



Coqui News

Kauai Invasive Species Committee

Work Notification
April 16-19

Work continues at Lawai infestation site

Upcoming control work is scheduled to continue the week of April 16, 2007.

Crews are scheduled to work at the site on Monday, April 16, through Thursday, April 19. They will be arriving in the morning around 9:00 am and working until 9:30 pm.

If the weather takes a turn for the worse, the crews will not be able to spray any chemicals and will either conduct monitoring or attempt hand-capturing of frogs. If access roads in the site become impassible due to mud, work may be postponed.

On Monday mechanical and herbicide control of vegetation will be conducted during the day in sections 2,6, and 18-22 and in the evening citric acid will be sprayed in the spillway located southwest of Aepo Reservoir

due to the discovery of frog(s) in this area.

On Tuesday herbicide control will take place in sections 6 and 10 during the daytime and citric acid will be sprayed in section 1 in the evening.

On Wednesday crews will be applying lime in section 7 during the day and change over to citric acid, spraying in sections 18-22 after the sun sets.

On Thursday the field crew will continue with lime application in section 6 and change over to citric acid in the evening, spraying in sections 18-22 .

Please let the KISC office or field crew know if you hear frogs outside of our work area and we will respond promptly. Crews will be monitoring the entire work site as well as surrounding areas.



The crew hand-loads 50 lb bags of citric acid into the work truck.

POSTED:

Thursday, April 13, 2007

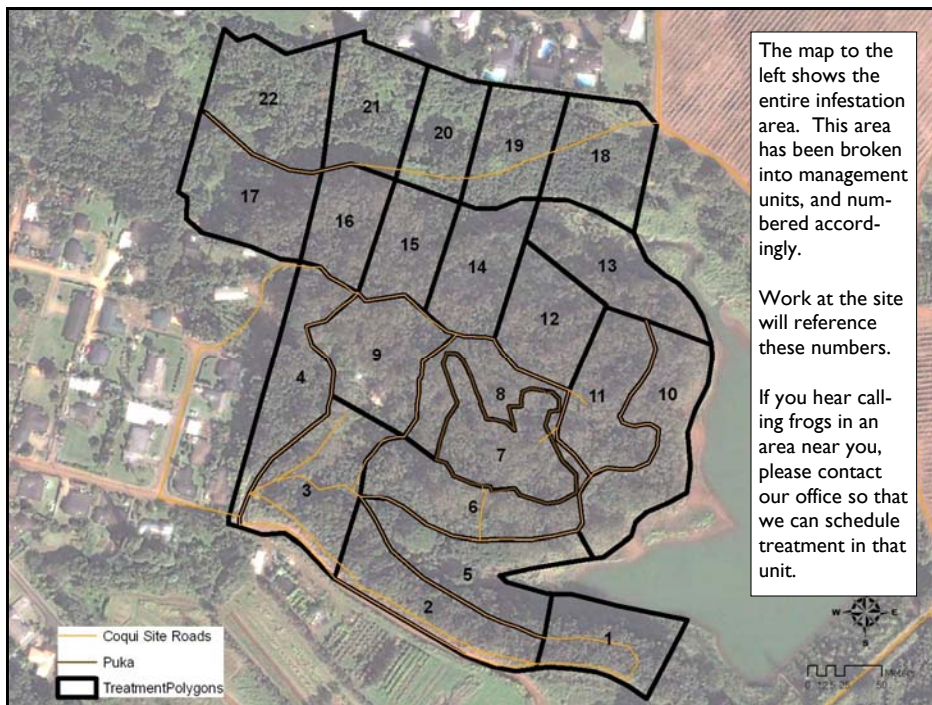
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Contact Phone Numbers:

- **KISC:** 246-0684
(from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm)
- **Crew Supervisor:** 651-8781
- **Hawaii Department of Agriculture:** 274-3069
- **Pest Hotline:** 643-PEST

Management Area Map



Tidbit

In its native Puerto Rico, the female coqui frog usually lays a cluster or clutch of 34-75 eggs four to six times a year; however, under laboratory conditions in Hawai'i, mating pairs produce a clutch every 2½ weeks without loss of fertility – that's 26 clutches a year, or more than 1,400 eggs per female per year!



Data Collection

Record-keeping is not just for accountants, bookkeepers, and businessmen. Accountability for funding received for projects is an integral part of control work by the Kauai Invasive Species Committee and the Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Every time the field crews work at the Lawai infestation site several types of data are collected. Field data sheets

record every activity conducted at the site. Examples of this information are: what chemicals were used, at what rate were they applied, what method of treatment was used, and how much time was spent doing that activity.

Another aspect of data collection is the use of a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit to record exactly where each activity takes place. This infor-

mation is then downloaded into a computer using mapping technology to accurately record where work was conducted at the site.

All of this data and spatial information is reported both quarterly to the county and bi-annually to the state and federal funding agencies.



KISC Crewmember recording data in the field

Chemical Information

One of the chemicals used at the infestation site to control coqui frogs is called **citric acid**. Citric acid is a common food additive and is considered safe for environmental use by the EPA. Citric acid (anhydrous, or dry powder) can be obtained in 50 lb bags. It must be first mixed with water to make a 16% (wet volume) solution.

This would equal 1.3 lbs of citric acid per 1 gallon of water.

Frogs are killed by direct contact with the spray and not by its residue. For maximum effectiveness, spraying should be done following removal of dense shrubs and dead foliage to increase contact with the frog.

This method of treatment is effective at killing coqui frog eggs, juveniles, and adult males and females.

Thorough coverage of plants with the citric acid solution (including undersides of leaves where frogs may be hiding) is important.

Informational Links

Please visit the following sites for more info:

- Work Notification Policy:
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coqui%C3%AD>
- <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/life.asp>
- <http://www.hear.org/AlienSpeciesInHawaii/species/frogs/>
- <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/coqui/spray.asp>

"One or two (frogs) aren't a problem," said farmer Gary Weller. "But a hundred is like trucks with those back-up lights and sounds in your bedroom."



Meter used to measure water pumped into spray tank