

TROPICAL PASTURE & LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Lush tropical pastures in the Mariana Island chain have supported generations of livestock producers in providing quality meats for their rural communities. Increasing island food security is a vital goal for many of the insular island economies in the Pacific.



Date set for the first T-PALM Conference on the island of Maui.

Mark your calendars for the first-ever Tropical Pasture and Livestock Management (T PALM) Conference, September 18-23, 2011 to be held on the island of Maui. The conference is a joint effort, coordinated by the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Northern Marianas College, University of the Virgin Islands, Ag/Energy Enterprises LLC of Arkansas and the Maui Cattle Co.; with financial support from the USDA, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers program (Grant #2009-51200-19601). The conference will bring together ranchers, agricultural business

owners and managers, extension and natural resource professionals from the Mariana Islands, Hawaii and several U.S. mainland states to build on a unique network of livestock industry and technology knowledge and to share our cultural heritage in the producing livestock products for small island and rural communities.

The conference will be held at the Maui Beach Hotel on the beautiful island of Maui. Topics will include risk management, slaughter and processing technology, followed by industry and ranch tours. For more information, call (808) 887-6183.



Welcome to the Marianas Grazing and Livestock Management Academy

The University of Hawaiï at Mānoa Cooperative Extension Service along with cooperative institutions; University of Virgin Islands, University of Guam, and Northern Marianas College has compiled resources and research information to assist the livestock producers in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The bulk of food resources for the Guam and the Mariana Islands are imported. The cost of importation of food items to the islands is expensive and will continue to rise, with the rising fuel costs. These costs are passed on to the consumer in the form of higher retail prices. Thus, imported meat and other food products will become increasingly expensive for local Guam and Mariana Island consumers.

The growing populations of Guam and the Mariana Islands along with the large influx of visitors creates a tremendous demand on food resources; especially meat products. The visitors are often capable and willing to pay higher prices for food than what local consumer in Guam and the Mariana Islands can afford. Therefore, livestock production on the island of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is a valuable and important industry that, to a limited extent, can supplement the importation of meat products into the islands.

Lack of experience, training, and financial capital often prevent existing producers from expanding operations and limits the ability for new producers to enter into the industry. With proper training and experience the overall risk assumed by the producer is reduced and public and private lenders are more likely to provide the necessary financial support for producers to expand or start new operations.

Our aim is to provide outreach and assistance programs in grazing and livestock management to help many existing and new livestock producers acquire the necessary skills and technology for pasture improvement, adopt better grazing management practices, and increase the overall profitability for their operations.

Project Goal:

The goal of the three-year project is to work in partnership with local farmers, ranchers, technical resources personnel and other interagency collaborator to deploy extension outreach and assistance to grazing and livestock management practices and pasture improvement techniques. In addition, provide assistance and guidance in planning and development of special local needs projects to further benefit the economic viability of grazers in the Marianas.

Objectives:

Phase 1:

1. Conduct evaluations of land and livestock resources through individual farm visits, advisory meetings, and pasture and herd surveys.
2. Work with local livestock advisory groups for strategic planning and identification of emerging issues critical to sustainable livestock production.
3. Identify cooperating producers and develop demonstration projects and investigative trials for determination of Best Management Practices (BMP) for pasture improvement.

Phase 2:

4. Develop, organize and provide a series of appropriate grazing and livestock management workshops.
5. Organize and provide artificial insemination education and assistance programs to producers.
6. Develop and disseminate educational and technical publications and BMPs for pasture improvement, grazing and livestock management for the Mariana Islands.

Phase 3:

7. Develop and implement a plan for continued cooperation and partnership in extension outreach, assistance and strategic planning to benefit grazers in the Mariana Islands.

2011 T PALM Conference Summary

T PALM CONFERENCE September 18-23 2011, Maui, HI

- September 17** Mariana Island contingent arrival
- September 18**
18:00 - 20:00 No Host Evening Reception
- September 19 - Day 1**
8:00-16:00 Welcome and Introductions
Market Risk and Strategies for Ranch Operations, Right Risk, LLC
- September 20 - Day 2**
8:30-16:00 Slaughter and Processing Forum, Jim Wimberly, Ag/Energy Enterprises, LLC.
(Moderator)
- Marians Slaughter And Processing Feasibility Study
 - Before and After: USDA FSIS Compliance Requirements
 - Moloka'i Slaughterhouse
 - Niche Marker Processing Challenges and Opportunities FSIS
 - Mobile Matanzas Program: Building a Community
 - MSU Technology and Innovations
 - Panel Discussion: Key Considerations for Island-based Operations
- September 21 - Day 3** 8:30-16:00
- Livestock Production in the Marianas Islands
 - Soil Management for Ranches
 - Livestock Disease Outlook & Facility Planning for Low Stress Livestock Operations
 - Livestock Equipment and Supply vendor presentations
 - Senepol Cattle
 - CTAHR/Project Reports/Updates
- September 24** Depart Maui

Conference Highlights...

- Sharing of ideas from ranchers/businesses targeting small communities.
- Hawaiian beef cattle industry facility tours.
- Visit innovative beef cattle operations.
- Participate in Hawaiian cultural activities (optional).

Registration & Payment Form

Please print or type.

Name (as it appears on your legal ID)

Ranch or Affiliation

Address

City

State

Zip

Email address

Phone

Registration Fees

Enclosed

Conference fee (3 days):

\$60.00

Daily conference attendance (check days):

\$20.00 per day (includes lunch)

Mon ___

Tue ___

Wed ___

_____ No. days x \$20.00 = _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Method of Payment:

Check or money order (payable to RCUH #1500)

SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO:

Dr. Mark Thorne, Kamuela Extension Office

67-5189 Kamamalu Road, Kamuela, HI 96743

email: thornem@hawaii.edu phone: 808-887-6183

Conference Logistics

Lodging:

Maui Beach Hotel, Kahului, Maui.

Single/Double occupancy rates: \$ 90.00 + tax/room night

(Mention UH Manoa or Dr. Mark Thorne to get these rates)

Telephone: (808) 877-0051

Email: reservations@mauibeachhotel.net

Web: <http://www.mauibeachhotel.net/homepage.htm>

Airport and Car Rental:

Kahului Airport (OGG).

All major car rental companies located at the airport complex.

Optional Activities:

- Go to a Luau Show
- Take in a Hawaiian Slack Key concert
- Visit the Aquarium
- See a breath-taking Haleakala Sunrise
- Refresh yourself in the cool Pacific Ocean
- Get a suntan at one of Maui's great beaches
- Bike down a volcano
- Visit an old plantation town ... Paia
- Visit an old cowboy town ... Makawao
- Visit an old whaling town ... Lahaina
- Go kayaking, wind-surfing ...
- Count the number of bridges to Hana
- Try Maui's unique island specialty treats manju, guri guri, potato chips, kulolo and don't forget the beef.

Haleakala Ranch
Cattle Manager, Greg
Friel
& Dr. Mark Thorne
viewing cattle on
Haleakala Ranch.

Ranch Tours. Learn
about innovative
practices and technology
used to improve pastoral
and red meat



2011 T PALM Conference Detailed Agenda

September 19, 2011, Monday - DAY 1

- 6:30 - 7:30 Breakfast buffet (\$9.50/person; paid at door)
- 7:30 - 8:00 Registration
- 8:00 - 8:15 Welcome and Introductions
Dr. Harold Keyser, Maui County Administrator, CTAHR
- 8:15- Overview/Approach:
 - Ag Risk 5;
 - RR Feedback Loop Technology
 - Human Dimension of Change
- 8:30- Financial Health
 - Financial Statements
 - Financial Analysis
- 9:30- Livestock Commodity Markets
 - Marketing Opportunities
 - Market Outlook
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 The Influence of Risk
 - Personal Perspective on Risk
 - Ranking Threats and Assessing Strategies
- 12:00 Lunch Buffet (Provided)
- 13:00- Livestock Commodity Markets-Continued
 - Pricing opportunities
 - Private Market Risk Management Alternatives
- 14:00- Cost of Production
 - Concepts and Approach
 - Estimating Risk-Adjusted Cost of Production
 - Breakeven Price/Quantity
- 15:00- Break
- 15:15- Risk Controls
 - AGR-Lite, NAP, Disaster Assistance Programs, etc.
- 15:30- The Marketing Plan
 - A Written Marketing Plan
- 16:00- Lessons Learned/Future Programs
- 17:30 - 20:00 Dinner buffet (\$19.99; Rainbow Dining Room; paid at door.)



2011 T PALM Conference Detailed Agenda

September 20, 2011, Tuesday - DAY 2

- 6:30 - 8:00 Breakfast buffet (\$9.50/person; paid at door)
- 8:00 - 8:30 Registration
- 8:30 -12:00 Slaughter and Processing Forum, Jim Wimberly, Moderator
- Marianas Slaughter and Processing Feasibility Study
Jim Wimberly, Ag/Energy Enterprises, LLC
 - Before and After: USDA FSIS Compliance Requirements
Joe Realdine, USDA, FSIS, Pacific Region Supervisor
 - Jack Spruance, Molokai Slaughterhouse
 - Niche Market Processing: Challenges and Opportunities
Alex Franco, Maui Cattle Co.
- 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch buffet (Provided)
- 13:00 - 16:00
- Mobile Matanza Program: Building a Community
Taos County Economic Development Corp, New Mexico
 - MSU technology and innovations, Bruce Dunlop
 - Panel Discussion: Key Considerations for Island-based Operations
 - Jim Wimberly, Moderator
 - Panel Members: Joe Realdine, Bruce Dunlop, Lawrence Duponcheel, Linda Cox and Glen Fukumoto, Alex Franco, Jill Mattos, Jack Spruance
 - Topics: Livestock supply chains, Special design considerations, Logistical and infrastructural challenges, Economic and financing options, Waste management options.
- 18:00 Dinner (On your own)

2011 T PALM Conference Detailed Agenda

September 21, 2011, Wednesday - DAY 3

6:30 - 8:00 Breakfast buffet (\$9.50/person; paid at door)

8:00 - 8:30 Registration

8:30 -12:00

- Livestock Production in the Marianas Islands, Lawrence Duponcheel
- Beef Initiative Update
Glen Fukumoto, Extension Agent
- Kauai Beef Tenderness Study
- Matthew Stevenson, Extension Agent
- Livestock Disease Outlook & Facility Planning for Low Stress Livestock Operations
Dr. Ashley Stokes, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
- Livestock Equipment and Supply vendor presentations

12:00 - 13:00 Lunch buffet (Provided)

13:00 - 16:00

- Marianas Grazing and Livestock Management Academy Report
Mark Thorne, Extension Specialist
- Senepol Cattle
Dr. Bob Godfrey, Director of Agricultural Experiment Station, Professor of Animal Science, University of the Virgin Islands
- Calf XL and Beef XL
Dr. Linda J. Cox, Community Economic Development Specialist
- Stress and Reproduction in Beef Cattle
Dr. C.N. Lee, Specialist in Dairy Science
- Soils Management for Ranchers
Dr. Jonathan Deenik, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

17:30 - 20:00 Dinner buffet (\$19.99/person; paid at door)