

ALOHA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES – 08/17/2016
Location: The Old Spaghetti Factory, Ward Warehouse

Members in Attendance: J Zambo, Steve Nimz, Lance Bookless, Jamilee Kempton, Steve Connolly,
Andrew Kendall, Sergio Vasquez, Carol Kwan
Guests: Tom Dinell, Roxanne Adams

1) Call to Order & Approval of Minutes

Meeting called to order by President J Zambo at 6:52pm. The 7/20/2016 Minutes were approved without changes.

- 2) Tom Dinell, FAICP, Emeritus Professor – Tom spoke about and on behalf of Honolulu Trees Coalition (HTC), a new organization he is spearheading to support the expansion of the urban forest in response to increasing temperatures on Oahu. Participants of the first meeting about HTC, which took place in June this year, included American Planning Association, ASLA, The Outdoor Circle, City and County of Honolulu's Department of Urban Forestry, Urban Land Institute, and others. HTC intends to fulfill its purpose by supporting the efforts of organizations and institutions already engaged in growing the urban forest; and to promote awareness and create community support for an expanded urban forest. There are about fifty organizations that could potentially be a part of HTC.

Tom expressed that AAA should be a part of the HTC. Lance moved to have AAA join the Honolulu Trees Coalition; Carol seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3) Old Business

a) Training

- i) Hands On Training at Lyon Arboretum, late February to March 2017 (Jamilee Kempton/Steve Connolly) – Tabled.
- ii) Tree Appraisal Workshop, 9/01/16 Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens (Carol Kwan) – 30 participants are registered.
- iii) WCISA / AAA Hawaii Regional Workshop 2017 – John Ball is interested in presenting the program. Angela will coordinate with him about the schedule.
- iv) Public Outreach Training – Urban Garden Center (8/13/16) – The event did not get onto UGC's calendar in time. AAA will plan for this event next year.

b) Research Committee – Tabled.

- c) Hawaii Tree Climbing Championship, February or March 2017, Location TBA – The HTCC committee hasn't met yet. Steve Connolly will contact Greg Severino about scheduling a meeting.

- d) LICH Conference 2016 (Steve Nimz) – With the possible addition of a presentation about the Honolulu Trees Coalition, the annual conference's Arborist Track will be completed. Other presentations will include:

- Electrical hazards in the landscape, Steve Connolly
- Basic tree entry procedures (for landscape maintenance crews), Jamilee Kempton
- Examining for tree decay without wounding the tree, Steve Nimz

- e) WCISA Annual Conference 2019 (Carol Kwan) – Tabled.

- f) Volunteer Workday, Queen Emma's Summer Palace (Carol Kwan) – Daughters of Hawaii is open to the idea of AAA holding a workday there and, in return, they would donate \$1,000 to AAA. AAA will need to comply with site requirements, e.g. providing liability waivers to cover any injuries that may occur during the event, no smoking rules, and no open fires.

- The workday is tentatively planned for October 2016.

- The Summer Palace doesn't have a grassy area for the barbecue, but Nuuanu Valley Park next door has plentiful open space that would serve well for this purpose. An alternate approach would be to stay at the Summer Palace, and go with bento boxes. Steve Connolly and Carol will work out further details with the Daughters of Hawaii.
- g) Chainsaw Workshop, Beginner Level – Tabled.
- 4) New Business
- a) Pest of the Month – Verticillium Wilt
 - i) Description: A vascular wilt disease caused by fungi of the genus *Verticillium*.
 - ii) Distribution: Globally widespread across temperate, subtropical and tropical climates, including Hawaii.
 - iii) Hosts: More than 400 plant species, affecting agriculture, floriculture, and the landscape industry.
 - iv) Symptoms and Damage: Canopies of woody plants droop; leaves fade and yellow, then die. Individual tree branches are killed; small trees or shrubs can be completely killed. Vascular staining often observed.
 - v) Control: Soil treatments including solarization in the case of new plantings. Avoid overwatering and maintain good arboricultural practices.
 - vi) Reference: See attached handout
 - a) AAA 40th Anniversary – Thanks to Angela for noticing the milestone. Steve Nimz and Carol Kwan are working on an article for Landscape Hawaii magazine. Steve mentioned that there was a group of tree workers who used to get together before AAA was officially formed.
 - b) TreeCircus 2016 – TreeCircus so far is scheduled to deliver six Arbor Day presentations on Oahu between Nov 2-4; there are still slots available. Several AAA members will approach schools where they have relationships to recruit participants.
- 5) Announcements
- a) ISA Annual Conference – The conference wraps up 8/17. Kevin Eckert received the True Professional of Arboriculture award. Mike Kraus attended the program.
 - b) The Honolulu Woodturners' show takes place on Saturday 8/20, 10am-4pm at Nohea Gallery, Ward Warehouse.
- 6) Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Liu

Attachments:

Dinell, Tom. "Honolulu will need many more trees to stay cool as world climate warms up," *Honolulu Star Advertiser* (Editorial – Island Voices, May 08, 2016).
Liu, Angela. "*Verticillium in Hawaii*," Aloha Arborist Association (August 2016).



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Editorial | Island Voices

Honolulu will need many more trees to stay cool as world climate warms up

By Tom Dinell

Posted May 08, 2016

May 8, 2016



CRAIG T. KOJIMA / CKOJIMA@STARADVERTISER.COM

COURTESY PHOTO

Honolulu probably needs a million or more shade trees than it has today if it wants to stay cool in the years ahead, experts say. Above, yellow shower trees bloomed last month nearby Honolulu Memorial Park's temple in Nuuanu.

Tom Dinell is an emerit Manoa.

As hot as August and September 2015 were in Honolulu, they were barely a foretaste of what lies ahead.

By the year 2038, just 22 years from now, assuming we do not achieve greenhouse gas stabilization, the coolest day in the tropics is very likely to be hotter than anything we have seen in the past 150 years, according to research conducted by Dr. Camilo Mora and his colleagues at the University of Hawaii and published in *Nature*, a leading science journal.

So what do we do?

Obviously we need to reduce carbon emissions worldwide, and especially in the United States and China, as quickly as possible. Even if all the climate change deniers become believers, this will still be a tall order.

What do we do in Hawaii?

We reduce our own carbon emissions, but also begin to plant and nurture trees at an astoundingly rapid rate and for three very good reasons:

>> Trees reduce carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere.

>> Living in an urban area with relatively high levels of greenery contributes to an attractive and inviting environment and our own well-being.

>> Walking or sitting or playing is much cooler in shady areas than where there is no shade.

The 2015 action plan, "Making Honolulu an Age-Friendly City," recommends increasing trees and other greenery as part of achieving clean and attractive outdoor spaces.

The plan notes that the city is responsible for about 235,800 trees on Oahu; about 60 percent, or 141,500, are along streets and 40 percent are in parks.

It also notes that Honolulu has 0.16 street trees per capita, or about one tree for every six people — significantly below the mean ratio of 0.37 reported for 22 U.S. cities — and that the "street tree canopy" in Honolulu shades approximately 2.74 percent of paved surfaces.

We have to do a lot better than this if Honolulu is to be a walkable city 10 years from now.

And we had better begin now because it takes a while for saplings to grow into mature trees.

Just walk along key streets in Honolulu to experience the difference between treeless streets and those lined with trees.

As part of a tree-planting initiative, Hawaiian Electric Co. might take lessons from East Coast cities, subject to freezing ice storms in wintertime, and simply place their wires

in sheaths to protect them and thus not have to make those dreadfully ugly Y cuts that reduce shading.

What else is to be done?

We need a major initiative in Honolulu, as is occurring in New York and other cities, to plant trees along our streets.

We need a greatly expanded and well-funded Urban Forestry Division in our city government.

We probably need at least a million more shade trees than we have today.

A million trees calls for a major city initiative supported by the city administration and City Council, The Outdoor Circle, Sierra Club, Blue Planet, the Urban Land Institute, the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Architects, AARP, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and every retail business and every green organization in town, the media, key university faculty members, and Hawaiian Electric/Next Era and the telephone and cable companies.

The mayor, working with the City Council, needs to appoint a "Trees for the Future" task force immediately to formulate a massive tree-planting plan.

The alternative is that Honolulu sidewalks will be bare of people between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. every day. We will all be in our air-conditioned cars or homes or offices seeking to stay cool and using more electricity every day than ever before.

Pest of the Month – Verticillium Wilt

DESCRIPTION

Verticillium wilt is caused by a variety of fungal species of the genus *Verticillium*, most notably *V. dahliae* and *V. albo-atrum*. It is “one of the most widespread and destructive soilborne diseases of plants” (UC IPM). Verticillium infects a plant through the roots and multiplies in the xylem, plugging the water-conducting tissues. The fungi’s resting structures (microsclerotia) can survive in soil for many years.



“This wilting beach naupaka (*Scaevola sericea*) plant was growing in a thin layer of soil covering a field of lava at a golf course on the North Kona coast of the island of Hawai‘i. The natural growth substrate for this plant is coral beach sand, not soil brought from a location such as a pasture or abandoned sugarcane field. In this case, the soil contains...*Verticillium dahliae*. This fungus does not commonly occur in Hawai‘i’s beach sands, so it does not normally cause naupaka to contract the disease in its native, coral beach sand habitat.” (*Landscape Disease Problems in Hawai‘i*, Pub. PD-67 — Feb. 2009), .” Photo by Scot C. Nelson, UH-CTAHR

DISTRIBUTION

Globally widespread throughout temperate, tropical and subtropical regions. It may be more common in poorly drained clay soils.

HOSTS

Verticillium wilt infects some 400 plant species including herbaceous annuals such as tomato, perennials such as pineapple, and woody species. APSnet.org provides a list of some of the most common hosts (along with species that are resistant or immune). CTAHR’s “Checklist of Plant Diseases in Hawaii” has fourteen listings of disease conditions in different hosts, including: *Ananas* (pineapple), *Codiaeum* (croton), *Eucalyptus*, *Hibiscus*, *Metrosideros*, *Musa* (banana), *Scaevola* (naupaka), *Solanum* (herbaceous).

SYMPTOMS AND DAMAGE

Symptoms are variable depending on the host species, but generally include:

- Flagging and yellowing of leaves on one branch or one side of the tree, or the whole tree if it is small. Symptoms of wilting are most obvious on warm, sunny days. Leaves turn tan or brown before dying, and sometimes remaining attached.
- Water-conducting tissues including roots and sapwood are often discolored olive green, brown or black. Some plants, such as olive, ash and rose, do not display vascular discoloration

Field diagnosis should be confirmed by lab analysis.



Wood staining in naupaka caused by Verticillium. (See UH-CTAHR, "Collecting Plant and Insect Samples for Problem Diagnosis", Pub. SCM-14 — July 2006.)

CONTROL

- Specify plants that are selected or bred for resistance. Avoid susceptible species.
- Inspect plants from the nursery carefully for symptoms that could indicate wilt disease.
- Steam, solarization, and chemicals are available for treating growing media. (see UC IPM)
- Remove and destroy plants exhibiting symptoms, and prune to remove dead branches.
- Where supplemental irrigation is applied, allow soil to dry between watering cycles.
- Provide ample drainage.

SOURCES

Berlanger, I. and M.L. Powelson (2000). "Verticillium wilt," *The Plant Health Instructor* (DOI: 10.1094/PHI-I-2000-0801-01), *Updated 2005*. Retrieved from [http://www.apsnet.org/](http://www.apsnet.org/http://www.apsnet.org/edcenter/intropp/lessons/fungi/ascomycetes/Pages/VerticilliumWilt.aspx)
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"How to Manage Pests, UC Pest Management Guideline: Verticillium Wilt (Reviewed 3/09, updated 3/09)," *University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program*. Retrieved from: ipm.ucanr.edu
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Aloha Arborist Association – Pest of the Month- Verticillium Wilt, (2016), p.2.