



Hawaii-based Coffee Leaf Rust Research Activities

USDA NIFA Specialty Crop Research Initiative

Four-year grant with consortium members from USDA ARS, University of Hawaii, University of Puerto Rico, Purdue University, Michigan State University and Synergistic Hawaii Agriculture Council. Includes both research and extension, with \$6.07 million in funding. Activities begin in January, 2022. The objectives are as follows:

1. Field testing of CLR-resistant varieties in HI and PR, with clonal propagation at UH Hilo. All varieties will also be tested for nematode vulnerability and cupped for quality. (ARS/UHH)
2. Field monitoring of infection rates in non-resistant varieties versus grower practices including development of weather models to assist with predicting outbreaks. (ARS/UPR/SHAC)
3. Optimization of Field Health in non-resistant trees, including soil health trials, pruning, fungicide trials, and biocontrol experiments with *Lecanicillium*. (UH/ARS/UPR/SHAC)
4. CLR genomic evaluation, including RNA sequencing to determine which coffee genes determine susceptibility. (Purdue)
5. Economic cost-benefit analyses of IPM versus tree replacement, including marketplace acceptance of varieties. (Michigan State)
6. Development of IPM and extension activities (UH/UPR/SHAC)

Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research Rapid Response Grant

Funding of \$150,000 was received in June 2021 to provide immediate assistance with identification of CLR strain (Purdue), development of field detection strategies and initial fungicide trials (ARS) and UH Extension activities. Matching funds were provided by the coffee industry, HDOA and DLNR.

UH IR-4 Program

Utilizing USEPA funding under the IR-4 program, in 2022 UH will begin field trials on two systemic fungicides for potential labeling in Hawaii.

Public-Private Projects

Field trials on Problad Verde, an OMRI fungicide, have concluded in November, 2021. The data will be submitted to HDOA for labeling consideration.

Contact:

- Suzanne Shiner, SHAC Administrator, at suzanne@shachawaii.org
- Chris Manfredi, HCA Board President, at president@hawaiicoffeeassoc.com