



Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens






The Bodhi Leaf

180 N. Vineyard Boulevard • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 • Phone 808-537-1708

SPRING 2013

PLANT SALE

**Foster Botanical Garden
180 N. Vineyard Blvd.
Saturday, May 25, 2013
9 am to 2 pm
Free Admission**

-  *Fragrant Garden Plants*
-  *First Release of 'Weissich's Sunrise' – a new ti plant*
-  *Snake Gourd seeds and seedlings*
-  *Large selection of rare and unusual plants
(both indoor & outdoor, suitable for apartments & lanais)*
-  *Garden Tours*

A variety of fragrant plants including gardenia, rose pikake, jasmine, Native Hawaiian plants, Native Hawaiian ferns including hapu'u (tree ferns) and palapalai, lotus, air plants, orchids, heliconia, ginger, Venus flytraps, succulents for sun and filtered light, cacti, ceramic planters, small dish gardens, loose & mounted tillandsias, bromeliads, ti plants, anthuriums (20+ varieties – some fragrant - new releases), many unusual plants not found in garden shops. Fresh flower adornments, lei haku, kupe'e, combs.



Photo: Dana Anne Yee, FASLA

President's Message

The Pencil and Our Plant Sale

Adventures in Freedom

"There is not a single person in the world that can make this pencil" is the remarkable way Milton Friedman began his lecture on the greatness of the free market. It's an inspiring lesson from his series "Free to Choose". In it, he discussed the manufacturing of the simple lead pencil and what a complicated and cooperative effort its production really is. It takes literally thousands of people from around the world to put together this common necessity which we all take for granted. The wood, he explained, could have come from the state of Washington; the graphite from some mine in South America; the rubber tip from Malaya. And, who knows, he asked, where the paint, the glue or the brass ferrule comes from? What makes these productive people cooperate so well? There are thousands of personal reasons, but it all boils down to: They were free to choose. So, for people like me who love the philosophy of Nobel Prize winning economist Milton Friedman, the pencil has come to symbolize freedom.

I get a similar thrill from our Plant Sales. There is not a single person that can take the credit for producing our great plant sales. I doubt whether anyone really knows what it takes to make them great. So many creative people work hard and without central direction to make it happen. Like the pencil, our plant sales have many components. With over 50 years of tradition and public participation, our sales have a life of their own. The setting at Foster Botanical Garden is perfect. The beautiful garden maintained by city workers remind our customers of the effects they hope to achieve in their gardens. The nursery growers with their passion for plants are there in great numbers to explain how to grow them successfully and to display the beauty they have created. The Friends provide the organization or the glue that brings all the components together. There are so many "little things" like advertising, permits, parking, boxes, posters, volunteers, calling volunteers, tables, tents, signs, security, start-up cash, and credit card machines. It's an amazing process to see all this come together. It's fun. It's work. It's for a good cause. I love it. It's an adventure in freedom. I hope you choose to come and enjoy the experience.

Bill Follmer, President

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

Year-End Donations

The Board of Trustees of the Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens would like to thank the following for their generous response to our year-end appeal. Mahalo!

Kukui (\$100 - 499)

Morgan Stanley
Charlene Van der Pyl-Chee
Stanley & Janet Zisk

Milo (\$1 - 99)

Susan Girton
Barbara Green
Paul Heyd



Photos: Dana Anne Yee, FASLA



From the Director's Desk

Did you know that plants belong to families and have relatives, just as you do?

There are over 350,000 amazing plant species in the world, and botanists identify and categorize them into units such as family, genus, and species.

Why does this matter? Well, knowing the true identity of a plant can be very useful in understanding shared characteristics. For example, if you're sensitive or allergic to poison oak or poison ivy, you might want to avoid the sap of the mango. This is because all three plants belong to the Sumac or Cashew family and contain a resinous sap which can cause severe skin rash. Plant identification is also very important for conservation and research purposes.

The greater part of the nearly 11,000 plant accessions in the collections of the Honolulu Botanical Gardens (HBG) are correctly identified, documented in the database, and accompanied by plant labels.

In some cases, however, the identity of a plant is in question. There are various reasons for this. It may be because when the plant was collected, it was not flowering, so the genus or species could not be determined. The plant may also have been originally misidentified, or its identity may have been a complete mystery when it was first collected and donated to the HBG.

It has long been a goal for the HBG to have each accessioned plant in our collections correctly identified. Early this year, we were able to directly partner with botanists of the Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) who work out of Bishop Museum. HBG staff members monitor the flowering of unknown plants and take plant samples called "vouchers" to Bishop Museum.

Identification of plants is accomplished through the following procedure: vouchers are pressed, dried, frozen, labeled, and mounted. OISC botanists then use the museum herbarium and library, University of Hawaii library, and other online resources to compare and identify the plant specimen. In some cases, a further step must be taken: plant experts who specialize in a particular family, genus, or species (taxonomists) on the mainland and in other countries must be consulted for plant identification or confirmation of identity.

To date, HBG's partnership with OISC has resulted in over a dozen plants being identified and having confirmed correct names. This is an ongoing project, and we are eager to solve our remaining plant identity mysteries!

Winnie Singeo, Director
Honolulu Botanical Gardens

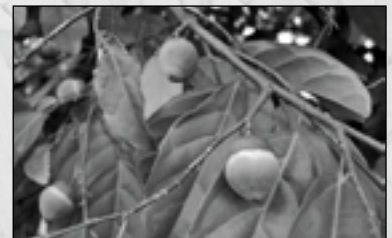


Photo: Naomi F. Hoffman

Recently identified as
Quararibea yunkerii ssp. *sessiliflora*



Photos: Dana Anne Yee, FASLA

Friends of Honolulu Botanical Gardens

180 N. Vineyard Boulevard • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
friendsofhonolulubotanicalgardens.com

Non Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1287
Honolulu, Hawaii

Address Service Requested



SPRING GARDEN TOURS



MAY

Saturday, May 18: 10 a.m. Hawaiian Ti Party II: at Waiahole Botanicals large nursery in Waiahole. Nathan Miranda will preview his new hybrid ti, 'Weissich Sunrise', which will be featured at the Friends' May 25 Plant Sale at Foster Garden. Nathan will show a wide variety of ti and how to hybridize, germinate, and select. Members \$15, non-members \$20.



Photo: Jackie Ralya

JUNE

Saturday, June 22: 9 a.m. Koko Crater with Jackie Ralya: Meet at the crater entry. Learn of the successful 'Battle of the Bugs', the biological controls that have rid the Crater of invasive Panini, Lantana and, recently, the native wiliwili killer. See specimens of rare tropical dryland species suitable for the xeriscape; the wiliwili will be in flower. Wear real shoes, no slippers, and bring water. Members \$15, non-members \$20.

To register - visit our website: friendsofhonolulubotanicalgardens.com or phone 537-1708

