



GoFarm Hawai'i

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

**Mini-Conference for Organic,
Transitioning to Organic and
Sustainable Agriculture Practices**



What is GoFarm Hawai'i?

Training farmers through a combination of classroom and in-field learning, with a phased approach.

Non-credit certificate program under College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Extension, established in 2012 as part of the Agribusiness Incubator Program.

Focus on commercial farmers and intensive vegetable production through organic/sustainable practices.

We offer training at five sites on four different islands, year-round (O'ahu, Maui, Kaua'i, and Hawai'i Island).



Training Sites



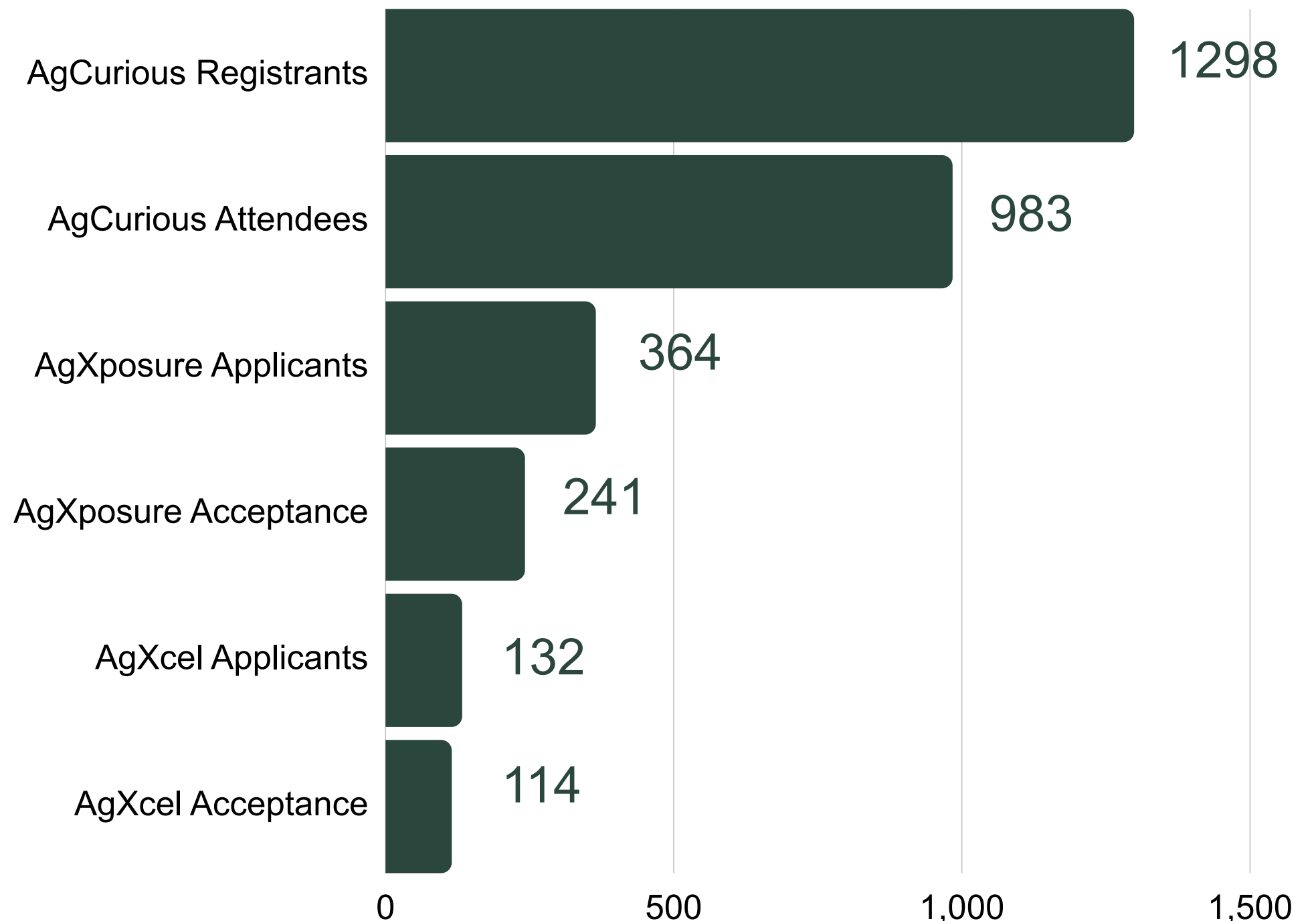


Demand for GoFarm Hawai'i Training

Who is interested in GoFarm Hawai'i?

- Average age of participant = 40
- Diverse backgrounds, education, and experience – we look for food system involvement, farming experience, local focus
- Goals: Majority want to gain experience to run their own farm business
- More than 500 graduates over the past 10 years

Participation Numbers Sept 2020 - Sept 2022





What Do Farmers Do After?

More than **90%** go on to work in farming or food system:

- AgIncubator program
- Start or intensify farming on other land parcels
- Involvement in farm or food businesses





Farmer Stories: Ahiki Acres

- Haley Miyaoka & Matt McKinnon
- Waimānalo Cohort 9
- 3rd year AgIncubators
- Currently transitioning to HDOA lease in Waimānalo



"Our mission is to increase O'ahu's food security by producing healthy, tasty products while maintaining responsible stewardship of the 'āina"





GoFarm Hawai'i Agribusiness Training and Consulting



Our training and services cover:

- 1 How to set up and run a business in Hawai'i
- 2 Financial recordkeeping - tracking your sales and expenses
- 3 What is your cost to grow? Helping you choose your crops and set your pricing
- 4 Marketing: where and how to sell your product. How to build your brand, logo, social media presence.
- 5 Financial analysis and cash flow projections



Training on Organic and Sustainable Practices



- Building soil health
- Weed management
- Pest management
- Explanation of organic certification options
- Recordkeeping
- Seed production and selection



Building Soil Health

- Cover crops: why and how – density, timing, practical management
 - Lablab, sunn hemp, buckwheat, sorghum sudan
- Soil fertility management
 - Amendments
 - Compost
 - Use of teas (compost tea and tankage tea)
- Soil biology
- Minimal till practices (why and how)





Weed Management

- Observation and timing of weed control practices
- Use of silage tarps and occultation
- Use of cover crops
- Flame weeding

Pest Management

- Integrated Pest Management practices to monitor and intervene
- Variety selection and timing
- Construction and use of screenhouses



Business Practices to Support Organic Agriculture

- Recordkeeping and traceability
- Food safety
- Financial analysis
- Market and business model analysis





Mahalo!
Any Questions?



Our supporters and collaborators



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GoFarm Hawai'i's work is supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture; the USDA Rural Development; the State of Hawai'i Department of Agriculture; American AgCredit and CoBank; and Kamehameha Schools.