

Action Plan

Division, Branch: Plant Industry Division, Plant Quarantine and Plant Pest Control Branches.

Program Objective: To protection Hawaii’s agricultural and horticultural industries, natural resources, and general public by preventing the introduction and establishment of harmful insects, diseases, illegal non-domestic animals, and other pests; to conduct effective plant pest control activities; and to enhance agricultural productivity and agribusiness development by facilitating export shipments of agricultural and horticultural materials and products.

PRIORITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

Department Objective Being Pursued: To facilitate the growth of existing and new agricultural products and by-products for local and export sales.

GOAL 1. Increase nursery production by 25 % in 5 years.

Nursery production of cutflowers and market-ready-foilage and flowering plants is one of the fastest growing segments of diversified agriculture in Hawaii. The combined farm gate value was in excess of 70 millions dollars in 1998. At the same time, export nursery production is a highly competitive worldwide business. Hawaii’s advantage is name recognition, nearly perfect weather and microclimates for specific production, ready access to an ideal growing media (i.e., volcanic cinder), ample water and land, and strong industry, University and regulatory support for sustained growth. Growth is essential for the stability of the industry. Stagnation will result in loss of export opportunities and shrinkage as competing producing areas gain access to cultivars, technology, and transportation routes to common markets. A 25 % growth in the industry is attainable and can be exceeded with industry government and University support to address bottlenecks to growth.

TIMETABLE TO ACCOMPLISH GOAL:

1. Designate Division Coordinator to spearhead initiatives in Plant Industry Division to address quarantine, plant pest control, production, and marketing needs of the industry. Establish goals, target objectives, and timelines for Division coordinator.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify bottlenecks | x | x | x | x | x |
| Develop strategic plans | x | x | x | x | x |
| Evaluations | x | x | x | x | x |

2. Increase quarantine greenhouse space to meet industry import requirements.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify alternative(s) | x | | | | |
| Pursue alternative(s) | x | x | x | x | x |

3. Increase inspection and certification activities to meet needs of growth industry.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Conduct Pest Risk Assessment | x | x | x | x | x |
| Reallocate resources | x | x | x | x | x |

4. Identify Quality Assurance and Control Programs needed to meet receiving state/county quarantine requirements for reduced inspection at destination or lesser quarantine action should a pest be found.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify industry needs | x | x | x | x | x |
| Design pilot program | x | | | | |
| Implement pilot program | | | | | |
| 5 % participation | x | | | | |
| 15 % participation | | x | | | |
| 30 % participation | | | x | | |
| 60 % participation | | | | x | |

5. Obtain Japan approval for potted anthuriums export to the Japan.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Negotiate approval | x | | | | |
| Initiate quarantine production | x | | | | |
| First test shipment | | x | | | |
| Full commercial shipments | | | x | x | x |

6. Open new markets for Hawaii tissue culture plants for grow out and distribution in destination markets. Target Japan for initial effort (i.e., specifically, Okinawa). Potted anthurium plants from Hawaii are currently prohibited entry into Japan as a result of a citrus burrowing nematode quarantine (*Radopholus citrophilus*). Tissue cultured anthurium for grow-out is the targeted market. In FY01, Japan approved Hawaii's request to allow entry of tissue cultured anthurium plants.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|--------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Negotiate agreement with Japan | | | | | |
| First test shipment | x | | | | |
| Commercial shipments | x | x | x | x | x |

7. Establish Origin Inspection Program for potted plant shipments to California to reduce/establish need for quarantine inspection at destination and more orderly marketing of products. Hawaii has approximately 361 burrowing nematode certified nurseries approved to move plants into California. Some growers are expected to abandon the California market as a result of quarantine restrictions. Better nurseries will hope to qualify for OIP certification programs.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Negotiate agreement | x | | | | |
| Initiate pilot program | x | | | | |
| California inspection of nurseries | x | x | x | x | x |
| 2 % participation | | x | | | |
| 6 % participation | | | x | | |
| 15 % participation | | | | x | |

8. Register pesticide products for use on greenhouse and ornamental foliage and flowering plants.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify priority needs | x | | | | |
| Seek funding support | x | x | | | |
| Conduct efficacy studies | x | x | x | x | x |
| Submit registration data | | | x | x | x |
| New product registrations | | | x | x | x |

9. Work with marketing group to increase export demand for Hawaii nursery products. The initial step is to develop an industry support strategic plan and to target increased sales in selected markets with industry and state resources focused to open the new markets. Work with growers to expand production to sustain distribution in selected markets, e.g., Japan and markets beyond California into the Midwest and East Coast.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify priority markets | x | x | x | | |
| Test shipments | | x | x | | |
| Evaluation and new promotion | | x | x | x | x |

10. Work with State Department of Transportation and industry groups to address transportation bottlenecks preventing or constraining the orderly flow of products to markets, California and beyond.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Participate in working groups And assist as needed with Program personnel and resources | x | x | x | x | x |

11. Work with Agricultural Resource Management Division to assist nurseries in locating additional land for greenhouse and field stock production.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| On-going | x | x | x | x | x |

12. Work with Administration to seek funding for the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, to expand cultivar research at the Magoon Laboratory. Dendrobium and anthurium varieties.

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| On-going | x | x | x | x | x |

13. Work with Administration to seek funding for University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and the Hawaii Agricultural Research Center to develop efficacy data to support State and Federal pesticide registration for the Hawaii nursery industry and research into pest control methods to minimize risk of quarantine pests in nursery production (e.g., parasitic nematodes).

| Identify Target/Task | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 | FY06 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| On-going | x | x | x | x | x |

GOAL 2: Develop and implement an Agricultural Quarantine Inspection Monitoring (AQIM) program in Plant Quarantine Branch.

One of the mandates of the Division of Plant Industry, Plant Quarantine Branch, is to prevent the introduction of harmful pests and diseases into the State. This is accomplished through the inspection of all agricultural materials for hitch hiking pests. Certain agricultural materials have a higher risk of harboring these pests than others. The AQIM program will involve the random sampling of materials entering the State for statistical analysis of pathway risks for the introduction of pests and diseases. AQIM data collection will need to be carried out for at least five years in order to account for differences in seasons. The database will be used to redistribute personnel to assure highest priority is given to the high-risk point of entry of pests into the State.

| Identify Target/Task | FY01 | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Personnel training | x | x | x | x | x |
| Evaluation and reallocation | x | x | x | x | x |

GOAL 3: Reduce the entry of noxious and obnoxious weed seeds into Hawaii by 25 %.

Weed seeds enter the State via foreign and domestic commercial seeds. Program inspects foreign seeds but not domestic seeds. Goals will be achieved by increasing the number of inspections (primarily domestic seeds) and taking regulatory action.

The tasks involved are to determine baseline on the number of noxious and obnoxious weed seeds intercepted in foreign seed inspections; identify primary pathways that noxious and obnoxious weed seeds enter the State; conduct inspections on pathways identified in above and take appropriate regulatory action; and utilize information

developed about the pest risk assessments, prioritizing inspections, establishing new rules and policies and education programs.

| Identify Target/Task | FY01 | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Identify pathways | x | | | | |
| Inspections and enforcement | x | x | x | x | x |
| Program modification | | x | x | x | x |

GOAL 4: Facilitate the growth of the seed industry in Hawaii by providing seed certification services to the industry in Hawaii.

The ability for Hawaii and seed producers to guide the development of the seed certification program in Hawaii has been constrained by the dependence of the industry on the services of mainland seed certification organizations (i.e., Illinois and Iowa Seed Certification Programs). The PPC Branch has developed inspection guidelines for seed certification and will ask the American Association of Seed Certification Associations (AOSCA) for accreditation as the seed certification agency in Hawaii. AOSCA has accredited the Hawaii program (August 2000). Implementing rules for the Hawaii certification program will be drafted in FY01 and are targeted for implementation in FY02.

| Identify Target/Task | FY01 | FY02 | FY03 | FY04 | FY05 |
|------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Develop new rules | x | x | | | |
| Promote self-certification | x | x | | | |
| Initiate certification by industry | | | x | x | x |