

Growing 'Ōhi'a: Easy as 1-2-3

Relax! 'Ōhi'a don't care what color your thumbs are, just start 'em off right:

1. Location, Location, Location

- Partial or full-sun
- Room to grow, could reach 30-40 feet high, 20 feet wide in ten years
- Well-draining soil with lots of root space
- Out of strong winds or blocked by neighboring trees

2. Dig That Lua

- It needs a hole twice as deep and wide as the pot it comes in
- Mix the soil from the hole you dug with 1/2 compost
- Out of the pot, lift and hold the tree by the soil and roots, NOT THE TRUNK
- Fill in the hole till the root ball top sits even with the landscape
- Fill in the rest with soil/compost and berm the remaining soil around the hole's rim to make a 'watering well'

3. Getting On With Life

- Settle that soil, water it in!
- On the wet/windward side of the island, check for moist soil and water weekly for the first year.
- On the dry/leeward side of the island, water 2 - 3 times per week, especially when hot.
- A little 8-8-8 NPK fertilizer every 3-6 months will keep it growing!

Pruning - Only When Necessary

Fungal spores that cause ROD enter the tree through open wounds. Sterilize pruning tools from one tree to next, and use spray-on pruning sealants after pruning and wind-damage.

Thank you for planting locally grown 'ōhi'a trees in your yard, schools and businesses, so that native Hawaiian plants can grow beyond our forests. 'Ōhi'a is our most important tree in watersheds, but it can provide food and habitat for native birds and insects everywhere. Every tree counts in the fight against the fungal diseases known as Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death.



For more information, please visit:

www.rapidohiadeath.org

www.facebook.com/rapidohiadeath

