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MĀNOA

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Aloha Coffee Farmer

To Whom It May Concern

The coffee industry in Hawaii is currently being adversely impacted by the Coffee Berry Borer (CBB) or “La Broca” as it is called in Latin America. Reports from processing mills estimate losses to be over 60%.

It is only a matter of time the pest finds its way to other Hawaii coffee growing areas on Oahu, Maui and Kauai. Owing to the fact that the CBB has only recently invaded Hawaii, there is a dearth of information on this pest under local conditions in Hawaii.

Management techniques are used without knowledge of their effectiveness. Kona coffee is grown at different elevations and fruit production is perennial, which facilitates the establishment and reproduction of the CBB year-round.

Technology such as geographic information systems (GIS) and geostatistics are powerful tools in an integrated management program, and can be used to understand the biology of CBB geographically and over time, and ultimately for decision of best management practices.

Information such as the TMK (Tax Map Key) and level of infestation are vital to conduct these studies. I would like to request for your collaboration on providing this information. Owner and farm name are not necessary for this study. I won't be showing the actual location you supply, but I will use the data to model distribution of the beetle. Results of this study will be provided at the end on March 2013.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Thanks a lot in advance for your support and cooperation with the CBB management.

Sincerely,

Elsie Burbano Greco

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