commanders met with a commercial compost vendor in the CIP area and discussed their operations. Presented were CRB program needs and concerns. The vendor agreed to halt the delivery of free un-composted chipped green waste to the public and suspended any future off island shipment, which were already limited in nature.
- The State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) posted information on the new CRB detection in West Oahu on its website: <http://hdoa.hawaii.gov/blog/main/crbcip/>
- CRB Incident Commander, Rob Curtiss, was interviewed by several media persons regarding the new find in the CIP area. Links to two of the interviews are provided below:
- <http://khon2.com/2014/07/11/agriculture-officials-fear-invasive-beetles-could-hurt-hawaiis-image/>
- <http://khon2.com/2014/07/10/beetle-infestation-spreads-nearly-170-trees-to-be-destroyed/>
- Christy Martin and Wendy Foster from the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) presented CRB information at the Hawaii Conservation Conference. Over 8,000 people attended the event.
- **Beetle Fact:** The Asiatic rhinoceros beetle or coconut rhinoceros beetle, *Oryctes rhinoceros*, is a species of rhinoceros beetle belonging to the Scarabaeidae family. *O. rhinoceros* attacks the developing fronds of coconut, oil, and other palms in tropical Asia and a number of Pacific islands. Damaged fronds show typical triangular cuts. The beetle kills the palms (particularly newly planted ones) when the growing point is destroyed during feeding. The larvae do not damage crops, but instead grow in dead, decaying trunks and other organic matter. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asiatic_rhinoceros_beetle

This report uses the best information available at the time of writing and is not an official record of the project. Its purpose is to update partner agencies and concerned individuals about project progress. Questions regarding information in the report can be addressed by calling the project command post at 832-0585. Mahalo.