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Master Farmer Series <u>Sustainable Farming- Waianu</u> <u>Farms, Waiahole</u>



June 21, 2012

SUBMIT QUESTIONS FOR THE FARMERS: admin@oahurcd.org
Workshop fact sheet (includes farmer profile, topic description and helpful resources)

For this first in the Master Farmer series of workshops, farmer's Paul and Charlie Reppun hosted participants at their farm in Waiahole. After approaching the farm via a short walk and stream crossing, participants gathered in the rustic setting to listen to the speakers.



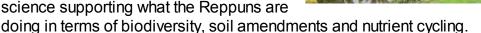
After a welcome from Oahu RC&D Executive Director, Jean Brokish and Master Farmer, Paul Reppun, Ben Vinhatiero of NRCS explained how NRCS helps farms like Waianu to develop Conservation Plans. Ben gave specific examples of the

unique challenges the Reppuns faced with their Conservation plan. To help illustrate what was involved, he displayed maps of the Waianu Farm property developed by NRCS for the Reppuns.

The group began the farm tour by first visiting an Albezia control project to see their use of tree cuttings to help stabilize slopes and add organic matter. On the tour the group also visited the taro loi, viewed a wide variety of plants

grown on the farm, including cashew, cacao and vanilla, and learned about their efforts to utilize local resources as much as possible - including alien limu as a fertilizer and hydroelectric power.

The workshop closed with a presentation by Hector Valenzuela of UH CTAHR about the University's program services, and the science supporting what the Reppuns are



Handouts:

Workshop Fact Sheet

Conservation Practices (NRCS)

Pacific Islands Area Fact Sheet (NRCS)

USDA Farm Bill Programs for Farmers (NRCS)

NRCS Conservation Planning Presentation Slides (Ben Vinhateiro)

Web Resources:

University of Hawaii Organic and Sustainable Agriculture Program

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program

Publications:

Towards Sustainable Agriculture in Hawaii

Organic Soil Amendments

Hawaiian Kalo

Minimizing Non-point Source Pollution in Agriculture