

ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
June 17th, 2015, 6:30pm
(DRAFT) MEETING MINUTES
Location: Old Spaghetti Factory, Ward Warehouse

Members Present: Chad Toth, Dudley Hulbert, Lance Bookless, Gregory Serverino, Steve Nimz, Nikki Brodie, Austin Braaten, Jolie Wanger

Meeting was called to order by Lance Bookless at 6:45pm

1) Old Business

a) Training

- i) Public Outreach Training 2015 – Planning to conduct a Pollinator workshop at Oahu Urban Garden Center. Greg has been in contact with Jayme G. The idea is to have a presentation and a booth. The booth could feature a proper pruning techniques demonstration.
 - ii) WCISA/AAA Pests & Trees Workshops – no updates
 - iii) Fungi workshop – Revisit this topic when Carol gets back.
- b) Research Committee - AAA is not getting involved in the Biophilic project other than possibly with tree care support at a one-day tree event.
- c) LICH Conference – Vendor’s Day, Possible Speakers, Demo’s and Climber’s Corner. – Steve: Looks like the Vendor’s day is not happening. Still looking into Climber’s Corner and Knot Demo at the tradeshow. AAA has requested a booth and will need volunteers although Jolie will be able to split time with her other booth.

2) New Business

- a) Hawaii Tree Climbing Championship 2015 – How can we publicize this event to make it an exciting spectator sport and draw a wider audience? Greg is still gathering the details about when and where but when that is known Jolie can help write a blurb and publicize through various networks. Nikki offered to promote through Kanu as well. Chad also offered to help Greg, they will set up a separate meeting to work on it.
- b) Pest of the Month – Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer - *Euwallacea* sp. - and Fusarium Dieback (*Fusarium* sp.) beetle/disease complex
 - i) Hosts: Most likely hosts in Hawaii are avocado and coral tree but it has attacked a wide range of trees in Southern California.
 - ii) Distribution: A new beetle species invading California (with potential for spread to Hawaii.) This beetle is being called the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer and is genetically distinct from the very similar ambrosia beetle, Asian Tea Shot Hole Borer, *Euwallacea fornicatus*. This beetle species (PSHB) has been found in Israel and caused damage to commercial avocado orchards there.
 - iii) Damage: Disease is caused by a new, yet unnamed fungus *Fusarium* sp. that forms a symbiotic relationship with the *Euwallacea* sp. beetle, which serves as the vector. PSHB attacks frequently cause bark staining and discoloration. Adult females construct branching galleries that can penetrate into the wood approximately 8 cm. The symbiotic fungi stain the galleries a brown to blackish color. Injury symptoms include small round adult entry/exit holes; fine white- to tan- colored boring dust; staining, gummosis, or sugaring on the bark exterior near entry holes; and crown and branch dieback. The ambrosia beetle can attack all size classes of hosts (ranging in size from 2–81 cm diameter at breast height.)
 - iv) Control: If trees are infected, systemic insecticides generally are poor for treating ambrosia beetles. Prophylactic spraying of the bark could be used to protect uninfected trees in some situations. Sterilize pruning tools between uses to avoid spreading the fungus. Chipping and solarizing/tarping infested wood can help to limit the spread of the beetle/fungus complex. Wood should be chipped to pieces smaller than 1".

- v) See information at:
 - UC Center for Invasive Species Research: http://cisr.ucr.edu/polyphagous_shot_hole_borer.html
 - USFS: <https://gallery.mailchimp.com/f53528a5c9bea38c9fe83e8e9/files/stelprdb5441594.pdf>
 - UC DANR: http://ucanr.edu/sites/socaloakpests/Polyphagous_Shot_Hole_Borer/
- c) Announcements
 - i) TCIA chipper workshops on Oahu and Maui – Dudley: Great workshop! Could use more of these. Maybe we should gauge demand for more.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm

*The next meeting is scheduled for **July 15th, 2015, 6:30pm, The Old Spaghetti Factory***