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RapidOhiaDeath.org

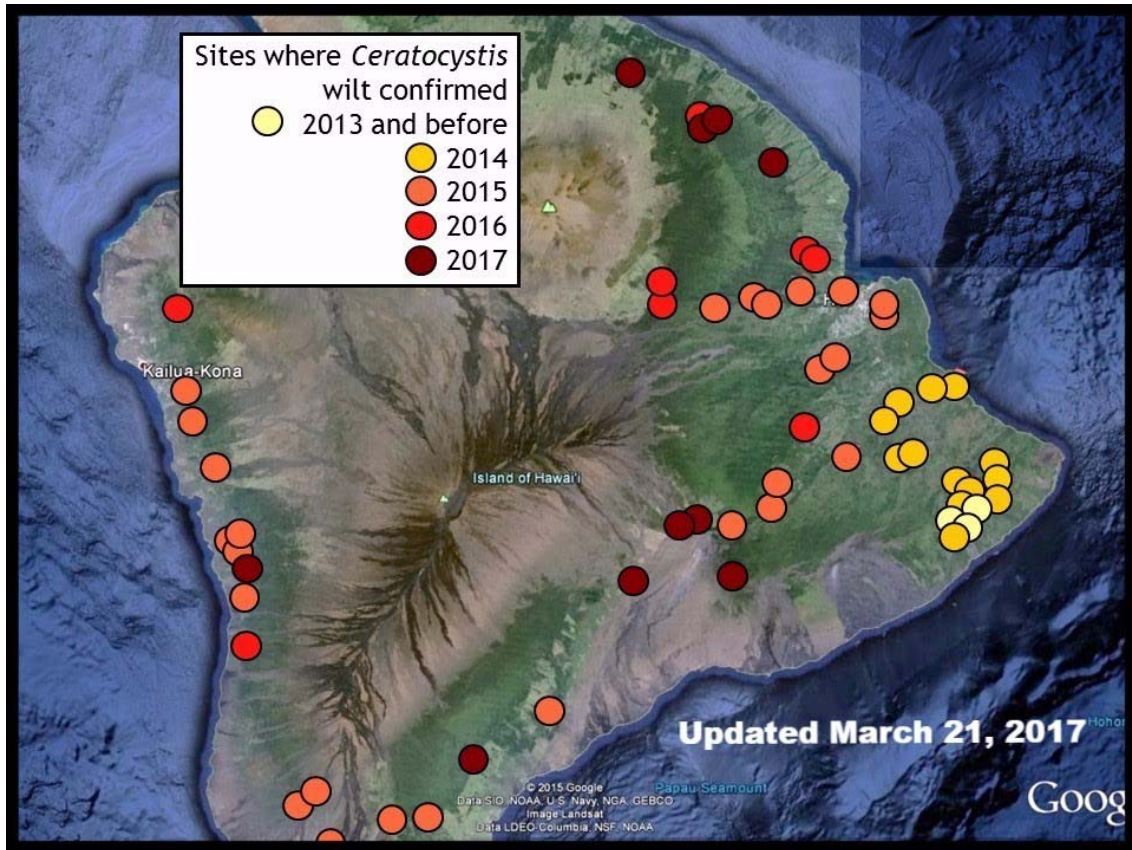


**Quarterly Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death Newsletter**  
**Volume 1: Issue 1, August 2017**

*~ I mohala nō ka lehua I ke ke'eke'ehi 'ia e ka ua ~*  
The lehua blossom unfolds when the rain falls gently upon it

*This is our first quarterly newsletter that was designed to update the community on current Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) issues. If you wish to UNSUBSCRIBE, scroll down to the bottom to do so.*

## Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death Distribution



### RESEARCH NEWS

- Our researchers found that there are two species of *Ceratocystis* causing Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD)--both are new to science and are in the process of being formally named. Once inside a tree, *Ceratocystis* species A spreads rapidly and is a type of disease called a "wilt". *Ceratocystis* species B spreads slowly and creates dead tissue in a limited area around the infection point, referred to as a "canker." However, once a tree is infected with either type of *Ceratocystis*, the tree does not recover.
- Survey results released in May by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and partners have found that ROD is still only confirmed on Hawai'i Island and that the affected area has increased from 50,000 to 75,000 acres in the last few months. Check out the DLNR press release [here](#).
- Within Hawai'i Island there are still no confirmed cases of ROD in Kohala.



### MANAGEMENT TIPS

- The fungus enters 'ōhi'a through a wound, so avoid injuring 'ōhi'a. Make sure that weedwhackers, lawnmowers, and other lawncare equipment do not break bark or run over roots. If bulldozing is needed, work with the equipment operator to ensure trees are not wounded.
- The East Hawai'i greenwaste station is now processing chipped material to minimize the spread of pests and disease in greenwaste product. ROD researchers will be working with Hawai'i County to test the final greenwaste product and see if the processing eliminates infectious ROD material. *Communities should still avoid bringing 'ōhi'a to greenwaste stations.*

## EVENTS



**Please Join Us At This FREE Event!! August 27, 2017**

'Imiloa Astronomy Center  
Hilo, Hawaii  
9AM-4PM

The goal of 'Ōhi'a Love Fest is to celebrate 'ōhi'a and promote awareness about this important tree. Talks, demonstrations, and educational booths will promote ways we can all help to prevent the spread of the disease devastating our forests. Also, we will have crafts, games, prizes, a photo booth, live music, hula, and food vendors. 'Imiloa Center exhibit hall and planetarium will be open and free during the festival. 'Imiloa is also offering \$10 off all membership levels if purchased the day of the event!



Afook Chinen Civic Auditorium  
Hilo, Hawaii  
September 21-24, 2017

[Hawai'i County Fair](#) –The DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) in Hilo and University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension are teaming up to bring a beautiful forest education display and Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death awareness booth to the County Fair.

## UPDATES



**WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR 'ŌHI'A**

Do not injure or wound 'ōhi'a trees. Keep weed wackers, lawnmowers, and other equipment away from 'ōhi'a trunks.



To prevent spreading the disease, keep wood on site. Do not take 'ōhi'a wood, branches, or parts to the Hawai'i County green-waste station. We are researching alternatives to safely dispose of, or treat diseased wood. Updates will be posted on [rapidohiadeath.org](http://rapidohiadeath.org).



A mulch bed around 'ōhi'a trees keeps them from being injured by lawnmowers or weed wackers.

**5 THINGS YOU CAN DO**

- 1 DON'T MOVE 'ŌHI'A**  
Do not move 'ōhi'a wood, firewood, or posts, especially from an area known to have ROD. If you don't know where the wood is from, don't move it.
- 2 DON'T TRANSPORT 'ŌHI'A INTER-ISLAND**  
Comply with the new quarantine rule to help prevent ROD from spreading. Don't move 'ōhi'a plants, whole or parts, 'ōhi'a wood, or soil from Hawai'i Island without a permit.
- 3 AVOID INJURING 'ŌHI'A**  
Wounds serve as entry points for the fungus and increase the odds that the tree will become infected and die from ROD. Avoid pruning and contact with heavy equipment wherever possible.
- 4 CLEAN YOUR GEAR/TOOLS**  
If you must work around or cut 'ōhi'a, clean tools and gear before and after use, especially when used on infected 'ōhi'a. Brush all soil off of tools and gear, then spray with 70% rubbing alcohol. Shoes and clothes should also be cleaned before and after entering forests. Wash clothes with hot water and soap.
- 5 WASH YOUR VEHICLE**  
Wash the tires and undercarriage of your vehicle with detergent and remove all soil or mud, especially after traveling from an area with ROD and/or if you have traveled off-road.

**RAPID 'ŌHI'A DEATH**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD**

FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION, MAPS, AND UPDATES ON RAPID 'ŌHI'A DEATH PLEASE VISIT:  
[www.rapidohiadeath.org](http://www.rapidohiadeath.org)  
[www.facebook.com/rapidohiadeath](https://www.facebook.com/rapidohiadeath)

**IF YOU SUSPECT ROD IN YOUR AREA PLEASE CONTACT:**

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U.S. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
U.S. WILDLIFE SERVICE  
U.S. NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE FUND  
U.S. NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
U.S. FOREST SERVICE  
U.S. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE  
U.S. WILDLIFE SERVICE  
U.S. NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS

Our new Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death brochures have been printed and are available at all DOFAW offices throughout the State and at the University of Hawai'i's Cooperative Extension Service office in Hilo on Hawai'i Island.

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## MEET OUR PEOPLE



**Kylle Roy**

University of Hawai'i

I have been working on ROD for about 1.5 years and have helped with the development of the "lab in a suitcase" rapid DNA detection and spore sampling kit. I am currently working on understanding the role of ambrosia beetles in the spread of ROD. Every day we are learning new things about the pathogen and actively improving management strategies, which is pretty exciting to be a part of. Right now I think working on ROD is the top priority for conservationists and I'm grateful to be a part of such a collaborative effort.



# COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA



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