

Job Title: Kalo Field Technician

Pay scale: 0.5FTE \$24,000

Location: O'ahu, Maui and Hawai'i Islands (one on each island)

Project: Hawaiian Lunar/Celestial Planting Practices for Kalo (Taro) Production

This position is an opportunity for someone interested in traditional Hawaiian food crops and production methods to participate in a project focused on the application of the Hawaiian lunar/celestial planting calendar and traditional practices on traditional Hawaiian food crops and their effects on yield and quality (in the case of this position, kalo); and, to assist Native Hawaiian farmers to increase Hawaiian crop cultivar diversity on-farm. It is part of a larger project, *Recovering Hawaiian kalo and 'uala cultivar diversity and indigenous cropping systems knowledge: Indigenous approaches to climate resilience in agriculture and Hawaiian food sovereignty*, engaged in expanding on lunar planting practice knowledge and crop cultivar diversity for kalo and 'uala on Molokai, Maui, O'ahu and Hawai'i Islands. This position will be primarily based at the island of hire.

The Kalo Field Technician is a half-time position (20hrs/wk) continual for up to three years contingent upon satisfactory performance. Candidates must have a valid driver's license and should have access to a vehicle.

Position supervisor: Joshua Pastrana, Project Manager, E kūpaku ka 'āina

Project Director: Penny Levin, Executive Director/Project Coordinator, E kūpaku ka 'āina

Interested applicants should send a resume and contact information, along with contact information for two references to:

Penny Levin [pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pennysfh@hawaii.rr.com)

**Closing date:** December 15, 2024

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Collect and record data on plant growth, vigor, yield, and quality in project demonstration plots and on participating farms at 3 month intervals and at harvest.
2. Maintain accurate records of field activities and observations.
3. Deliver completed Excel worksheets to Project Supervisor and Data Analyst in a timely manner.
4. Assist in the implementation of Lunar Response in Kalo demonstration plots (2) on each island, including assistance with planting, maintenance and harvest on days when data collection does not occur.
5. Coordinate activities with Project Supervisor.
6. Assist in workshops and training for Native Hawaiian farmers.
7. Assist in the distribution of kalo planting material to participating farmers.

8. Collaborate with the Project Supervisor, Project Director and other team members to analyze and interpret data.
9. Contribute to the development of educational materials and reports.
10. Ensure proper care and maintenance of field equipment and supplies.

**Minimum Qualifications (MQs):**

1. Associate's degree in Agriculture, Horticulture, or related field; OR, GED and equivalent experience in agriculture production
2. Valid driver's license and access to a vehicle
3. Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds
4. Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills
6. Excellent work ethic

**Desirable Qualifications (DQs):**

1. Familiarity with Hawaiian moon phases and their application to agriculture
2. Knowledge of Hawaiian planting practices in general
3. Specific knowledge of kalo (taro) production techniques
4. Experience with field research and data collection
5. Understanding of indigenous agricultural systems and practices
6. Ability to speak Hawaiian language
7. Experience working with Native Hawaiian communities
8. Familiarity with traditional Hawaiian crop varieties