



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

A Safe and Sustainable Seafood Supply

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) is part of a national network of 30 University-based programs that promote better understanding, conservation, and use of coastal resources.

As part of the University of Hawai'i's prestigious School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), we partner with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to provide links between academia, federal, state and local government, industry, and the local community.

Dr. E. Gordon Grau, Director
University of Hawai'i
Sea Grant College Program
2525 Correa Rd. HIG 238
Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: (808) 956-7031
Fax: (808) 956-3014
www.soest.hawaii.edu/SEAGRANT

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) supports an integrated program of research, outreach and education that addresses marine and coastal issues of public concern.

Fishing and seafood consumption permeate society and culture in many parts of the world. However, the U.S. has witnessed a decline of many of its major fisheries at the same time seafood consumption is on the rise, and seafood safety is a growing concern as international trade increases and fish diseases and contamination become bigger problems. This decline has prompted organizations to further explore and invest in aquaculture. UH Sea Grant has served as a leader in the support and development of sustainable aquaculture in Hawai'i and the Pacific for more than 40 years.



Preserving Island Heritage

Through innovative research, outreach and education, UH Sea Grant supports the sustainable, culturally sensitive aquaculture practices of the past and recognizes their significance within communities of Hawai'i and the Pacific. For example, UH Sea Grant aquaculture extension specialists have been working closely with community groups to restore Native Hawaiian fishponds throughout the state and teaching others to carry on this tradition.

Supporting Local Farmers

UH Sea Grant extension faculty provide farmers with the consultation services and scientific expertise necessary in maintaining a healthy, viable and productive aquaculture business. By remaining abreast of the latest developments, UH Sea Grant extension faculty maintain a current perspective on aquaculture trends and opportunities and responds to over two thousand requests for assistance or information every year.



Building Local Capacity

UH Sea Grant plays a vital role in the development of local human resources and organizational and institutional development within the field of aquaculture. By supporting a growing number of undergraduate and graduate students as well as providing technical expertise to the aquaculture industry, UH Sea Grant is helping to ensure a highly skilled, technologically capable workforce to lead us into the future.

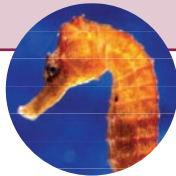
Industry Diversification and Global Connectedness

UH Sea Grant supports the development of new technologies and participates in collaborative efforts to increase the range of seafood products produced, enhancing American competitiveness in global markets.

THE UH SEA GRANT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN AQUACULTURE

Through UH Sea Grant Centers of Excellence, issues and concerns that impact coastal communities of Hawai'i and the Pacific are addressed.

UH Sea Grant partnered with the Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center (PACRC) at UH Hilo to form a Center of Excellence in Aquaculture, which explores the many facets of the industry and applies national aquaculture concerns and opportunities to help in addressing those of the developing industry of Hawai'i and the Pacific. Included in this center's goals are: building support for sustainable aquaculture development; increasing awareness of opportunities for careers; and stimulating demand for local aquaculture products.



Sea Grant Contributions to Hawai'i and the Western Pacific Region: Building the Future on Successes of the Past

• *Open-Ocean Aquaculture*

UH Sea Grant was instrumental in developing the first successful commercial open-ocean aquaculture cage in the nation. In partnership with Oceanic Institute it pioneered the first offshore aquaculture test facility that used state-of-the-art technologies to harvest Pacific threadfin (moi), and the technology has now been adopted by regions throughout the world.

• *New Facility at UH Hilo*

UH Sea Grant, in partnership with PACRC, conceived of and built a new pearl oyster hatchery and marine ornamental fish research facility at UH Hilo. As a result, students, industry members, community members

and other researchers now have aquaculture facilities and equipment at which to build skills and conduct training and research in pearl oyster culture and marine ornamental fish mariculture.

• *Aquaculture in American Samoa*

In partnership with Congressman Eni Hunkin Faleomavaega and the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), UH Sea Grant provided the expertise and resources necessary to establish the first UH Sea Grant aquaculture extension agent position in American Samoa.

• *Pearl Farming in Micronesia*

UH Sea Grant has been instrumental in developing

the pearl farming industry in Micronesia. Three large commercial farms and seven small farms now operate successfully, and three other communities have been assisted with obtaining funding to start pearl farming operations.

• *Backyard Aquaculture*

To help move toward a more traditional diet while also reducing household expenses, UH Sea Grant trained Native Hawaiian families on how to produce fish and vegetables in their backyard using low cost, small-scale integrated aquaculture-agriculture systems.

